

IYSA Covid Update

As of today, Illinois remains under the guidelines set on August 14 for the All Sports Policy and soccer remains a medium risk sport. [Click here for complete COVID details.](#)

We have had many organizations ask if there are any updates or if we have any details on when changes are coming. As we have done throughout this process, once we get information we update our posted guidelines as soon as possible. Once we know of changes we will let you know.

Also as a reminder - these guidelines are universal for all sports and organizations throughout the state, these guidelines are not unique to Illinois Youth Soccer and violation of guidelines should be reported to your local health authorities.

Since the onset of the pandemic Illinois Youth Soccer has been advocating with state officials to get soccer players safely back on the pitch.

Our last meeting was with the DCEO in Mid-September, who works in conjunction with the IDPH and creates the actual guideline documents that are shared with the public and that we receive to create ours.

The purpose of that meeting was three-fold:

1. to clarify some contradictory information they have in their All Sports Policy Guidelines and their FAQ sheet
2. to present a plan for soccer to resume
3. advocate for the governing bodies of individual sports be consulted for all future decision pertaining to their sport - we feel that we can provide important insight specifically to soccer as we are sure other sports feel that same instead of a broad stroke approach to all sports grouped together.

At the meeting we presented

- Proposed soccer specific guidelines that were in line with all state and national guidelines as well stricter in some cases
- Soccer specific case studies that focused on transmission rates thru playing soccer
- Breakdown of what all 55 US Youth Soccer state associations are allowed to do for comparison
- The then newly inactive guidelines in Michigan, who had similar allowable sports restrictions to Illinois and how similar guidelines could be enforced by IYSA to get soccer back to play

Unfortunately following that meeting, and the subsequent one with IDPH, we were told basically thank you for all this information but all sports restrictions will remain in place at this time.

Since then we continue to send additional details to government agencies and offer different options to get back to playing, weekly if not multiple times a week.

We have gotten question on if there is anything individuals can do to assist in getting soccer back, at this time the first one is to sign the change.org petition focused on getting youth sports back to play <https://www.change.org/p/city-politicians-support-the-save-our-sports-coalition>

Going forward we will share additional options that may be impactful.

As always, once we have updates we will share them as quickly as we can with our membership.

In the meantime, if you have any additional questions please email our staff.