

NYS Flag Football – COVID-19 Game Plan

In order to have a successful season it is important that everyone involved has a clear understanding of the regulations and expectations of their roles as it relates to addressing the concerns of COVID-19.

Players

- Parents must sign off on a COVID waiver in order for their children to be eligible to participate
- Must conduct daily symptom assessments (self-evaluation). If experiencing symptoms, a temperature of 100.3 or above, or if player has come into contact with someone who is sick, player is not allowed to participate in practices or games.
- Must wash hands with soap and water and bring personal use hand sanitizer to the fields
- Must bring a personal water bottle which MUST be labeled with their name
- Must not share water bottles
- Must adhere to 6-foot social distancing while on the sidelines
- Players are highly encouraged to not touch their mouth guard once it has been placed in their mouth and to sanitize their hands after it has been touched
- No touch rule – players should refrain from high fives, handshake lines, and other physical contact with teammates, opposing players, coaches, officials, and fans
- A “round of applause” can be used following the game in lieu of the handshakes

Spectators

- Conduct self-evaluation. If you are experiencing symptoms, a temperature of 100.3 or above, or if you have come into contact with someone who is sick, stay away from practices and games.
- Must not enter player areas during practices and games
- Must adhere to 6-foot social distancing practices. This includes on the sidelines for anyone not in the same family. Please use judgment when bring senior citizens and others with health issues to the games
- Must keep 10-feet or more distance from the sideline
- Face coverings are recommended at all times
- While we don't expect space to be an issue at the fields, if it is, we will ask that spectators be limited to two adults and their children

Coaches

- Must adhere to 6-foot social distancing practices
- Must wear face covering at all times
- Must conduct daily symptom assessments (self-evaluation), if experiencing symptoms, a temperature of 100.3 or above, or if you've come into contact with someone who is sick, you must not coach
- There will be no coin toss. The home team will begin with ball possession and the away team will begin with ball possession after half time
- No touch rule – coaches should refrain from high fives, handshake lines, and other physical contact with teammates, opposing players, coaches, officials, and fans. A “round of applause” can be used following the game in lieu of the handshake line
- Coaches must call the referee to their sideline with all questions and remain 6ft away
- Arguing judgement calls will not be tolerated. The referees are going to do the best they can. For the safety of all we will not allow aggressive arguing with any referee
- Must ensure that players are following COVID-19 -related prevention measures included herein
- Teams will maintain 20 yard difference from each other if on the same side of field
- All teams must use their own balls and keep them clean in between possessions (wiping them down with a Clorox wipe)
- No team snacks/drinks
- No after game team huddle

Referees

- Must conduct daily symptom assessments (self-evaluation), if experiencing symptoms, a temperature of 100.3 or above, or has come into contact with someone who is sick must stay home
- Must adhere to 6-foot social distancing practices when interacting with players, coaches, and spectators off the field of play
- Wear face coverings at all times
- Only officials are to touch the ball, field markers, score boards
- Must avoid exchanging documents or equipment with players, coaches, or spectator
- There will be no coin toss. The home team will begin with ball possession and the away team will begin with ball possession after half time.

Staff

- Must conduct daily symptom assessments (self-evaluation). Anyone that is experiencing symptoms, a temperature of 100.3 or above, or has come into contact with someone who is sick must stay home
- Must adhere to 6-foot social distancing practices when interacting with players, coaches, and spectators off the field of play
- Must wear face coverings at all times
- Hand sanitizer will be provided at the concessions tent
- Must disinfect the ball and game equipment after touching them and prior to giving them to officials
- Must collect the game scores verbally from the officials at the end of each game and record them for the weekend review. Blank ref cards may be provided to the officials for score tracking but they must remain with the official

This information is subject to change as state and local requirements change.