We have been working with the NM Governor’s office for clarity on some of the COVID Safe Practices, CSP, specifically as they relate to youth soccer trainings and to answer questions membership has brought forth. As we received updates/clarification from the Governor’s office, we will modify the NMYSA Return to Activity Protocols and provide a summary of those changes/clarifications as shown below. Unfortunately, no one person has all of the answers but all of us are working collectively to ensure we move forward cautiously keeping the safety and wellbeing of our soccer families at the forefront.

**Clarification –** (Clarifying Questions in black, Governor’s office answers in red)

The CSP indicates, “Temperatures of children and staff should be taken daily with a touches  **[this should be “touchless” if done at the facility]**thermometer”.  It does not say who needs to take the daily temperatures though.  In our draft “Return to Activity” protocols, we have parents taking kids temperatures and coaches taking their own on a daily basis before training. Is this acceptable/compliant to include in our policy? **[yes]**

2. The CSP says, “Staff and students/campers should wear masks.”  Our "Return to Activity" policy says coaches must wear masks and youth players are to wear mask before and after training but not during.  The Governor mentioned that it was OK not to wear a mask during exercise, so we want to make sure it is OK to publish that in our protocols? **[given the combination of kids being superspreaders and being together in a group, suggest everyone wearing masks.]**

3. We understand that for now, all coaches need to be COVID tested, (with negative results), before they can participate/begin the small group trainings, (5-1) ratio.  As such, will make sure that is included in the NMYSA’s protocols. ​

**Questions** – (Question in black, Governor’s office answers in red)

1. Another question came up concerning frequency of tests as well as how long before the activity begins should a test be taken?  **[I would suggest within 72 hours and if they have ANY symptoms they should not show up.]**We have a coach that was tested May 4, 2020, with a negative result.  Should they be tested again before training this week? **[Probably]**

2. Also, there was a question about coaches that have teams of 15 that would be training 5 at a time but each group back to back, it that acceptable? **[Sure.  Have different groups avoid each other. Back to back suggests contact between groups, which we do not want.]** Potentially, we could have coaches with two teams, so that could be 15 on Monday in groups of 5 in three different time slots, then maybe the next team on Tuesday in groups of 5 in three different time slots. **{OK}​**

The updated NMYSA Return to Activity protocols are attached! It is imperative that Leagues/Clubs understand that “just because you can, doesn’t mean you should”. Parents have an option whether their child participates, and leagues/clubs may have other consideration before they choose to open. Before opening, please make sure you comply with the NMSYA protocols, CSP and CDC recommendation. trainings.