

Langho Football Club

Match Day Procedures - Northcote Playing Fields

The guidelines prepared for matches at Northcote follow the Covid-19 Risk Assessment guidance prepared separately by the club.

At all times if any individual either playing, coaching, officiating or spectating at a game played at Northcote becomes unwell with a new continuous cough or a high temperature, or loss of taste or smell they must be sent home immediately and advised to follow current government guidelines on self-isolating.

Match Set Up:-

- 1) Home managers will arrange the setup of the pitch, including goalposts and corner flags.
- 2) Home spectators, coaches (maximum TWO) and substitutes should stand in the centre section of the field, in between the two pitches.
- 3) Away spectators, manager / coach (maximum TWO) and substitutes will stand on the outer touchlines of each pitch.
- 4) There will be no respect rope in place during any game. Spectators will stand behind a respect floor line running parallel to the pitch touchline on their side of the pitch in groups of a maximum six individuals, with a 2 metre gap between groups.
- 5) Spanning the centre of the touchline will be a marked technical area to be used by the manager / coach (maximum TWO) and team substitutes. Substitutes must distance themselves during the game and neither the manager nor coach should stray out of the technical area during play unless instructed too by the referee.
- 6) No spectators may stand behind either goal during the game.

Arrival:-

- 1) Parents should park responsibly in the car park, parking initially by the fence opposite the pitch they are playing on, and ensuring they allow fellow motorists room to park.
- 2) No vehicles should park on the road or layby outside the playing field grounds, and should cars be parked there the game will not commence until the cars are removed.
Note – Northcote Lane must not be blocked at any time.
- 3) Your manager will provide you with the time you are asked to arrive at the ground and typically this will be no earlier than 15 minutes prior to the kick off time of the game.
- 4) Due to the number of games to be played on any one day, a strict timeline for arrival and departure must be followed to ensure there is no congestion between games, and the safe arrival / departure of everyone.
Note - Anyone arriving unduly early for a game will be asked to wait in their vehicle until the home team manager gives clearance for the match day procedures to commence.
- 5) Players should come to matches ready changed in match kit, with appropriate footwear, shin pads, drink and individual hand sanitiser.
- 6) Shoelaces must be tied properly and where appropriate checked / tied by an adult. Your manager / coach / fellow player cannot tie these for you during the warm-up / game.
- 7) Hand sanitiser for spectators will be available from the clubs hand sanitisation station by the changing hut on request.

Prior to the Game:-

- 1) The home team manager will sanitise the goalposts once they are initially set up on the pitch. Where practical the crossbars on 12ft x 6ft goals, and 16ft x 7ft goals will be sanitised too but those on 21ft x 7ft goals, and 24ft x 8ft goals will not be sanitised as the risk for anyone touching these is minimal.
- 2) Corner flags will be sanitised when put out on the pitch.
- 3) Each team manager will be responsible for ensuring sanitising the hands of all the players within their squad on arrival onto the pitch is carried out.
- 4) Two match balls will be provided by the home team and these will be sanitised prior to kicking off the match.
- 5) Players will warm up distancing themselves from each other.
- 6) Each manager will provide 50% of the referee's match fee in a sealed pre-prepared envelope and hand this to the referee prior to the game.

Note - Due to a shortage of match officials the league cannot guarantee each game has a referee. Where one isn't appointed for your game, the home team will arrange who will referee the game and the individual appointed will be required to referee the whole game.

The Game:-

- 1) Games will be split into 4 quarters whilst the Covid-19 pandemic continues.
- 2) At the break in each half, half time, and full time all players and coaches are required to sanitise their hands. Each team manager will administer this.
- 3) At half time, and full time (or once cleared away if no subsequent game) the goalposts and corner flags must be sanitised.
- 4) There will be no respect handshake prior to the game, and no closing hand shake at full time. An agreed form of respect will be shown / used by both teams.
- 5) The referee will provide sanitised flags for the nominated linespersons to use.
- 6) The referee is there only to officiate the game within the rules of association football. They are not responsible for ensuring Covid-19 rules and regulations as documented in the clubs risk assessment are adhered to.

Note – it is the Covid-19 Officer of the home team (see more below) who ensures this.

- 7) The match ball must be sanitised before the match, at half time, at each of the hygiene breaks, and if handled by an outside participant.
- 8) Normal throw-ins will take place during the game. Balls leaving the pitch must be retrieved by the players only. Spectators must not retrieve or handle the match ball and if handled by spectators the ball must be sanitised before play restarts.
- 9) Goalkeepers should wear their own goalkeeping gloves and sanitise these during the game.
- 10) Goal celebrations must be kept to a minimum level under Covid-19 rules.
- 11) Spectators are specifically asked to let their team managers / coaches take charge of the team and not shout across the pitch / issue instructions to players.

Note – Let the Coaches Coach, and the Players Play!

First Aid:-

- 1) A first aid kit bag will be available for use and along with the general items usually found within the first aid kit, additional PPE equipment has been included to ensure treatment can be administered safely.
- 2) For children requiring basic first aid treatment, the child's parent will be invited forward to help administer that first aid.

Specific Other Matters:-

- 1) You must only travel to the game with members of your family. We ask the numbers spectating are kept to a minimum (preferably ONE adult and minimal siblings) during the Covid-19 period.
- 2) Track and Trace recording will take place by each team manager, and these details will be kept by each club for a minimum period of 21 days,**
- 3) All changing rooms will remain closed and out of use.
- 4) Toilets will be open on request.
- 5) Any empty bottles / general waste should be taken away by yourselves. Be responsible and please don't leave your litter on the ground for someone else to collect.
- 6) Dogs are not permitted on / within the playing field grounds at Northcote.

At all times whilst attending matches at Northcote, your enjoyment of the game taking place and your safety whilst within the playing field grounds is of great importance to Langho FC.

The home manager of the game you are involved in will take the role of the COVID-19 Officer for Langho. If you have any concerns, or questions please make contact with them direct.

For further information / concerns / questions you may have please contact:-

- 1) Michael Cook – Langho FC Covid-19 officer, Michael Cook via
 - a) Mobile 07703 941388
 - b) Email RJreadhall@aol.com

- 2) Mick Ellison – Chairman Langho FC
 - a) Mobile 07876 590325.
 - b) Email email@langhofc.co.uk

Stay safe, show RESPECT to ALL and enjoy the game.

Langho Football Club