

POLICY STATEMENT

North Alabama *FUTSAL* League wants to conduct futsal activities in the safest environment as possible. It is in this view that additional procedures have been created for use at all futsal activities.

APPROACH

All practical efforts will be taken to protect the health of all participants. It is expected that all participants will understand the importance of efforts to prevent the spread of the coronavirus and will participate in any new procedures introduced this season. Additionally, participants may raise issues at events in concern for and to improve health protective measures and these issues will be respected and addressed by the league, if not immediately, by the next day of NAFL activities.

ACTIONS TO PERFORM AT FUTSAL GAMES

Based on CDC guidance, Alabama Health Officer Orders, Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) guidelines* for safe reopening of businesses and Madison City Schools added reenter responsibilities, the following actions will be done:

By North Alabama *FUTSAL* League:

- Post sign at entrance that anyone exhibiting symptoms similar to coronavirus should not enter and participate. Advise teams that Referees may ask players to leave if exhibiting symptoms similar to coronavirus.
- Designate separate entrances and exits to gymnasiums.
- Check players and referees for any symptoms of illness. If so, they will be asked to leave and the incidents will be reported to school administration.
- Post containers of hand sanitizers at entrances, by bathrooms and at timer's table.
- Sanitize door handles of entrances to/from gyms regularly.
- Have ample supply of towels to clean sweat from playing floors following player falls to minimize the re-use of towels.
- Team benches will not be provided since they provide only enough room for substitutes to sit closely together, much less than 6 feet apart.
- Suspend swapping benches at halftime and shorten halftimes to 4 minutes this season.
- With more time between games, team bench areas will be sanitized between games. After the final game of each night, a deeper cleaning and disinfectant shall be conducted.

* Sources: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus>, <https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/legal/assets/order-adph-cov-gatherings-052120.pdf> and <https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/covid19/assets/cov-sah-athletic-activities.pdf>

By Players, Coaches, Referees, Spectators:

- Players, coaches and referees shall wear masks or other facial coverings that cover their nostrils and mouths when not directly participating in game. This excludes timeouts – no requirement to wear masks during 60-second timeouts.
- Spectators shall wear masks or other facial coverings that cover their nostrils and mouths at all times.
- Players and referees *may* wear masks during games, if they prefer. *Coaches shall continue wearing masks during games except to verbalize instructions to players on the court.*
- Players and coaches shall Social Distance before, between and after games and also during halftimes and timeouts during games.
- Players and coaches shall avoid close gatherings to celebrate goals.
- Referees shall Social Distance at all times.
- Spectators, except members of same households, shall Social Distance at all times.
- Substitutes shall Social Distance in their technical areas during games.
- Players, coaches and substitutes will not swap benches at halftime.
- Teams shall switch to fist bumps instead of handshakes after games.
- Teams shall submit rosters including player numbers voluntarily to the timer’s table. Referees will choose whether or not more interaction is necessary for team check-in.
- Per ADPH, “Players, coaches, and officials shall not share water coolers, drinking stations, water bottles, cups, or other drinking devices.”
- “Social Distance” is defined to be the act of separating from others 6 feet or more.

To help better understand which roles are required to do what, see the following tables:

MASK WEARING	<i>Before Games</i>	<i>During Warm-up</i>	<i>Between Games</i>	<i>After Games</i>	<i>During Games</i>	<i>During Halftimes</i>	<i>During Timeouts</i>
Players	Required		Required	Required		Required	
Substitutes	Required		Required	Required	Required	Required	
Coaches	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required	
Referees	Required	Required	Required	Required		Required	
Spectators	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required

SOCIAL DISTANCING	<i>Before Games</i>	<i>During Warm-up</i>	<i>Between Games</i>	<i>After Games</i>	<i>During Games</i>	<i>During Halftimes</i>	<i>During Timeouts</i>
Players	Required		Required	Required		Required	Required
Substitutes	Required		Required	Required	Required	Required	Required
Coaches	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required
Referees	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required
Spectators	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required

Differences between the two tables are highlighted in yellow.

The above set of actions are subject to change.

ACTIONS TO PERFORM BETWEEN FUTSAL GAMES

Any player who tests positive for the coronavirus any day of the week shall report such to the league immediately. The report can be simply a text message or a short email and should include the player's name, when the test was performed and when the results were received. The email address to use is president[at]nafutsal.com. (Replace "[at]" with "@")

A team of a player who has tested positive for the coronavirus (call this Team Corona) will not play the following week resulting in a two week period between games in which the infected player shall isolate him/herself and teammates should strongly consider quarantining themselves, as recommended by the CDC. An effort will be made to reschedule the game, but it is not guaranteed because it's possible that no more makeup dates exist. Opposing team players from the last game Team Corona played should strongly consider quarantining themselves also, as recommended by the CDC.

The above set of actions are subject to change.