**General Guidelines: EQUIPMENT SAFETY AND CLEANING**

###### Players, Coaches, Match Officials

Any soccer activity must comply with the health and safety protocols as outlined in the [Ontario Soccer Return to Play Guide](https://cdn4.sportngin.com/attachments/document/3abe-2181075/Ontario_Soccer_Return_to_Play_Guide_updated_July_2-2020new.pdf#_ga=2.121002319.613285650.1594209938-1345229202.1584994546) along with any new protocols issued by the Province of Ontario health authorities.

Recommendations:

* + Bring a personally marked water bottle(s) to any soccer activity and avoid touching or using public water fountains. Note: Water fountains should be closed.
  + Cleaning of equipment and physical distancing should be practiced and conform to recommendations from the Province of Ontario health authorities.
  + Disinfect all equipment after soccer activities before storing at home.
  + Match Officials do not share pens, cards etc. Where required, wipe down pens with sanitizing wipes after use.
  + The coach/manager should not be collecting team pinnies and washing them. An alternative can be the use of two different shirts (dark and light).
  + Thoroughly wash or wipe down your equipment, towels, clothes, bags, water bottles, white boards, caps, cones and other items you have used or touched immediately after use.
  + Wash hands thoroughly in warm soapy water for at least 20 seconds or use of alcohol-based hand sanitizer if water and soap are not immediately available.
  + Do not share equipment – this includes shin guards, shirts, socks etc.
  + Cover your mouth and nose with your arm or a tissue to reduce the spread of germs. Remember if you use a tissue, to dispose of it as soon as possible and wash your hands afterwards. Ensure all discarded materials (tissues, wipes, sock tape etc.) are placed into an approved garbage receptacle.
  + Avoid touching gates, fences, benches, etc. Option to wear gloves; latex (or similar) gloves– discard after one game, or purchase gloves that can be washed.
  + Consider wearing a mask or a face shield when attending activities. Use this [reference](https://www.cnet.com/health/how-to-safely-exercise-with-a-face-mask-on-during-the-coronavirus-pandemic/) to help with your decision:
    - Avoid touching the mask while using it and clean your hands if you do.
    - Before putting on a mask, clean your hands with soap and water or alcohol- based hand sanitizer.
    - Cover your mouth and nose with the mask and make sure there are no gaps between your face and the mask
    - Remove it from behind, and place or if disposable discard immediately into a closed bin and then clean your hands with soap and water or alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
    - Replace a disposable mask with a new one as soon as it is damp and don't reuse single-use masks.
  + Clean your gloves, mask or shield after each use.

###### Electronics

For electronics such as cell phones, tablets, touch screens that could be used by Coaches;

* + Do not share electronics.
  + Follow the manufacturer’s instructions for all cleaning and disinfection products.
  + When possible, consider the use of wipeable covers for electronics.
  + If no manufacturer guidance is available and when possible, consider the use of alcohol based wipes or sprays containing at least 70% alcohol to disinfect touch screens.
  + Dry surfaces thoroughly to avoid pooling of liquids