PTTL Operational Plan

OYSA and the Portland Timbers and Thorns League is dedicated to protecting the health and safety of all people. The purpose of this document is to provide athletes, parents, coaches, and soccer organizations with information they can use to assist them with league play protocols in the context of COVID-19. Our procedures, policies, and responsibilities rely upon rules and regulations set forth by public health authorities, which will be different across the state.

In addition to the information below, we ask that everyone also follow the Return to Play Guidelines listed on the OYSA website. These items are in addition to that information.

The information listed below is required by each of the stakeholders for participation in the PTTL. Any clubs or teams that fail to comply with these responsibilities risk forfeiting their game and/or being removed from the league.

Introduction of Principles and Responsibilities

League Responsibilities:

- Communication Plan:
  - Publish all relevant materials around PTTL and materials including this operational plan on the OYSA website.
  - Virtual webinar with all club leadership about all league protocols, policies, and expectations around game day.
  - Direct emails to clubs and coaches about all league protocols, policies, and expectations around game day. 3 emails prior to league starting, bi-monthly during the league.
  - Direct emails to players and parents about all league protocols, policies, and expectations around game day. 3 emails prior to league starting, bi-monthly during the league.
  - Direct emails to referees about all league protocols, policies, and expectations around game day.
  - Any cancelations or shutdowns will be communicated as quickly as possible through Affinity direct to all team admins and club leadership.
  - Designate a point of contact at each club for any Covid-19 cases.
  - Create future scenarios for league play into winter 2020 and through June of 2021.
    - OYSA will still run a Winter and Spring League

- If someone is found to have Covid-19, the league will:
  - These are assumptions but will follow OHA’s guidance when a player tests positive. OYSA is working to gain more clarity around this issue.
  - Notify all teams that the team with the case has played in the last 2 weeks.
  - Notify all teams that the team with the case and opposing teams will play for the next 2 weeks.
  - Should a team discover that a player or coach has withdrawn themselves from team activities with Covid-19 type symptoms during the week, the club should notify OYSA immediately. The team should discontinue practices or gatherings until a test result comes back negative. If positive, the team should isolate players according to OHA guidelines and their upcoming game(s) will be cancelled. A club will not be fined for game cancelations due to reasons associated with Covid-19. A timely notice is appreciated so that referees and the opposing team can be notified as quickly as possible.

- League Set-Up
  - PTTL North games will start the weekend of September 26th
  - Divide the Premier, D1 and D2 divisions into 2 leagues:
    - PTTL North that includes Washington, Multnomah, Clackamas, Clark, Hood River, Clatsop, Columbia, Tillamook, and Yamhill (Premier, D1, and D2 Divisions)
    - PTTL South that includes all other counties.
    - Move to DOC Placement within reason based on last year’s results.
  - Premier, D1, D2 and D3 Divisions will play 6 games, $550 per team U11 to U14, $600 U15 to U19/20
  - Scores/Standings will be kept from U12 and older on the website
  - Seeding Meeting will be done in two parts, North and South
  - OYSA will offer a high school division in Fall 2020
GETTING KIDS BACK ON THE FIELD

Last Updated August 13, 2020

- Run with the same logistics as the Fall League

- Registration:
  - Move the registration deadline to August 31st. Seeding meeting would be September 3rd.
  - Refund Policy: 100% refund if league is cancelled before first game, $57 per game not played after the start of the league.
  - No roster continuity for leagues in 2020/21.

- Game Modifications:
  - Kick-ins Instead of Throw-ins
    - (a) When the ball goes out of play across the touch line, play will be restarted with a kick-in from the touch line at the place the ball exited the field of play.
      - (i) The ball may not noticeably leave the ground from the kick-in; the pass must remain on the ground.
      - (ii) In the event the ball noticeably leaves the ground from the kick-in, the referee will indicate this, and the opposing team will restart play with a kick-in from the same location.
      - (iii) A goal may not be scored directly from a kick-in. (iv) All opponents must stand at least 2 m (2 yds) from the point on the touchline where the kick-in is to be taken.
    - Slide-Tackles Not Permitted
      - (a) Slide-Tackling is not allowed.
        - (i) For the purpose of this rule, slide-tackling is defined as: going to ground to make a play on the ball that engages a player currently in possession of the ball, or that results in contact with another player.
        - (ii) In the event a player attempts a slide-tackle and no foul results, play will restart with an Indirect Free Kick for the opposing team.
        - (iii) In the event a player attempts a slide-tackle and the referee deems a foul has also resulted from it, play will restart with a Direct Free Kick for the opposing team.
  - Slide tackles are not permitted.
  - All games will be 40-minute halves.
  - Reduce halftime to 5 minutes.
  - Have a water break halfway through each half.

- Scheduling:
  - Field deadline is August 17th. Even if you don’t have access to fields please still report that to Valorie.
  - Schedule games in 2-hour blocks to maximize minimal contact between games.
  - Schedule games in 3-weekend chunks. Begin work on next chunk after the first weekend of games of the previous chunk.
  - 1st set of schedules released September 1st.
  - Stagger game times to ensure minimal contact is made for locations with multiple fields.
    - 2 fields – Every 30 minutes
    - 3 or more fields – Every 20 minutes
  - Schedule 1 game weekends for first 3 weeks to help prevent injuries.
  - When possible, have an even number of teams in brackets.
  - Schedule requests limited coaches with more than 1 team. Teams cannot request days off.

- At the Field:
Whenever possible, teams and their spectators will take one side of the field while the opposing team is on the opposite side of the field. Coaches/team managers are responsible for the behavior and compliance of physical distancing of their spectators. Click here for field map. Home team will dictate which side of the field teams take.

Some field locations may not allow or restrict the number of spectators due to inability to physically distance. One parent/guardian per player.

Clubs/teams must follow the rules of the field they are playing on.

Referee Responsibilities:
- Wear a mask up to stepping on the field to start the game, during halftime, and immediately following the game.
- Maintain physical distancing at all times, prior, during, and after all games.
- Will not touch the ball with their hands.
- Referee will only take a roster from the coach, and have the coach read out the player names and then show the referee the card to compare the card to the player. Coach can also use Digital Player Passes instead of player cards.
- Enforce all game modifications made by the league to ensure the safety of the players.
- No handshakes, fist bumps, etc. after the game.

Club Responsibilities:
- By registering your team to the league, the club and their teams, coaches, players, and parents agree to follow all league protocols, policies, and responsibilities.
- Create and distribute field maps on their website that have entrance and exits clearly marked.
- Provide OYSA with any rules that are specific to your fields to be shared with visiting teams.
- Post signs at their field that clearly mark the entrances and exits.
- All clubs responsible for providing their coaching staff/managers hand sanitizer.
- Home club responsible for bathroom sanitation – cleaned at start of the day, on the hour/after each use, and at the end of the day, if bathrooms are available and onsite.
- Home club responsible for field set-up and sanitization of all equipment at the beginning of the day, in between games.
- All clubs responsible for keeping attendance for which players are at every game.
- Have an effective communication plan in place, identify strategies for working with public health to notify adult leaders, youth and their families if the organization learns a participant or adult leader has developed COVID-19 and may have been infectious to others while at a youth activity, while maintaining confidentiality as per law.
- Have an action plan in place, in case of a positive test.
- Train and educate all staff to protocols and requirements, including state and local regulations, CDC recommendations and other necessary information. (See resources at the back of this document.)
- Be prepared to shut down and stop operations. Develop plans for temporary closure of outdoor activities to properly disinfect and ensure other adult leaders or youth are not infected.
- Provide adequate field space for social distancing.
- Develop a relationship and a dialog with health local officials.

Coach Responsibilities:
- Always wear a face mask, maintain physical distance requirements from players based on state and local health requirements.
- Use hand sanitizer before interacting with your team.
- Make sure that your team has left the field within 5 minutes of the game ending.
- Will make sure the home team provides 3 balls per half that have been sanitized. Game balls from 1st half can be sanitized by the home team at half time. Should a ball be handled by anyone, ball needed to be removed from play until it is sanitized.
- Coaches should check on an injured player but still maintain 6 feet of physical distancing when possible. In the case of an injury where a player needs assistance, the coach will ask the parent/guardian to enter the field to assist the player off the field.
Parent Responsibilities:

- Only one parent or guardian is allowed per player.
- Drop player off no earlier than 30 minutes prior to kickoff.
- Do not use your hands to return to ball to the field when the ball goes out of bounds.

Player Responsibilities:

- Cannot enter the field area until previous teams have left the field.
- Wear a mask to and from the field, and during game play in line with OHA mask guidelines.