

## **Town of Westwood**

## Commonwealth of Massachusetts **BOARD OF HEALTH**

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August 3, 2020

Dear Westwood Youth Sports Families,

The Westwood Board of Health hopes this message finds you well. I am writing today to remind all parents and caregivers of their responsibilities involving the COVID-19 protections for themselves and their athletes as we resume many activities during Phase 3 of the re-opening.

The Board would like to remind you all to follow the instructions set forth by the re-opening committee regarding health assessments, the use of face coverings, social distancing, and the restrictions on shared equipment. Adherence to these guidelines will limit the opportunity for the virus to spread during youth sports practices and games. Ultimately, controlling the spread of the virus will be what allows these very activities to continue.

Parents and caregivers must take responsibility for making sure their child is healthy and appropriately protected before arriving to participate in any activity. That means, if your child has any symptoms of COVID-19 or has been exposed to someone diagnosed with COVID-19, you must keep them home as the guidelines require. Since the beginning of competitive play, the Board of Health has received several complaints that many have chosen to disregard the COVID-19 safety requirements during practices and games. This unfairly places the burden on coaches alone to try to enforce all of the safety requirements. We must all work together to make safety our number one priority.

Throughout the Commonwealth as well as here in Westwood, Boards of Health have had to quarantine children and coaches due to their exposure to COVID-19 positive individuals during practices and games. To that end, we urge you to take this responsibility seriously.

Feel free to call or email me anytime to discuss your thoughts or concerns.

Kind Regards,

Jared Orsini REHS/RS Health Director Westwood Board of Health jorsini@town.westwood.ma.us