



SAFE RETURN TO PLAY

US LACROSSE OFFICIALS – RETURN TO PLAY BEST PRACTICES

This document is meant to be used as recommended guidelines and best practices for officiating organizations and officials that may be asked to officiate this summer.

First, officials should stay at home if they are feeling sick or experiencing COVID-19 related symptoms. They should also consider if they or anyone they come in regular contact would be more at risk if they were exposed to the virus.

People with these symptoms may have COVID-19:

- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fever
- Chills
- Muscle Pain
- Sore Throat
- New Loss of Taste or Smell.

If anytime within two weeks of any scheduled game and especially as the date of the game is closer, an official experiencing any of these symptoms above should notify the appropriate assignor to be removed from the game(s).

On gameday, all officials must conduct daily symptom self-assessments. Anyone experiencing symptoms must stay home.

PROTOCOLS TO FOLLOW:

All officials should bring:

- Their own disposable water bottles
- Their own food or snacks
- Face mask
- Hand Sanitizer, disinfectant wipes and disinfectant spray
- Electronic whistle if you prefer to use this versus a traditional whistle

When arriving on-site:

- Wear a mask when you are not officiating.
- Do not share equipment, water or snacks.

Last updated 6/22/2020



- Minimize use of communal areas such as changing rooms, bathrooms and concession areas.
- Plan to arrive early for any potential no-touch temperature screening being conducted.
- Do not touch your face, eyes or mouth with unclean hands.
- Refrain from contacting other participants
- Practice social distancing as often as possible.
- Do your best to maintain distance from any other individual when audibly announcing their calls
- Minimize your time on-site. If possible, go directly from your car to the field and return to your car after the game.

ORGANIZATION BEST PRACTICES

- Establish a reporting procedure and communication plan if any official becomes symptomatic within 14 days of working an event.
- Assignor(s) or someone appointed by the organization to serve as a “health monitor” is recommended and those name(s) and contacts should be provided to officials, and tournament organizer(s).
- Officials should be encouraged to get tested if they become symptomatic.
- The event organizer and officials should be notified that an official has become symptomatic. If diagnosed with COVID-19, that needs to be communicated as well. Name(s) and other information should remain private. The message simply needs to state “An official(s) that worked Tournament XYZ has been diagnosed with COVID-19. The official was onsite on this: xx/xx/xxxx for these times:.” *
- If a participant is symptomatic and diagnosed with COVID-19 within 14 days of an event, the assignor(s) or “health monitor” should be notified and the officials working that event during the days and times that participant(s) was onsite should be notified. *
- Ensure officials that the decision to work and not to work, is an individual one and that no repercussions will be taken on future assignments if they choose not to work.

**Consistent with applicable law and privacy policies, self-report to the SLOA if you have COVID-19, a positive test for COVID-19, or were exposed to someone with COVID-19 within the last 14 days in accordance with other applicable laws and regulations.*

Additional Resources

www.uslacrosse.org/return-to-play

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/large-events/considerations-for-events-gatherings.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/youth-sports.html>

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