

London Minor Football 2021 return to football guidelines updated: August 28, 2021

The LMFA is committed to safely return to football by closely following the regulations set out by the provincial government, the local government(s), and the recommendations set out by Football Canada and the Ontario Football Alliance.

As the situation with the COVID-19 virus can and will change often, we will constantly monitor the latest developments and updates provided by the government.

The Ontario government's current Stage 3 protocols allows full contact outdoor practices, scrimmages, and games to begin with the following limits:

1. Outdoor spectator limit of 75% - we strongly encourage only parents and siblings of players to come out at spectators in 2021.
2. Players do not have to social distance on the field, however any spectators from different families must be 2 meters apart.
3. Coaches have to wear masks when on the sideline or on the field at games and practices.
4. There will be detailed attendance and screening questions for all players at every practice or scrimmage. These records will be kept for 30 days. Hand sanitizer (provided) is required for all players and coaches before and after any practices and games.
If you do not feel well, STAY HOME. This applies to all players, coaches, and managers.
5. We will use best practices to keep equipment clean, and players can not share water bottles. No hand shakes or high fives before or after any practice or scrimmage or game.
We will strictly follow any and all regulations as set out by the TVDSB, the City of London and or the city of St Thomas.
6. There is currently no limit from the government or Football Canada on number of players or number of teams.
7. We will return to game play as follows. U10 with 8 on 8, U12 with 10 on 10 and U14 with full field 12 on 12.

Reminder: all of our plans for this season are **tentative** and subject to change.
Our all star games in November will be postponed once again this year.

We appreciate your patience and understanding during these difficult times. By working together, we will navigate a safe and happy return to play for all our players.

August 28, 2021 update

as per guidelines from the MLHU the following new procedures are in effect as of now.

1. We strongly encourage all coaches and eligible players to get vaccinated.
2. Players will wear masks when not playing on the field, so to and from the field of play. Coaches will continue to wear masks on the field at practice and on the sidelines at games.
3. All players and coaches will continue to be actively screened before every practice and game.
4. Minimize pre- and post-game or practice activities and gathering time. Players should only arrive immediately before the beginning of an activity and should leave immediately once its done. Arrival times for games are posted, and teams must leave the park immediately after games.
5. At practice, continue to keep teams in separate areas of the practice field. Do not mix together, or practice together. If you share equipment, wipe it clean before it moves from one team to the next. Try to minimize sharing equipment.
6. At games, do not mix or mingle with any other arriving or departing teams. No hand shakes or high fives with other teams or parents.
7. Game procedures involving the officials and medics will be updated before the first game.

In conclusion:

We are committed to the safety and well being of the community. We have been part of this community since 1956 and we plan to be part of this community for many years to come.

We hope to see and welcome new players, as this is the perfect time to get an introduction to our great sport.

