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STAFFORD, CT

STAFFORD RECREATION COMMISSION

Special Meeting

Zoom Video Conference Meeting

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: Thursday, July 27, 2020

2020 AUG 26 PM 4:27

12 pages

Tom Topping
TOWN CLERK

Members: Chairman - Dave Bachiochi, Secretary - Becky Murphy, Barron Utter, Harold Blake Hatch, Tom Topping, Todd Levesque, Kevin Roy, Richard Deary, Bill Utermarck

Members Present: Dave Bachiochi, Becky Murphy, Tom Topping, Dick Deary, Bill Utermarck, Harold Blake Hatch, Baron Utter

Members Absent: Kevin Roy, Todd Levesque

Recreation/Athletic Director: Damian Frassinelli

Guest: Jim Tantillo

- 1.) **Call Meeting to Order** – Dave called the meeting to order at 8:04 p.m. The number of board members present 6 constitutes a quorum (7 of 9)
- 2.) **Review and Accept Minutes from previous meeting** – Minutes from last meeting were reviewed. A motion to accept the minutes with no noted changes was entered by Harold Blake Hatch– Second by Tom Topping. Vote to accept minutes was unanimous.
- 3.) **Correspondence, letters & emails** – None
- 4.) **Old Business** – None
- 5.) **New Business** –
 - a. **Youth Sports Return To Play** – The youth sports returning to play COVID guidelines were reviewed and discussed. The following changes were suggested.
 1. All guidelines are subject to change based on changes in the public health situation.
 2. Spectators must wear a face covering or maintain 6 foot social distance, and are encouraged to do both.

Motion: Barron moved to accept the youth sports COVID guidelines with the suggested changes.

Second: Dick Deary second the motion

Vote: The vote was unanimous, and the motion carried.

Schedule of Regular Meetings for CY 2020 (1st Thursday except July and August):

Jan 2, Feb 6, Mar 5, Apr 2, May 7, Jun 4, Sep 3, Oct 1, Nov 5, Dec 3

b. Little League Return To Play – The little league return to play COVID guidelines were reviewed and a motion to accept was received.

Motion: Bill Utermarck moved to accept the Little League COVID guidelines.

Second: Dick Deary second the motion

Vote: The vote was unanimous, and the motion carried.

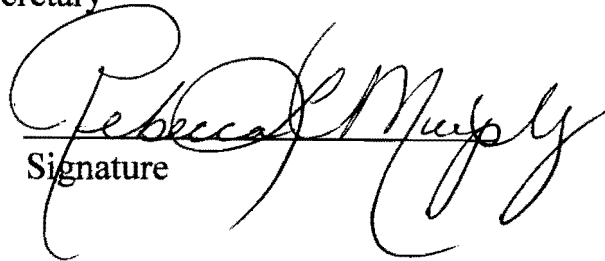
6.) Meeting Adjourned – Meeting adjourned at 9:05p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Becky Murphy, Secretary

7/29/2020

Date


Signature

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Sports Return To Play template for Stafford, CT

July 27, 2020

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It is strongly recommended that an organization adopt a phased approach and associated requirements to help protect players, families, and coaches from increased risk of contracting COVID-19. All phases require strict adherence to safety protocols. Activities which are not permitted in a phase, are not sanctioned, which risks insurance liability coverage by any insurance provider.

These protocols are likely to change as CDC and government requirements evolve. Also, each organization must operate with state and local government requirements. It is important to check with local authorities and obtain any permits or other authorizations before beginning activities. Organizations should be prepared to revert to an earlier phase if health conditions warrant.

As we begin a return to play, it is important that you prepare to implement the following, minimum, return to play requirements for Phase 1. Further information on best practices is available at the CDC. Phase 1 requirements are applicable to future phases. Any changes made to strengthen these requirements by local authorities (state or regional public health departments) must be adhered to.

Template

Below you will find the minimum requirements that an organization must certify to implement and strictly adhere to.

No Participation if Experiencing COVID-19 Symptoms

- Any coach, player, parent, referee or spectator who is sick, has a persistent cough, is running a temperature or is displaying any symptoms suggesting that the individual may be ill, (from any contagious malady, including cold, flu, or suspected coronavirus) will be prohibited from attending training or games.
- Coaches and players (assisted by parents/guardians) must self-assess their condition and attest when arriving at the location that they are not experiencing these symptoms. A self-assessment tool is attached which you can provide for players and coaches to assess their symptoms. <https://www.mayoclinic.org/covid-19-self-assessment-tool>
- Any adult attendee who displays any of these symptoms will be required to leave. A minor who is displaying any of these symptoms should be safely isolated until an adult responsible for the minor can remove the minor.

COVID-19 Director

- All organizations must have a COVID-19 Director. The COVID-19 Director is responsible for identifying and implementing the practices required to comply with state and local return to play activities requirements and is the point of contact with local authorities and your organization's state or national governing body..

Obtain Waiver

- A signed COVID-19 Waiver must be provided by a player before engaging in any return to play activities. Example provided below.

Minimize physical touching between players and coaches

- Coaches shall ensure and all players and coaches avoid "high fives," handshakes, or other types of physical touching. We understand that this may be difficult as players enjoy celebrating with their teammates, but we need to be diligent at enforcing this protocol for the health and safety of our players and their families.
- Coaches, players, and spectators to wear masks during training sessions
- Coaches are required to wear appropriate face coverings during training sessions. Players must wear masks when in the playing environment and not playing. Players will also be allowed to wear masks while training, but this will be a personal choice of the player's parent or guardian. Any other individuals attending the training session are required to wear appropriate face coverings and follow all social distancing guidelines.
- Spectators must wear a face covering if 6 foot social distancing cannot be maintained. It is strongly encouraged that BOTH face coverings be worn AND social distancing be maintained by all spectators at youth events.

Hand Sanitizing

- Make hand sanitizer, disinfecting wipes, soap, and water, or similar disinfectant readily available during practice. Players should bring hand sanitizer for personal use.

Equipment

- Do not share equipment. Players should have their own alternate color training top or pinnie. Players should have their own water bottle, towel, duffle bag or backpack and hand sanitizer. Players should have individual playing equipment (bat, glove, helmet, soccer ball, lacrosse stick, etc) where practical.
- Reduce players touching practice equipment, the handling of all training items, such as cones, flags, goals, etc. should be limited to coaches.
- Sanitize all equipment after each session, including benches and bleachers.

Increased signage throughout facilities

- Organizations should post reminder signage throughout facilities wherever possible to remind all players, coaches, and spectators to maintain social distancing.

Social Distancing Oversight

- Social distancing (minimum 6 feet) must be maintained by coaches, players, and spectators at all times.
- Organizations should assign people to be physically present to monitor fields and facilities to politely but firmly ask any groups of parents or players to disperse and maintain appropriate distancing and that failure to do so risks the sanctioning and protection (including insurance) for the players and the organization.

Communication Requirement

- **Make the Return to Play Activities COVID-19 Guidelines available to all your members.** This can be accomplished by, Emailing, Prominently posting on Website, pointing to the most recent version on the organization's Website.
- **If a team member or coach contracts COVID-19, all training sessions will be canceled for that team and any additional team associated with that coach for 14 days.**
- **If a player or coach is sent home with symptoms, they can return when they have no fever and symptoms have improved, or they receive two negative test results in a row, at least 24 hours apart (CDC Guidelines).**

Other Communication

- **It is recommended to create stakeholder specific instruction sheets to make it easy for each stakeholder to follow (parents, players, coaches, administration).**
- **Liberal use of signage for social distancing, mask wearing, hygiene behavior should be posted at key points throughout the playing venue.**

When you don't feel well

1. **Feel sick, stay home. Check for fever, dry cough, other Covid-19 symptoms (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>) regularly and just prior to practice or game. If symptomatic, contact your healthcare provider.**
2. **Anyone presumed positive (but without testing) for Covid-19 must be free of fever without medication for 3 days, have symptoms resolving and be at least 10 days out from symptom onset to return.**
3. **Anyone diagnosed with Covid-19 with a positive test must test negative twice, with the 2 tests at least 24 hours apart to return.**
4. **Should a healthcare provider rule out Covid-19, a doctor's note will be required to return, if within a shorter time period than outlined above.**
5. **Anyone who has had a known exposure to a Covid-19 case will quarantine for 14 days before return.**

<Insert Sport Specific and/or Venue Specific Guidelines here>

Sample Waiver language

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK AGREEMENT

In consideration of being allowed to participate in any way in any program, event, or activity sponsored or authorized by Connecticut Junior Soccer Association, Inc. and/or any affiliated member, I the undersigned, acknowledge, appreciate, and agree that:

I am aware there are risks to me of exposure to, directly or indirectly, arising out of, contributed to, by, or resulting from an outbreak of any and all communicable diseases, including but not limited to, the virus "severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2)", which is responsible for Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) and/or any mutation or variation thereof.

I, for myself and on behalf of my heirs, assigns, personal representatives and next of kin, HEREBY RELEASE, INDEMNIFY, AND HOLD HARMLESS THE CONNECTICUT JUNIOR SOCCER ASSOCIATION, INC. AND ITS AFFILIATED MEMBERS, and their respective officers, officials, agents and/or employees, other participants, sponsors, advertisers, and, if applicable, owners and lessors of premises used to conduct any program, event, or activity (RELEASEES), from any and all claims, demands, losses, and liability arising out of or related to any ILLNESS, INJURY, DISABILITY OR DEATH I may suffer, WHETHER ARISING FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASEES OR OTHERWISE, to the fullest extent permitted by law. I HAVE READ THIS RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK AGREEMENT, FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS TERMS, UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE GIVEN UP SUBSTANTIAL RIGHTS BY SIGNING IT, AND SIGN IT FREELY AND VOLUNTARILY WITHOUT ANY INDUCEMENT.

X _____ Participant's

Signature (if over 18) Age Date Participant's Name: _____

FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS OF PARTICIPANT OF MINOR AGE (UNDER AGE 18 AT TIME OF REGISTRATION)

This is to certify that I, as parent/guardian with legal responsibility for this participant, do consent and agree to his/her release as provided above of all the Releases, and, for said participant and for myself, my heirs, assigns, and next of kin, I release and agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Releasees from any and all liability incident to my minor child's involvement or participation in these programs as provided above, EVEN IF ARISING FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASEES, to the fullest extent permitted by law.

X _____

Parent/Guardian Signature Date Emergency Phone Number(s) Participant's Name:

Stafford Little League - return to play waiver

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK AGREEMENT

In consideration of being allowed to participate in any way in any program, event, or activity sponsored or authorized by Stafford Little League, Little League International, Inc. and/or any affiliated member, I the undersigned, acknowledge, appreciate, and agree that:

I am aware there are risks to me of exposure to, directly or indirectly, arising out of, contributed to, by, or resulting from an outbreak of any and all communicable diseases, including but not limited to, the virus "severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2)", which is responsible for Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) and/or any mutation or variation thereof.

I, for myself and on behalf of my heirs, assigns, personal representatives and next of kin, HEREBY RELEASE, INDEMNIFY, AND HOLD HARMLESS LITTLE LEAGUE INTERNATIONAL, INC, STAFFORD LITTLE LEAGUE AND ITS AFFILIATED MEMBERS, and their respective officers, officials, agents and/or employees, other participants, sponsors, advertisers, and, if applicable, owners and lessors of premises used to conduct any program, event, or activity (RELEASEES), from any and all claims, demands, losses, and liability arising out of or related to any ILLNESS, INJURY, DISABILITY OR DEATH I may suffer, WHETHER ARISING FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASEES OR OTHERWISE, to the fullest extent permitted by law.

I HAVE READ THIS RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK AGREEMENT, FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS TERMS, UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE GIVEN UP SUBSTANTIAL RIGHTS BY SIGNING IT, AND SIGN IT FREELY AND VOLUNTARILY WITHOUT ANY INDUCEMENT.

X _____ Participant's
Signature (if over 18) Age / Date Participant's Name: _____

FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS OF PARTICIPANT OF MINOR AGE (UNDER AGE 18 AT TIME OF REGISTRATION)

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X _____
Parent/Guardian Signature / Date / Emergency Phone Number(s)

Participant's Name: _____

25. All Umpires are to remain 6ft from each other, players, and coaches as much as possible during games.
26. "Home Plate Umpires" shall call the game from 6 ft behind the pitching mound.
27. Umpires are required wear a mask whenever they need to be less than 6 feet from a player or coach for more than a moment, including but not limited to Pregame Conferences, meetings on the field to discuss calls, coming on or off the field.
Exception: During active play umpires do not need to wear a mask but they should take care to maintain 6ft of from players when possible while performing on field duties.
28. Umpires should not handle any equipment including baseballs, helmet, or bats left on the field of play. If a piece of equipment presents a safety hazard, they should kick it out of the way of the ongoing play.

If anyone, child or adult is uncomfortable with the protocol, they should not participate. If anyone does not wish to comply with any of the protocol measures in this document, they cannot participate.

- b. Players must replace mask when returning to dugout/sideline area when coming off the field
5. Dugouts are off limits; players will have designated areas along the side fence to put their bat bags and personal equipment along the fence. Players should bring their own lawn chair. Six foot social distancing is required in the modified dugout area.
6. Coaches are to remain 6ft from each other and from players as much as possible during practice and games
7. Spectators are welcome but will need to follow the 6-foot social distancing directives (with the exception of immediate family members) and must wear face coverings in the spectator area. No spectators are allowed near the modified 'dugout' area.
8. Visiting team must be made aware of rules and agree to follow
9. No concessions from league. Players to bring their own water / sports drink – no sharing
10. Bathrooms will remain closed, portable toilets are available.
11. The Batting cage facility is to remain closed and off limits until further notice. Access to the equipment room by league personnel only
12. The league must assign a Covid Director
13. The league must assign at least 3 people to any team in any division assembling to play. This includes a coach, and at least 2 other monitors to help enforce all protocol and correct any shortfalls
14. Clear communication must be in place with parents that non-compliance means whole program can be shut down
15. At any point in time, virus conditions in the state could force us to revert to more restrictive measures or cease activity altogether.
16. Allow time between successive events for one group to leave the premises
17. Anyone who has had a known exposure to a Covid-19 case will quarantine for 14 days before return.
18. Should a healthcare provider rule out Covid-19, a doctor's note will be required to return, if within a shorter time period than outlined above.
19. Kids should not huddle together, give high-fives, hug or touch each other in any way, outside active in-game play
20. Coaches shall not group kids together for any reason including game discussions, or instruction. All group discussion shall be held in an area where players can be spaced 6ft apart, with the coach and any other adult at least 6ft away.
21. Any ball out of play remains out of play and is replaced with a new ball. The out of play ball should be retrieved by one designated individual and immediately sanitized before return to the game rotation.
22. Sanitization for balls is to be a mixture of bleach and water. This can be sprayed on the ball and wiped off.
23. Bats should be picked up by the batter. When this is not available the bat can be picked up by a designated person and sanitized with bleach/water spray. If a bat lands in play after a hit, it should not be picked up by a player, but can be kicked out of play until retrieval is possible.
24. All players should bring their own hand sanitizer to all games and practices.

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Other Communication

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Stafford Little League youth baseball and softball - Return To Play Protocol

In addition to the guidelines above, the following protocol must be in place and strictly observed:

1. The league cannot accept participation for any child who cannot follow the protocol for medical, or any other stated reason.
2. Players must have their own bat and helmet. No sharing.
3. Players who will be playing the catcher position must have their own equipment or be designated to receive a setup from the league which they will keep for the season – no sharing. Teams advised to have 2 catchers, in case of injury replacement
4. Players, coaches will be required to wear a mask, at all practices and games. Players in **active play** on the diamond are not required to wear their masks subject to the following exceptions:
 - a. Players must put mask on if a coach comes out to talk during a time out

- All organizations must have a COVID-19 Director. The COVID-19 Director is responsible for identifying and implementing the practices required to comply with state and local return to play activities requirements and is the point of contact with local authorities and your organization's state or national governing body..

Obtain Waiver

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- Any adult attendee who displays any of these symptoms will be required to leave. A minor who is displaying any of these symptoms should be safely isolated until an adult responsible for the minor can remove the minor.

COVID-19 Director