

COVID-19 SAFETY GUIDANCE



**LOOFBALL SPORT
DEVELOPMENT
INITIATIVE**

Introduction

This document, in view of the COVID-19 pandemic, provides guidance for all LSD Initiative's programmes and events to support a safe environment for players, coaches, families, spectators, match officials and volunteers.

Coronavirus as we know it is mostly transmitted by humans and the risk of transmitting the dreaded virus depends on several factors germane to sports, including:

- Number of people in a location
- Type of location i.e. indoor or outdoor
- Distance between people
- Length of time at a location
- Physical contact between people
- Touching of shared objects
- Use of face coverings
- Mixing of people from locations with different levels of community transmission

It is vital to note that, as a general guidance, smaller groups are safer than larger; outdoor locations are safer than indoor; activities that can ensure distance of 1.5 metres or more are safer than close contact; and shorter duration is safer than longer. Coaches, parents, and athletes need to consider all these factors as they plan to return to play.

Safety Guidelines

- Drills that require close contact or loofball activities that would promote congregating are not permitted at this time. For example, tournaments or competitions, regardless of whether teams are from the same school or from different schools, states or regions are not allowed at this time.
- Loofball activities are permitted only when the following can be maintained: (1) physical distancing of at least 1.5 metres; and (2) a limited group comprising not more than 15 persons, that limits the risks of transmission. Activities should take place outside to the maximum extent practicable.
- Players and coaches should check their temperatures before attending practice.
- Clean and disinfect shared equipment and/or hands before and after practice to reduce the risk of COVID-19 spread.

- Face masks or coverings must be worn during indoor trainings. Players should take a break from exercise if they experience any difficulty breathing and should change their mask or face covering if it becomes wet and sticks to the player's face and obstructs breathing.
- Anyone with symptoms of illness must not be allowed to practice.
- Coaches and schools should provide information to parents or guardians regarding this guidance, along with the safety measures that will be in place in these settings with which parents or guardians must comply.
- Contact health officials if a positive case of COVID-19 is reported or suspected.

