

Emergency Response Plan

A specific ***COVID-19 Emergency Response Plan*** will need to be developed. This will serve as a mandatory risk management tool to allow for the proper environmental assessment and care of your participants on and off the field of play who may have been tested positive for COVID-19.

During the current pandemic, the luxury of time to respond as soccer leaders is not available. Management of a breach within your soccer organization must be dealt with quickly and efficiently if you have a clearly defined ***COVID-19 Emergency Response Plan***.

Whenever it is practical or appropriate, the emergency response plan should be prepared in alignment with local health authorities and other trained health care personnel associated within your organization. As part of the plan, assign key roles to people within the organization.

Included below for your reference are key components of a recommended ***COVID-19 Emergency Response Plan***. The underlining objective of your plan should someone test positive within your soccer organization is to ensure that the virus does not spread any further and that the infected person(s) is removed and receive immediate care from health professionals.

One key leader should be identified who oversees and leads the emergency action plan and has thorough knowledge of the protocols that need to be enacted. The charge should also be someone with direct access to your organization's leadership group (i.e., Board of Directors, Owner/Operator) to ensure top-down management of the plan. Secondly, it is imperative that records of plan execution and management is maintained on file. This ensures factual record keeping should reporting be required.

Plan Overview

Organization and Structure of the Plan

The main body of this COVID-19 Emergency Response Plan is organized in three sections, which outline the key roles and responsibilities of your soccer organization in each of the three (3) pandemic phases;

1. **Pre-pandemic Phase:** This is the critical stage for COVID-19 pandemic preparedness. The pre-pandemic phase is NOW, and planning efforts need to focus on Club/Academy education of the membership (i.e., volunteers, staff, coaches, parents, players, match officials) on Ontario Soccer and Canada Soccer's Return to Play Plan and Protocols. Please note that the Return to Play Protocols comply with the Province of Ontario emergency orders and health authority directives. In addition, coordination with facilities (especially if third-party) should be included as they may have additional plans & procedures in place.
2. **Positive Test Phase:** Confirmation of a COVID-19 positive test within your soccer organization will declare when it is time to activate your COVID-19 Action Plan. During this phase, the key goals will be to prevent further infections within your organization and minimize program disruption. This phase remains active until the infected party has been isolated and under the control of professional health authorities and there is no further threat to the health and safety of your soccer organization's participants.
3. **Post-pandemic Phase:** The post-pandemic period begins when the Provincial Health Officer declares that the COVID-19 pandemic is over. The primary focus of work at this time is to restore normal services, deactivate pandemic response activities, review the impact, and use the lessons learned to guide future emergency response planning.

Pre-pandemic Phase:

1. Pre-Pandemic Activities	Responsibility
<p>Planning and Coordination</p> <p>a. Determine COVID-19 Emergency Response Plan (ERP) lead for soccer organization.</p> <p>b. Create Emergency Response Plan for COVID-19 or add to existing ERP and include a section on pandemic influenza.</p> <p>c. Complete Canada Soccer/Ontario Soccer's Risk</p>	<p>Board of Directors or Owner/Operator</p> <p>ERP Lead</p>

	<p>Assessment On-line.</p> <p>d. Incorporate Canada Soccer/Ontario Soccer’s Return to Play protocols.</p> <p>e. Educate all internal organizational leaders of ERP Procedures Manual.</p> <p>e. Written communication plan flowchart if a positive test for COVID-19 in the soccer organization.</p> <p>f. Verify Ontario Soccer, Province of Ontario and/or local Municipal government permissions for Return to Play implementation following Ontario Soccer Return to Play protocols of implementation.</p>	<p>ERP Lead</p> <p>ERP Lead</p> <p>ERP Lead</p> <p>ERP Lead</p> <p>ERP Lead</p>
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2.	Positive Test Phase	Responsibility
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	<p>Confirmation of a COVID-19 positive test within your soccer organization</p> <p>Communication System</p> <p>Consistent with Federal and Provincial/Territorial privacy regulations, acts, laws, etc. coaches, staff, officials, and families of players should self-report to the single point of contact (SPOC), also known as the “ERP Lead” if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. they have symptoms of COVID-19, or b. a positive test for COVID-19 is recorded, or c. were exposed to someone with COVID-19 within the last 14 days. <p>Note: See ERP Communications Flow Chart and end of this section.</p> <p>Advise Sick Individuals to Stay Home</p>	
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	<p>Sick coaches, staff members, officials, or players should not return until they are well enough based on Public Health Agency of Canada and Provincial Health Authority guidelines.</p> <p>Isolate and/or Transport Those Who are Sick at Club/Academy Activities</p> <p>Make sure that coaches, staff, officials, players, and families know that sick individuals should not attend a Club or Academy activity, and that they should notify officials if they (staff) or their child (families) become sick with COVID-19 symptoms, test positive for COVID-19, or have been exposed to someone with COVID-19 symptoms or a confirmed or suspected case.</p> <p>Coaches, staff, officials, and players with COVID-19 symptoms (i.e., fever, cough, shortness of breath) at any club activity must be immediately separated and isolated. Individuals who are sick should go home or to a healthcare facility, depending on how severe their symptoms are, contact their Family Physician, and follow Health Agency guidance for caring for oneself and others who are sick. Individuals who have had close contact with a person who has symptoms should be separated and sent home as well. If symptoms develop, individuals and families should follow Health Agency guidelines for caring for oneself and others who are sick.</p> <p>Establish procedures for safely transporting anyone who is sick to their home or to a healthcare facility. That means having parent contact information readily available; parents within a safe, socially distanced but easily accessible waiting area; or if you are calling an ambulance or bringing someone to the hospital. If calling an ambulance, please alert them that the person may have COVID- 19.</p>	<p>ERP Lead</p> <p>ERP Lead</p>
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	<p>Clean and Disinfect Areas</p> <p>Close off areas used by a sick person and do not use these areas until after cleaning and disinfecting them (for outdoor areas, this includes surfaces or shared objects in the area).</p> <p>Ensure safe and correct use and storage of cleaning and disinfection products, including storing them securely away from children.</p> <p>Notify Local Health Officials and Governing Bodies</p> <p><u>Close Contacts</u></p> <p>In accordance with Federal, Provincial and Territorial privacy and confidentiality laws and regulations, the SPOC should notify local health officials, District, Provincial or Territorial Associations, club staff, officials, and families immediately of any case of COVID-19 while maintaining confidentiality in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.</p> <p>SPOC should work with local health officials to develop a reporting system (e.g., letter) to notify health officials and close contacts (logs and/or contract tracing information) of cases of COVID-19.</p> <p>The Provincial and Territorial Health agencies and</p>	<p>ERP Lead</p>
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	<p>their Contact Tracing procedures will be responsible for advising those who have had close contact with a person diagnosed with COVID-19 and determine whether someone should stay home and self monitor for symptoms. Members of the Club/Academy should continue to self-monitor for symptoms.</p> <p>The SPOC must notify the Provincial or Territorial Association of any cases of COVID-19. A weekly reporting system should be instituted for SPOC to advise the Provincial or Territorial Association of any cases of COVID 19, suspected cases, and where athletes or staff have been refused admittance to any training session. Even if there are no suspected cases, a 'nil' report should be required.</p>	ERP Lead

3. Post-pandemic Phase	Responsibility
<p>Action and Communications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Confirm Provincial Health Officer has declared the COVID-19 pandemic is over. b. Send official written notice to your membership (i.e., volunteers, staff, coaches, parents, players, match officials) that the pandemic is officially over, the province's state of emergency order has been lifted and soccer activities can resume its full operations. Note: During this phase, there may be specific sport protocols to follow from Canada Soccer/Ontario Soccer and/or the Provincial health authorities (i.e., implementation of Infection Control Policies and Procedures). c. Conduct a full review of your COVID-19 Return to Play Implementation Plan as well as your COVID-19 Emergency Response Plan. Include a list of recommendations for improvements. d. Update your soccer organizations Emergency Response Plan for future use and have approved. 	<p>ERP Lead</p> <p>President</p> <p>ERP Lead</p> <p>ERP Lead in conjunction with Board of Directors or Owner/Operator</p>

