

## PTTL Operational Plan

**OYSA and the Portland Timbers and Thorns League is dedicated to protecting the health and safety of all people. Some of our rules and protocols are beyond OHA guidelines, but are there to provide the safest possible environment during league games.**

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 will forfeit their game, be removed from the league, and forfeit any remaining games (with corresponding fines from PTTL Rules applying)**

### 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. 2 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. 2 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 still plans to run a Winter and Spring League, Cups
- League Health and Exclusion Policy for Covid-19 cases and Covid-19 exposure. ([Click here](#) for this policy)
- League Set-Up
  - All games will start the weekend of October 17th
    - League area is from Longview to Albany/Bend, and Forest Grove to Gresham
    - 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 to place teams
  - OYSA will offer a high school division in Fall 2020
    - Run with the same logistics as the Fall League
- Registration:
  - Move the registration deadline to August 31st. Seeding meeting would be September 3rd.
    - Check due at the time of registration, will be cashed when the league moves ahead.
  - 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 ([Click here](#) for the league rules):
  - Kick-ins Instead of Throw-ins



# GETTING KIDS BACK ON THE FIELD

Last Updated October 14, 2020



- (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.
  - (b) Sliding is allowed.
    - (iv) For the purpose of this rule, sliding is defined as: going to ground to make a play on the ball that does not engage a player currently in possession of the ball, and that does not make contact with another player. For example: sliding to attempt to score a goal or sliding to keep a ball in play.
- U17 to U19/20 Games will play 40-minute halves
- Reduce halftime to 5 minutes - rules
- Have a water break halfway through each half for < 2 minutes - rules
- Scheduling:
  - Continue sending Valorie any field availability that you have. 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.
  - Game scheduling: Schedule 1<sup>st</sup> weekend, then the next 2 weekends of October, then November, as needed into December. Begin work on next chunk after the first weekend of games of the previous chunk.
  - 1<sup>st</sup> set of schedules available Sunday, October 11th.
  - 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 weekend. Limit, if possible, 2 game weekends where we can.
    - Due to field restrictions and odd-numbered brackets we cannot do 1 game weekends all of the time.
  - When possible, have an even number of teams in brackets.
  - Schedule requests limited to 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 on the opposite side of halfway line to referee. Coaches and players must stay back from the sideline to allow 6 feet of physical distancing from Assistant Referee. Clubs/coaches/team managers/monitors are responsible for the behavior and compliance of physical distancing of their spectators. [Click here](#) for a sample 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. [Click here](#) for the Gatherings Guidance.
  - Clubs/teams must follow the rules of the field they are playing on.



# GETTING KIDS BACK ON THE FIELD



Last Updated October 14, 2020

## 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 entrances and exits clearly marked.
  - Provide a copy to OYSA to post to their website. Should indicate if there is a restroom available or not.
  - [Click here](#) to see the webpage.
- Provide a monitor at your home field, see responsibilities below.
- 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 and masks.
- 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, and 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 document on OYSA Covid-19 webpage)
- 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 local health officials.
- Clubs may designate one person to video or Livestream games, home team only. Must inform the opposing team prior to game day, and offer the link or video to the opposing team. If the home team is not videoing, the away team may assume these activities.
- Create club passing rules that limit the number of club passes used. Players that play in games that games with positive Covid-19 cases and exposure cases will also be required to follow the protocols of that team. This could also affect the team they are training with after the weekend's game(s).

## COVID-19 Monitor Responsibilities:

A club may decide to designate a monitor for the facility and/or each team. Monitor's are responsible for understanding and knowing all aspects of the P TTL Operational Plan and responsible for reminding, recording, and reporting. We ask that monitors are non-confrontational, just educational and informative. OYSA will use the reports to deal with the situations presented at the field. Each team will be provided with a monitor vest.

All reporting will use [this form](#) and is distributed to our Disciplinary Committee.

- Ensure that maximum facility capacity, per OHA guidelines, is not exceeded.
  - Phase 1:
    - Record number of participants per field, if above 50 report final number to OYSA immediately following the game.
    - Ensure that no spectators are present during games in Phase 1 county teams. Parents must remain in the parking area of the park or facility if they choose to stay on site.



# GETTING KIDS BACK ON THE FIELD

Last Updated October 14, 2020



- Remind any spectators that are outside of the parking area to return to the parking area. Record any spectators that fail to comply with your request. Send report of spectators to OYSA immediately following the game.
- 
- Phase 2:
  - Ensure that spectators maintain social distance and are properly wearing masks over their nose and mouth.
  - Only 1 spectator per player is allowed. (Phase 2 Counties only).
- Remind, Record, Report
  - Remind any spectators that are not wearing a face covering or physical distancing to comply with OHA guidelines.
  - Record any spectators that fail to comply with your request. Send record of spectators to OYSA immediately following the game.
  - Report your information to OYSA.
- Team may be removed from the league; and may forfeit all games and no refunds will be given. Any club with persistent infractions risk the club being removed and inability to register for any further leagues or Cups.

## Referee Responsibilities:

- Wear a mask up to the field to start the game, during the game, during halftime, and immediately following the game. If you are found to have not complied with this requirement, you will be removed from any future PTTL assignments for the calendar year.
- If a player clearly refuses to wear a mask over their nose and mouth, after being reminded it is required, the referee must verbally remind the player's coach and instruct the coach to correct the equipment issue with the player. If the player continues to refuse to wear a mask over their nose and mouth, the referee will abandon the match, call the Game Day Hotline to inform the league, and write detailed notes regarding the incident in the referee report. Team may be removed from the league; appropriate fines are applied.  
NOTE: it is expected that properly worn masks may slip down, fall off, require adjustment, etc., during the course of a match. The above requirement is ONLY for the case of clear and deliberate refusal by a player to wear a mask over their nose and mouth.
- If a coach clearly refuses to wear a mask over their nose and mouth, the referee must warn the coach and instruct the coach to correct the equipment issue. If the coach continues to refuse to wear a mask over their nose and mouth, the referee will abandon the match, call the GameDay hotline to inform the league, and write detailed notes regarding the incident in the referee report. Team may be removed from the league; appropriate fines are applied.
- Referee will use an electronic whistle, whistle through their mask, or pull mask up to blow whistle, pull it down immediately afterwards.
- Maintain physical distancing at all times, prior, as much as possible 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 roster. 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.

## Coaching Staff Responsibilities:

- Check-in all players to ensure no players have Covid-19 like symptoms. Template provided on OYSA Covid-19 page.
- Ensure that players and team's spectators are following the guidelines and rules of the field you are playing on.
- Always wear a face covering, maintain physical distance requirements from players based on state guidelines and local health requirements.
  - Have an extra face covering in case your face covering breaks
- Use hand sanitizer before interacting with your team.
- Make sure that your team has left the field within 5 minutes of the game ending.
  - Use appropriate exit and waits until all players have been picked up
- Will make sure the home team provides 3 balls per half that have been sanitized. Game balls from 1<sup>st</sup> 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.



# GETTING KIDS BACK ON THE FIELD



Last Updated October 14, 2020

- Have an emergency plan in place if someone to be injured or needs to leave the field immediately. Have access to parent cell phone numbers, and we recommend having 2 coaches/managers at all games so one coach can handle any emergencies, the other coach can manage the team.
  - 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 more assistance, the coach may help the player.
  - For Phase 1 Counties, the coach should be able to contact the parent and ask for support.
    - Parent may come onto the field or complex to help aid the injured child as needed.
  - For Phase 2 Counties, the can request that a parent come onto the field to help aid the injured child as needed.

## Parent/Spectator Responsibilities:

- Keep child at home if they have any Covid-19 like symptoms.
- Check player's temperature prior to game, must be below 100.4 to participate. Report temperature to the coach upon arrival at the game.
- Only one parent or guardian is allowed per player in Phase 2 counties. In Phase 1 counties no parents, guardians, and spectators are allowed be at the field. This is in line with the Gatherings Guidance.
  - Spectators in Phase 2 counties are required to wear a face covering at games.
- Use the OYSA website to know and follow all rules for drop-off, entrances and exits for field your child is playing at.
- Drop player off no earlier than 30 minutes prior to kickoff. May be different at different fields, so please check prior to the game.
- In Phase 1 counties, if the parent chooses to remain on-site, must remain in the parking area of the field or park, preferably in your car.
  - Do not park in fire lanes or other spots not designated for parking.
- Do not use your hands to return to ball to the field when the ball goes out of bounds. Any equipment touched by a spectator must be sanitized before use during a game.

## Player Responsibilities:

- Stay home if you have any Covid-19 like symptoms
- Face coverings are required at all times, prior, during, and after the match, and must be worn over the nose and mouth.
  - [Click here](#) for the guidance on types of face coverings that are allowed per OHA guidelines.
  - We do not allow the face shield as a face covering for safety reasons.
  - If your face covering falls down during game play, pull it up immediately.
  - Have an extra face covering in case your face covering breaks or becomes too wet.
- Make sure to bring both sets of jerseys to every game.
- Cannot enter the field area until previous teams have left the field.

