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MATCH DAY GUIDANCE FOR COACHES, PLAYERS, REFEREES & SPECTATORS

JAMES CHARLTON · 1 SEPTEMBER 2020

The Camden & Islington Youth Football League will return on Friday 4th September. The League Management Committee has been hard at work preparing fixtures, appointing referees, ensuring the fulfilment of our safeguarding duties and ensuring clubs have all they need to start the season as smoothly as possible.

Despite how excited we are to return to something that gives us so much pleasure, it is vital to appreciate how unusual the circumstances are that have led up to this season. As the players in our League return to school, and life slowly returns to normal, it is important that we remember we are still living through an ongoing pandemic.

As such, the League (together with GLL, who operate Market Road Pitches) is putting the following steps in place to ensure everyone's safety:

General Guidance:

- No-one should leave home to participate in football if they, or someone they live with, has any of the following:
 - A high temperature (above 37.8);
 - A new, continuous cough;
 - A loss of, or change to, their sense of smell or taste.
- Where possible, you must remain at least 1-metre away from others. If this is not possible, you are advised to wear a face covering.
- Please avoid going into the building at Market Road. The only reason to enter the building is to use the toilets. You must not congregate in reception, and the fixture lists will not be displayed.
- The League-operated Café will be closed.
- Hand sanitiser will be provided at Market Road, though you may wish to bring your own.

For Coaches:

- The changing rooms and training room at Market Road will be closed. Players must arrive changed into their kits. For safeguarding reasons, players will NOT be permitted to change on arrival. Players who arrive who need to change may not be allowed to play.
- The referee's match fee of £10 must be paid before kick-off in an envelope. Referees reserve the right to refuse payment if it is not paid in an envelope.
- Fixture lists will NOT be displayed in reception at Market Road. For the 2020/21 season, each fixture has a pitch assigned to it on the Full-Time system. Clubs are requested to inform their spectators and players of their pitch, so they can head straight there upon arrival.
- Please wait with your teams alongside the big pitch where your game is due to be played. A CIYFL Match Day Official will check your players' IDs and will call you to your pitch when it is free. Please encourage your players to avoid congregating around the gate at this time.
- You must ensure that the ball you provide is sanitised before kick-off.

For Spectators:

- To promote social distancing, we are only permitting one spectator per player.
- Upon arrival, you must send your child to join their club. You must not head down towards the gates or the building at Market Road. You will be informed of the pitch your team is playing on by your coach, you should head straight there.
- Where possible, please keep a minimum of a 1-metre distance from other spectators. If this is not possible, it is advised to wear a face covering.
- Hand sanitiser will be provided at Market Road, though it is advised that you carry your own.

For Players:

- Please bring hand sanitiser with you.
- When you arrive, please join your team straight away.
- When waiting for your pitch to be free, you must wait with your team alongside the fences until you are called to your pitch.
- Please avoid walking on, on near to pitches other than your own.

For Referees:

- The changing rooms at Market Road will be closed. You must arrive changed into their kits.
- You are advised to not handle the match ball at any time, either use your feet or leave it to the clubs.
- The referee's match fee must be paid by cash in an envelope. You may refuse payment if you are offered cash that is not in an envelope.
- You must wear a face covering until you arrive at your pitch, and again after full time.
- You must sanitise your hands before and after each game.
- You must not allow the pre-match Respect handshake to take place.
- When tossing the coin, you must do this yourself rather than giving the coin to a captain.

We appreciate it will be difficult to enforce these guidelines fully, but it is expected that everyone does their bit to ensure we play in as safe an environment as possible. If clubs are found to neglect their duties, they risk being reported to The FA.

The FA's guidance for Clubs and Referee is attached below. It is recommended that you read this fully before you first fixture.

We cannot wait to see you all from Friday,

Best wishes,

The Camden & Islington Youth Football League Committee.



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