WUFC RETURN TO PLAY POLICY GUIDELINES

The purpose of this document is to provide WUFC players, parents and coaches with information they can use to assist them with their return-to-play programming in the context of COVID-19.

Our number one priority has been and will continue to be the health and safety of our players and their families. We want to stress to our families that there is no pressure to return until you are comfortable returning to the fields. We will work with any family concerned with “return to play” to ensure that their child has a soccer home WHEN they are comfortable returning to the field.

Many of these policies rely upon rules and regulations set forth by public health authorities. In addition, we all must recognize that there will be logistical and implementation challenges for participants and their families given COVID-19. The information in this document is NOT intended or implied to be a substitute for professional medical advice, diagnosis, or treatment. The knowledge and circumstances around COVID-19 are changing constantly and, as such, WUFC makes no representation and assumes no responsibility for the completeness of this information. This document and these guidelines address only early phases of return-to-play and additional guidelines may, or may not, follow as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to evolve.

Our state and county will have a phased approach to reopening businesses and easing of social distancing requirements. This may vary from county to county and town to town which will impact our overall return to play. Youth sports are not a high priority for state officials which poses significant challenges for our coaches and staff while planning a return to soccer activities. We all must be aware and adhere to all Federal, State and Local guidelines and requirements throughout this process.

Finally, although the young and healthy may be subject to less severe cases of COVID-19, every case of this disease is potentially life-altering or deadly, particularly in those with risk factors that may occur within our communities. Health consequences may be long-standing and only apparent weeks after initial infection and recovery. Until COVID-19 is either eradicated, a vaccine is developed, or a cure is found, there is no way of eliminating the risk of infection. This should always be at the forefront when designing and considering return-to-play programming.

We want to clearly communicate the policies and protocol that we will deploy in an effort to keep everyone healthy and as safe as possible as our players return to the field. We ask that all of our members follow these guidelines closely and diligently.
The state of Oregon and Clackamas County are re-opening within a PHASED plan. WUFC will follow the guidelines for each phase as they are released.

**Phase 1: Clackamas County Entered Phase 1 on May 22, 2020**

Some counties will be eligible to begin the limited reopening of additional business sectors beginning as early as May 15 if they have demonstrated they have met all prerequisites for reopening. Clackamas County applied for Phase 1 approval on Tuesday May 19, 2020.

Counties must:
- Show a decline in COVID-19 or have fewer than 5 hospitalizations
- Have sufficient COVID-19 testing and contact tracing capability
- Establish plans for the isolation and quarantine of new cases
- Have the hospital capacity to handle any surge in COVID-19 cases
- Have enough personal protective equipment for health care workers

Counties that meet all of the above criteria will be eligible to enter Phase I of reopening on May 15, pending approval of their application by the Governor after recommendations from the Oregon Health Authority.

In Phase I, counties can begin the limited reopening of the following sectors under specific safety guidelines:
- Restaurants and bars for sit-down service
- Personal care and services businesses, including barbers and salons
- In-person gatherings of up to 25 people

Counties must remain in Phase I for at least 21 days before becoming eligible to advance to Phase II. If counties begin to see significant increases in COVID-19 cases or community spread, the Oregon Health Authority will work with local public health officials to evaluate what actions should be taken. Significant growth in COVID-19 spread could necessitate a county moving back from Phase I to a stay-home status. More details on Phases II and III are forthcoming.

**PHASE II and PHASE III** will be determined by the State of Oregon and Clackamas County. We will follow all safety and health guidelines as outlined by our state and county leadership and our soccer governing bodies... OYSA and US Soccer.

The following pages outline the plan, policies and protocol Willamette United will follow as we “RETURN TO PLAY”.
WUFC RETURN TO PLAY PLAN FOR PHASE 1

The WUFC Return To Play Operational Plan will include:

- **Training Schedules**
  1. We will consider time/day/frequency/length - when we schedule training sessions. We will keep the number of players in mind as we schedule fields and sessions.
  2. We will leave time between sessions and have a plan for entering and exiting the fields to minimize personal contact.

- **Training Activities**
  1. We will consider the number of players on a field or half field.
  2. Leave time in between sessions to reduce physical contact as players enter and exit fields.
  3. We will plan activities that minimize physical contact between players.
  4. We will plan activities that maintain social distancing requirements.
  5. We will clearly mark spots six feet apart for players to set their backpacks and water bottles.

- We will sanitize shared equipment at the field.
- We will provide hand sanitizing stations to all players before and after training.

WUFC Will Create Protocols for:

- **Pick Up/Drop Off** - We will create maps for drop off/pick up as well as entering/leaving every field.
- **Coach Behaviors/Policies (Responsibilities)** - We will publish all policies and responsibilities for coaches.
- **Player Behaviors/Policies (Responsibilities)** - We will publish all policies and responsibilities for players.
- **Parent Behaviors/Policies (Responsibilities)** - We will publish all policies and responsibilities for parents.

Equipment Considerations:

Prior to each session:

- Only staff should touch equipment, if possible.
- We will sanitize shared equipment at the field.
- Have a wastebasket available for masks and gloves.
- Recommend everyone to use hand sanitizer before attending and leaving sessions.
- We will communicate with partner facilities to confirm cleanliness.
Communication/Education Plan

• The club will be in communication with our members on issues involving COVID-19.
• The club will facilitate coaching education and communication concerning requirements for:
  1. Personal Care
  2. Equipment Sanitation
  3. Conduct during sessions
  4. Club policies around COVID-19
• The club will facilitate parent/player education and communication concerning requirements for:
  1. The fact that participation is not required, only play if you are comfortable
  2. Club waiver to participate
  3. Club protocols around their children attending training
  4. Parent and player role in reducing risks of attending training
POLICIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

These are the specific responsibilities for the club, coaches, parents and players within the WUFC Return To Play plan. We must all work together in order to get players back on the field.

Club Responsibilities:

• Create and distribute protocols, policies/responsibilities to all members.
  Make all resources available through the club’s web site
• Have an effective communication plan for all aspects of return to play in place.
  Web site - social media - Team Snap - Email
• Maintain participant confidentiality regarding health status.
• Be accommodating to parents/players who may be uncomfortable with returning to play at this time.
• The club will follow CDC Guidelines when dealing with a player’s positive diagnosis of COVID 19.
• Train and educate all staff on protocols and requirements, including state and local regulations, CDC recommendations and other necessary safety information.
• Provide adequate field space for social distancing.
• Clearly mark spots six feet apart for each player to place their backpack and water bottle during training.
• Provide hand sanitizing stations and waste receptacles at fields for individual participant use.
• Develop a relationship and a dialogue with local health officials.
• Educate our players and families on healthy behavior while on the field.
• Create training schedules with time in between sessions.
• Create sessions that take social distancing into account

Player Responsibilities:

• Recommend that your temperature be taken before soccer activities.
• Let your parent and or coach know if you are not feeling well.
• Wash hands thoroughly before and after training.
• Bring and use hand sanitizer with you at every training if possible.
• Do not touch or share anyone else’s equipment. Place gear on designated spots.
• Practice social distancing, place bags and equipment at least 6 feet apart.
• Wash and sanitize all equipment before and after every training.
• No group celebrations, high-5s, hugs, handshakes, fist-bumps, etc.
• Do not assist coaches with equipment before or after training.
• Show up no earlier than five minutes before your scheduled session.
• Do not gather in small groups before or after your session.
Parent Responsibilities:

- Ensure your child is healthy, and check your child’s temperature before activities with others.
- Do not send your player to training if your child feels sick.
- Stay in car or adhere to social distance requirements, based on state and local health requirements.
- We recommend child’s training kit is washed after every training.
- We recommend equipment (cleats, ball, shin guards etc.) are sanitized before and after every training.
- Do not assist coaches with equipment before or after training.
- We recommend providing your child with personal sanitizing products.
- Educate your child about proper behavior for social distancing. (Stay at least six feet away from other players)

DROP OFF / PARKING / PICK UP

- Drop off players at the designated location at each field.
- Pick up your player at the designated pick up location.
  
  (Field maps/plans will be available on the WUFC web site.)
- Please do not park at the drop off or pick up spots. Keep traffic flowing.
- Please try to avoid carpools.
  
  (Keep extra masks in your car in case you have to take an unscheduled child home.)
- Do NOT arrive earlier than 5 minutes before your scheduled training.

Coach Responsibilities:

- Strive to ensure the health and safety of players.
- Inquire how the athletes are feeling. The coach will contact the player’s parents if a player becomes ill.
- Follow all state and local health protocols and guidelines.
- Ensure all athletes have their own personal equipment and store it properly (water bottle, bag etc.)
- Ensure coach is the only person to handle equipment (e.g. cones, ladders etc.)
- All training should comply with social distances per state guidelines.
- Wear a face mask when actively coaching near players.
- We will NOT use pinnies (bibs, training vests etc) at this time.
Promoting Behaviors that Reduce Spread

WUFC encourages behaviors that reduce the spread of COVID-19. Everyone should follow these guidelines as we return to play.

Staying Home when Appropriate:
We are encouraging sick staff, families, and players to stay home. If any staff member or player is not feeling well and or has a high temperature we encourage you to stay at home. While we want everyone on the fields having fun we ask that any player or coach that may not be feeling well to stay at home!

- Individuals, including coaches, players, and families, should stay home if they have tested positive for or are showing COVID-19 symptoms.
- Individuals, including coaches, players, and families, who have recently had a close contact with a person with COVID-19 should also stay home and monitor their health.

Hand Hygiene and Respiratory Etiquette:
Please wash your hands thoroughly before and after attending any soccer activity. Wash hands with soap and hot water for at least 20 seconds.

- If soap and water are not readily available, hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol can be used. We will have hand sanitizer available at every field we use.
- We will not allow spitting and we encourage everyone to cover their coughs and sneezes with the inside of their elbow. Use hand sanitizer after you cough or sneeze.

Cloth Face Coverings
- We will follow all requirements concerning face masks as set by Federal, State and County mandates. At this time we do not know what, if any, requirements will be mandated concerning face masks. We will update our recommendation, if we have any, when return to play happens.

Cleaning and Disinfection
- Use of shared objects and equipment (e.g., soccer balls) will be limited and cleaned between sessions.
- The club will ensure safe and correct use and storage of disinfectants, including storing products securely away from children. Use products that meet EPA disinfection criteria.
Signs and Messages

- The club will post signs in highly visible locations (e.g., at entrances and exits, and in restrooms) that promote everyday protective measures and describe how to stop the spread of germs such as by properly washing hands and covering youth coughs and sneezes.

SAMPLE FIELD SIGN (24” x 36”) - Placed at all field entrances and exits.

Water Systems

- We are requiring staff, and players to bring and use their own water bottles.
Modified Layouts and Social (Physical) Distancing

- The club will identify adult staff, members or volunteers to help maintain social distancing among youth, coaches, referees, and spectators (if state and local directives allow for spectators).
- We will make every effort to space players at least 6 feet apart on the field while participating in soccer activities.
- We will discourage unnecessary physical contact, such as high fives, handshakes, fist bumps, or hugs.
- We will create distance between players when explaining drills or the rules of the game.
- We will urge parents to limit the use of carpools or van pools. When riding in an automobile to a sports event, encourage players to ride to the sports event with persons living in their same household.
- If practices or competition facilities must be shared, we will increase the amount of time between practices and competitions to allow for one group to leave before another group enters the facility. If possible, we will allow time for cleaning and/or disinfecting.

Physical Barriers and Guides

- The club will provide physical guides, such as signs and cone/paint on playing fields, to make sure that coaches and players remain at least 6 feet apart.

RECREATIONAL SOCCER CONSIDERATIONS

Willamette United provides several different soccer programs to our community. Our classic and PDP programs provide players with paid coaches that are employees of the club. Our recreational soccer program is by far our largest program and it relies almost completely upon volunteer coaches and team managers. We are asking all of our volunteer coaches to follow the same protocols as our classic and PDP coaches. We understand that it may be more difficult for volunteers to enforce club policies and protocol while managing families and using city and school fields. The club will do its best to support our volunteer coaches and our recreational families in and effort to provide an environment that is as safe as possible.

The club will communicate, on multiple platforms, the club’s policies and expectations for all soccer families. We will post safety signs on all fields used by Willamette United to help setting expectations for our families.

If a recreational coach has any issues with an individual or family following Willamette United Return To Play Guidelines they should reach out to our Recreational Director, Steve Piercy at steve@willametteunitedfc.com. The club leadership will support our recreational coaches in an effort to help our players maintain the safest environment possible.
Our recreational coaches should focus on these specific areas:

- Stress to all families that they should read and follow the policies outlined in the “WUFC Return To Play Handbook”.
- Make sure all players have and use hand sanitizer before and after games and practices.
- Set up cones at least six feet apart for players to store their backpacks, water bottles and gear during practices and games.
- Discourage any unnecessary physical contact like fist bumps and high fives.
- Reach out to the club if they need any special assistance in handling COVID 19 expectations.

We will be hosting several coaching educations meetings in August of 2020 and we will specifically address recreational soccer “Return To Play” policies as they stand in August during these meetings.

**WUFC MEMBER RESOURCES**

**Helpful web links:**


Clackamas County COVID 19 Information: [https://www.clackamas.us/coronavirus](https://www.clackamas.us/coronavirus)


WLWV School District COVID 19 Information: [https://www.wlwv.k12.or.us/Page/15953](https://www.wlwv.k12.or.us/Page/15953)

How to disinfect clothes
[https://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/how-to-disinfect-clothes](https://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/how-to-disinfect-clothes)
1. Enter the school driveway off Borland Road and follow the arrows for traffic flow. Parents stay in your car and let your child out of the car by the scheduled field for your child’s practice. Please do not park and wait or continue conversations when stopped. **TRAFFIC MUST KEEP FLOWING.** If you are going to stay and park your car, please drop your child off first and THEN go park your car.

2. There are THREE fields at Athey Creek. Drop your child off next to the field where your child’s practice is scheduled. Players should EXIT the fields by the building for field one or on the service road between Athey Creek and the Wanker’s Corner Country Store for fields 2 and 3.

3. Please remind your player that once they are on the field they need to walk DIRECTLY to their field and place all gear on their designated spot. Players should NOT gather in small groups and they should avoid all physical contact with other players.

4. When leaving the field, players should stay six feet apart and exit the field at the designated exit. If a player must wait, please do so while staying six feet away from other players.

5. When picking up your player please do so at the designated exit ONLY. Pick up your child and drive away as quickly as you can safely.
1. Enter the church driveway from Lower Boones Ferry Road and follow the arrows for traffic flow. Parents stay in your car and let your child out of the car at the drop off area. Please do not park and wait or continue conversation when stopped. Traffic must keep flowing. If you are going to stay and park your car, please drop your child off first at the designated entrance and THEN go park your car.

2. There is only ONE field entrance at Horizon. Use the the designated ENTRANCE up front. Players will exit the fields at the back of the field and walk along the service road to the designated pick up spot. Please try to avoid congestion and unneeded physical contact when entering and exiting the gate.

3. Please remind your player that once they are on the field they need to walk AROUND the field to their team’s scheduled area and place all gear on their assigned cone. Players should NOT gather in small groups and they should avoid all physical contact with other players.

4. When leaving the field, players should try to stay six feet apart and exit the field at the designated exit. Players should go DIRECTLY to the pick up area. If a player must wait, please do so while staying six feet away from other players.

5. When picking up your player please do so at the designated pick up area ONLY. Exit the parking lot onto SW Norwood Drive.
1. Enter the park driveway and follow the arrows for traffic flow. Parents stay in your car and let your child out of the car at the appropriate entrance. Please do not park and wait or continue conversation when stopped. Traffic must keep flowing. If you are going to stay and park your car, please drop your child off first at the designated entrance and THEN go park your car.

2. There are THREE field entrances at Hazelia. Use the designated ENTRANCE and EXIT for entering and leaving the field to avoid congestion and unnecessary physical contact by players.

3. Please remind your player that once they are on the field they need to walk AROUND the field to their team’s area and place all gear on their designated spot. Players should NOT gather in small groups and they should avoid all physical contact with other players.

4. When leaving the field, players should stay six feet apart and exit the field at the designated exit. If a player must wait, please do so while staying six feet away from other players.

5. When picking up your player please do so at the designated field exit ONLY. Pick up your child and drive away as quickly as you can safely.
STAY SAFE!

PROTECT YOURSELF AND YOUR TEAMMATES
BY PRACTICING GOOD HEALTH HABITS!

- STAY HOME WHEN SICK
- COVER COUGHS AND SNEEZES
- WASH OR SANITIZE YOUR HANDS OFTEN

- DON'T TOUCH EYES/NOSE/MOUTH
- NO HAND SHAKES, HIGH FIVES OR HUGS
- DON'T SHARE WATER BOTTLES

STAY 6 FEET APART WHEN POSSIBLE

DON'T TOUCH TRAINING EQUIPMENT

Club · Character · Community

www.willametteunitedfc.com