12/1/2021- Return to Play/Practice Update:

With the increase in vaccination rates, we have made some changes to our return to play guidelines highlighted below. With athlete safety as our top priority, we want to ensure that athletes have a full season to train prior to competing in competition. Below will detail our plans as of 12/1/2021.

Once all covid-19 education team requirements are met and the coach receives state office approval, athletes may continue practice/training/competition in all 23 SOMI recognized sports. Please refer to somi.org for recognized sports.

Protocol to begin a new sports Season (4 seasons throughout the year)

Sports Seasons:

* Winter (December-March)
* Summer (March-June)
* Fall (June-September)
* Late Fall (September-December)

Requirements:

* All indoor events - masks are required for ALL participants, when indoors, except during rigorous exercise (Basketball, Poly Hockey, and Volleyball). All individuals who are unvaccinated are to wear masks indoors and outdoors, except during rigorous exercise.
* No coach is to begin practice without clearance from the State office
* To attend a culminating event athletes must attend a minimum of 8 one-hour practices.
* **Coach Requirements** – Practices can be combined to host up to 12 teams or 200 individual sport maximum. However, there must be a certified coach for every **16** athletes.
  + **All coaches must attend and complete the following:**
  + VMS registration
    - Protective Behaviors
    - Concussion Certification
    - Covid Risk Assessment Waiver
    - Online Covid Training
    - ALL trainings and requirements can be completed online in our new Volunteer Management System.
      * [REGISTER HERE](https://sosaas.azurewebsites.net/MI/application)
  + Prior to starting Areas must do the following:
    - Notify Field Service: What sport starting, submit coaches contact information, list of athletes returning
    - Submit Covid-19 Code of Conduct for coach(es) and athletes
    - Be cleared by Field service before first gathering/practice

Once all completed and approval received from the state office, teams may begin practice

**Areas may host local competition following strict adherence to the following guidelines:**

* + - No more than 200 total individual present
    - Must follow all masking and social distancing protocols
  + **Regional events/gatherings need to be approved/cleared by Field service prior to date of the event. Form can be filled out at** [**https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSenasTONs2goPQ79tq7QmbdlMy4jLGMOFuL80OrEOSGBhqamw/viewform**](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSenasTONs2goPQ79tq7QmbdlMy4jLGMOFuL80OrEOSGBhqamw/viewform)
  + **Athletes are required to attend 8 weeks of training prior to a State Culminating event.**
  + **Subject to change based on State of Michigan and SOMI guidance.**

**Forms/Trainings:**

* **Register for VMS:** [**https://sosaas.azurewebsites.net/MI/application**](https://sosaas.azurewebsites.net/MI/application)
* **Log into VMS:** [**https://sosaas.azurewebsites.net/Account/Login**](https://sosaas.azurewebsites.net/Account/Login)
  + **All training and forms are now located on the VMS page**
* **Sign in Sheet (prior to first practice of each season):** <https://www.somi.org/sites/default/files/resources/SOMI%20Practice%20Sign-In%20Sheet.pdf>
* **Athlete link to Covid-19 Code of Conduct:** <https://powerforms.docusign.net/41ed40b0-e2d3-4580-a459-4694e7d95a42?env=na2&acct=c4907068-448c-47f5-974c-8b12f50d9d83&accountId=c4907068-448c-47f5-974c-8b12f50d9d83>

**Head Coaches Need the following completed and file prior with State office prior to start of any practices:**

* **Register for VMS:** [**https://sosaas.azurewebsites.net/MI/application**](https://sosaas.azurewebsites.net/MI/application)
* **Log into VMS:** [**https://sosaas.azurewebsites.net/Account/Login**](https://sosaas.azurewebsites.net/Account/Login)
  + **All training and forms are now to be completed on the VMS page**
* **Pre-season completed Sign in Sheet:** <https://www.somi.org/sites/default/files/resources/SOMI%20Practice%20Sign-In%20Sheet.pdf>

**Volunteer/Chaperone Need the following completed and on file with State office prior to start of any practices:**

* **Register for VMS:** [**https://sosaas.azurewebsites.net/MI/application**](https://sosaas.azurewebsites.net/MI/application)
* **Log into VMS:** [**https://sosaas.azurewebsites.net/Account/Login**](https://sosaas.azurewebsites.net/Account/Login)
  + **All training and forms are now to be completed on the VMS page**

**\*All other coach/volunteer requirements apply, see SOMI.org for additional information.**

**\*Subject to State of Michigan and Department of Health and Human Services guidelines and restrictions**

**\*In the event the State of Michigan Updates Restrictions, SOMI will assess those changes and follow up with all areas to ensure we are following State of Michigan guidelines.**

**\*In the event a Facility has safety requirements different that SOMI’s, teams should default to those safety requirements (i.e. SOMI may not require a mask, however if the venue does require masks then Participants should wear a mask.)**

**\* Keep in mind that in addition to SOMI guidelines/requirements, all local, county and state health department guideline must be followed.**

**Tentative Schedule of Due Dates for 2022 Events (Based on event dates listed below):**

**Winter Games Events: February (Local/Regional only)**

* Dates TBD

**District Basketball: March**

* Dates TBD

**Summer Games: June 2-4th or a Combination of 1, 2, or 3 days**

* Confirmed Delegation – Due March 8th (12 weeks)
* Registration Due- March 29th (9 weeks)
* Drop Date- 3 weeks out

**Fall Team Classic (Softball & Soccer- SE & SW): August 27th**

* Confirmed Delegation: June 14th (10 weeks)
* Registration Due - June 28th (8 weeks)
* Drop Date- August 9 (2.5 weeks)

**Fall Games (Cycling, Kayaking, & Golf): September 24th**

* Confirmed Delegation- July 12th (10 weeks)
* Registration Due: July 26th (8 weeks)
* Drop Date- September 7th (2.5 weeks)

**Late Fall (Poly Hockey, Flag Football, Bowling): November 11-13 or a combination of 1, 2, or 3 days**

* Confirmed Delegation – August 30th (10 weeks)
* Registration Due- September 13th (8 weeks)
* Drop Date- October 25th (2.5 weeks)

**Registering to Return to Play Requirements**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Volunteer** | **Coach** |
| **Volunteer A form (Includes BC, Covid Waiver)- VMS** | **Volunteer A form (Includes BC, Covid Waiver)-VMS** |
| **Volunteer Orientation** | **Volunteer Orientation** |
| **Protective Behaviors** | **Protective Behaviors** |
| **Concussion Training** | **Concussion Training** |
| **Covid Return to Play Training** | **Covid Return to play training** |
|  | **Sport Certification** |

**Requirements prior to season**

* Fill out a roster and submit to State office
* Wait for approval to begin practicing