



Dear Parents,

First and foremost, we hope that you and your loved ones are safe and healthy. We have received questions from the community about if and how COVID-19 will change PTARC programs. We know this outbreak has been stressful to many and recognize that exercising and participating in activities like sports and exercise can be a healthy way to cope with stress and connect with our community. After careful thought and planning, we are excited to let you know that we plan to resume some of our programs while following CDC considerations to protect participants, families, and our community.

The health and safety of our participants, staff, families and volunteers remain our highest priority. Below, you will find a summary of actions we are taking to help ensure we are lowering COVID-19 risk as much as possible while also allowing everyone to participate. We are:

- Intensifying cleaning, disinfection, and ventilation within our facilities and premises by cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces on the field, court, or play surface at least daily or between use as feasible, cleaning and disinfecting shared objects and equipment between use, and ensuring safe and correct use and storage of disinfectants.
- Reducing physical closeness or contact between players when possible by allowing players to focus on building individual skills (like dribbling or kicking), keeping children in small groups, and staggering arrival and drop off times, putting signs up, encouraging coaches and players stay 6 feet apart, discouraging unnecessary physical contact, such as high-fives, handshakes, fist bumps, and hugs.
- Promoting healthy hygiene practices including frequent hand washing, encouraging children to cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or to use the inside of their elbow and reminding them to not spit.
- Face coverings are required under certain circumstances, but we are requesting that coaches, youth sports staff, officials, parents, and spectators wear a cloth face covering during practices and games. Players may opt to wear a cloth face covering on the sidelines and the dugouts, and during play if feasible.
- Limiting the sharing of equipment by providing extra equipment to minimize the need to share or encouraging players to bring their own equipment. Equipment will be wiped down and cleaned regularly during the event.

Anyone who is sick or has been in contact with someone who has COVID-19— including players, family members, coaches, staff and spectators — should not attend practices or games. Be on the lookout for symptoms of COVID-19, which include fever, cough, or shortness of breath. Call your doctor if you think you or a family member is sick. If you have a specific question about this plan or COVID-19, please contact the PTARC offices at 724.392.4555 for more information. You can also find more information about COVID-19 at [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov).

We look forward to seeing you. Now, let's play!

Thank you and stay healthy,  
Linda G. Bires, Recreation Director