



## 8-and-2 YOUTH TRAINING GUIDELINES

Effective February 8, 2021

Guidelines as per Government of Alberta [Children's Sport & Performance Activity](#) guidance published on February 6, 2021 and in alignment with *Step 1* of the Government's *Path Forward*. Subject to regional / municipal restrictions.

Requirement	Description / Application
<b>Group Size</b>	<b>Group size is limited to 8 Players &amp; 2 Coaches/Trainers.</b>  Players must be 18 years or younger. No adult group training is permitted at this time.
<b>Training Activities</b>	<b>8-and-2 Training is limited to physical distancing training within a group setting.</b>  No games, scrimmages, or contact play is permitted. Only skills and/or conditioning that allow for 3 metres distance to be maintained at all times are permitted.
<b>Registration</b>	All Participants must be registered for the current season as per the established process with their Club/Community, District and Alberta Soccer. Participant is defined as player, coach, trainer, and/or referee.  All Participants (or parents/guardians if under 18 years of age) must sign the <a href="#">Informed Consent – Assumption of Risk Waiver</a> plus provide a <a href="#">Declaration of Compliance</a> prior to participating in any sanctioned soccer activity.  Prior to participating, Participants must be made aware and acknowledge that although exposure to COVID-19 is unlikely, it is possible, and Participants are participating voluntarily in Alberta Soccer activities with a foreknowledge of the risks.
<b>Hygiene</b>	Activity organizers must communicate appropriate <a href="#">hygiene measures</a> for the activity in advance to all participants.  No spitting, clearing of nasal passages, handshakes, high fives, fist bumps, chest bumps, etc.
<b>Masks</b>	Masks are <b>mandatory</b> in all indoor public places. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Coaches must wear masks at all times during training session.</li><li>• Players may remove masks during active training but are expected to wear masks until they enter the field of play as well as when entering / exiting the facility.</li></ul>
<b>Physical Distancing</b>	Physical distancing of <b>3 metres</b> must be maintained at all times between all participants AND between training groups. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Coaches/trainers may enter physical distancing space for <a href="#">brief interactions</a> with participants to correct form or technique.</li></ul>
<b>Contact Tracing</b>	<b>Contact Tracing Logs</b> must be kept for all training sessions for a minimum of 4-weeks with reasonable security measures in place to protect the personal information collected (Name & Contact Information).



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<b>Screening &amp; Response Plan</b>	<p>Verbal <a href="#">health checks</a> must be completed prior to every session as per COVID-19 Symptoms Checklist.</p> <p>Individuals exhibiting <a href="#">COVID-19 symptoms</a> may not participate in training.</p> <p>Rapid Response plans are required to ensure the safe isolation of and swift departure from the facility of a Participant who becomes sick (symptomatic) while participating in a group session.</p>
<b>Equipment</b>	<p>All equipment must be cleaned and sanitized before and after each group training session. Recommend that one individual be assigned responsibility for management of equipment.</p> <p>Goalkeeper gloves cannot be shared and must be visibly clean prior to session.</p>
<b>Scheduling</b>	<p>Training sessions must be scheduled and approved by a Club, and/or District.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>All training schedules and attendance lists must be shared with Club and/or District for contact tracing purposes.</li></ul> <p>A training group is defined as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Two coaches (minimum)</li><li>Eight youth players (maximum)</li><li>No more than a total of ten individuals in a group session</li></ul> <p><b>! Players may not be scheduled for multiple group sessions in a single calendar day.</b></p> <p><b>! Coaches must remain with the group for the entire session; coaches may not move between sessions.</b></p> <p>Sessions must be scheduled to allow sufficient time between activities to allow for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>the sanitization of all shared equipment,</li><li>the coach to wash or sanitize hands if participating in subsequent training sessions,</li><li>physical distancing of 3 metres to be maintained during entry &amp; exit of training/facility.</li></ul> <p>More than one training group may be scheduled at a single facility, so long as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>3 metres distance is maintained between groups OR a physical barrier that you cannot go through is in place between group sessions (i.e. curtain). Tape, cones, benches on floor is not considered a physical barrier.</li><li>Scheduling minimizes the number of participants arriving/leaving at the same time.</li></ul>
<b>Coaches</b>	<p>At minimum, one coach must be Certified (Internationally, Nationally, or Provincially) <b>or</b> Trained (appropriate NCCP level) <b>and</b> have a valid CPIC including Vulnerable Sector Search on file with their club.</p> <p>Second coach may be non-certified/trained but <b>MUST</b> have a valid CPIC with Vulnerable Sector Search on file with their club.</p> <p>For the safe training of players under the age of 18 years, the following safety requirements <b>must</b> be met:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><a href="#">Rule of Two</a> maintained at all training sessions</li><li>Including at least one coach who is of the same gender as the players</li></ul> <p>Must wear a mask for the duration of training sessions and wash/sanitize hands before and after each session.</p>



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<b>Players</b>	No loitering before or after training session.  No interacting with players or coaches not in group while at the facility.  Arrive no more than 5-10 minutes before session, dressed and ready to participate.
<b>Spectators</b>	No spectators are permitted.
<b>Facility</b>	All training sessions must also adhere to safety protocols developed by the facility.  All facility rules must be followed, including capacity limits, to meet Government of Alberta Standards.

**CONTENT DISCLAIMER**

The COVID-19 (Coronavirus) outbreak is an ongoing, rapidly developing situation. Alberta Soccer encourages its membership to monitor publicly available information and to always follow federal, provincial and local health organization guidance and government mandates. This information is intended to assist Alberta Soccer members with guidance when dealing with return to play guidelines related to COVID-19.

The information provided herein in part is obtained from publicly available sources, including federal and provincial governmental entities and other leading trade associations and consultants. This information may vary and will be updated depending upon current situations.

Further, the information contained herein are recommendations and protocols only and should not be construed as legal advice on any subject matter.