



Michigan State Youth Soccer Association

Summer Camps – A Resource for MSYSA Members

According to the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA), there are five categories of camps – day, residential, adult foster care, travel, and troop. Soccer camps are most likely to fall into two categories (day and residential).

Day camp is defined as operating more than 4 hours but less than 24 hours per day for 5 or more days in any given 14-day period.

Residential camp is defined as operating for more than 12 hours per day for 5 or more days, including at least 1 overnight, in any 14-day period. Residential camps provide care of a 24-hour basis at a regulated camp site.

Regardless of the type of camp, providers have a certain responsibility of care. That is especially true in the wake of COVID-19. This document is intended to provide guidance to assist soccer camp providers in the planning of their camps while prioritizing the health and safety of the children in their care. This guidance is not legal advice and is subject to change.

Required – All camps are required to follow the Executive Orders relating to COVID-19.

Required – All camps must develop and implement a COVID-19 preparedness and response plan. It should include:

- How you will monitor symptoms of COVID-19 (camps are required to check for COVID-19 symptoms from staff and campers on a daily basis)
- How your programs will practice social distancing
- How you will ensure hygiene (including cleaning and disinfecting)
- How you will obtain and use safety equipment
- Communication and training plan to staff, parents, and campers related to new expectations
- Isolation procedure in case symptoms or confirmed cases become present onsite
- How you will maintain required staff to camper ratios in the event of staff illness
- NOTE: It is highly recommended to discuss this plan with your local health department
- NOTE: In every element of the plan, providers should consider how to mitigate risks.

There are numerous items to consider when creating the plan. For a comprehensive list, go to https://www.michigan.gov/documents/lara/Day_Camp_Guidelines_-_06.02.20_-_FINAL_TO_PUBLISH_692694_7.pdf

Below are a few items that MSYSA wishes to highlight from the link above:

- Camp Participation & Restrictions – In Phase 4 of the MI Safe Start Phase, camps can be open to all campers but should consider limiting enrollment to children from the local geographic area. In Phase 5, camps can be open to all campers.



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- Activity Settings – Camps should prioritize outdoor activities and should limit indoor activities to only those where social distancing can occur.
- Social Distancing – Social distancing should be observed between all campers
- Staff and Camper Interactions – Maintain camper and staff groups that remain together all day, every day.
- Camp Groups – It is highly recommended that group sizes be kept to 10 or fewer campers.
- *Activities - In general, LARA recommends that when scheduling activities, camps consider activities that are a lower risk. They specifically discourage close-contact sports like soccer (among others) unless significant modifications can be made that allow campers and staff to maintain social distancing and minimize the sharing of commonly used equipment (like soccer balls).*
- Face Coverings – Camps should establish and enforce expectations for wearing face coverings with both staff and campers.

Important Links:

Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA):

- [LARA Website](#)
- [LARA Guidelines for Camp Operations During COVID-19](#)

Mitigating Risk in Youth Sports:

- [Considerations for Youth Sports](#), from the CDC
- [Guidance for Administrators in Parks and Recreational Facilities](#), from the CDC
- [Field Guide for Camps for Implementing of CDC Guidance](#), Section 7.0 for more details

Health Screenings & Response:

- [Michigan Department of Health and Human Services](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)
- Your local health department