



## **CMSA Open Flag Football – COVID-19 Protocols**

**Failure by any player, captain, or referee to follow these prescribed guidelines will result in that person being banned for the remainder of the 2020 season. A refund of player fees in this case will not be made.**

**This is without exception!**

**Any player, captain, or referee who has symptoms for COVID-19 will be required to maintain a period of 10 days symptom free before they are allowed to return to the field of play. If they choose, they will be refunded all fees paid at the time of a positive diagnosis in a prorated fashion for the remainder of the season if they choose to stop playing for the season at that time.**

**Players, captains and referees who come within 6 feet of a referee, opposing player, or captain for the purpose to argue or engage in altercations on or off the field are subject to immediate ejection and discipline, including suspensions or expulsion from the league.**

### **Face Coverings**

**All players, captains, and referees are required to wear a face mask or other allowed face covering while on the field during live play. Wearing face coverings is the standard for the Spring 2021 season. A player, captain, or referee may temporarily lower their face covering to help catch their breath when at least 6 feet away from another individual. This exception does not include live play situations.**

An acceptable face covering is any kind that covers the mouth and nose. This includes cloth masks, non-medical grade surgical masks, and other types of face coverings.

Acceptable, reusable face covering options for CMSA Open Flag Football include:

- Any medical grade face mask
- Homemade masks
- Bandana
- Neck gaiter
- Scarf

A cloth face covering is a material that covers the nose and mouth. It can be secured to the head with ties or straps or simply wrapped around the lower face. It can be made of a variety of materials, such as cotton, silk, or linen. A cloth face covering may be factory-made or sewn by hand or can be fashioned out of household items such as scarfs, T-shirts, sweatshirts, or towels.

It is strongly recommended that players bring a spare face covering in the event of a “Face Covering Malfunction”.



### **Covid-19 Screening Procedure**

**All players, captains, or referees must complete the Covid-19 Screening Procedure upon arrival at fields for each day of games. Once completed by the player, captain, or referee they must wear for the duration of that day, the wristband given to them that signifies they have completed the procedure. Please plan to arrive at least 30 minutes before your first game to account for this requirement.**

**Any player, captain, or referee found to not be in compliance with this requirement will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including ejection, suspension, or expulsion from the league.**

### **Communication**

Each week before games there will be a reminder about the screening protocols in the newsletter. The newsletter will be sent via your e-mail on file with CMSA and posted to the Open Flag Football Facebook Group.

Reports of positive cases will be handled confidentially by the CMSA Medical Eligibility Coordinator.

### **Game Equipment**

Each team should bring their own football for offense. If you also wish to use a backup football for kickoffs and punts, it is subject to the same cleaning requirements as the game ball. Scheduling for cleaning all player-handled equipment is below. All cleaning should be confirmed by a referee for that game.

#### *Before Each Game:*

Footballs

Play Wristbands

### **Sidelines**

Teams will set up their sidelines on opposite sides of the field. Masks are required to be worn off the field as well. Coverings may be lowered temporarily to catch one's breath if more than six feet from another player, captain, or referee.

Each player should bring their own water to avoid the need to share. We recommend extra bottles to make sure you do not dehydrate as the season goes into the warmer months.

### **Non-Play Contact**

Players should refrain from high fives, handshake lines, and other physical contact with teammates, opposing players, captains, referees, and fans. A "tip the cap" or similar acknowledgment can be used following the game in lieu of the handshake line. We encourage creative new ways to show sportsmanship.

Masked huddles are allowed during the season, but we strongly encourage they be kept to a minimum.