

NFL-NFLPA Game Day Protocol Involving Players for the 2020 Preseason

I. Introduction.

- a. A key component of the NFL and NFLPA’s COVID-19 Protocols is limiting exposure risk to NFL players, coaches, club medical staffs, and other club and league staff.
- b. This Game Day Protocol, in conjunction with other COVID-19 protocols shall govern the conduct of all NFL preseason games during the 2020 Season.
- c. The parties will continue to update this Protocol as circumstances warrant and as the science evolves.
- d. Introduction. Prior to each NFL Club’s first preseason game, each Club will be required to develop an Infectious Disease Emergency Response (“IDER”) Plan that sets forth the Club’s plan for mitigating risk of COVID-19 transmission. Each Club’s IDER Plan will be subject to review and approval by the NFL, NFLPA and Infection Control for Sports (“ICS”) (formerly known as the Duke Infection Control Outreach Network or “DICON”) as outlined in the parties’ side letter agreement.

II. Game Day Personnel.

- a. For purposes of this Game Day Protocol, in addition to (i) Game Day Active Players and (ii) Club-Designated Tier 1 and Tier 2 Individuals with Game Day working functions, the following individuals shall be designated as “Game Day Personnel.” Maximum numbers are set forth in Section III below.
 1. On-Field Stadium Operations
 2. League Employees Deemed by NFL Football Operations to Have an Essential Game Day Working Function
 3. League Game Day Assistants
 4. Club Game Day Assistants
 5. Game Officials
 6. Unaffiliated Neurotrauma Consultants (UNCs)
 7. Airway Management Physicians (AMPs)
 8. Visiting Team Medical Liaisons (VTMLs)
 9. Certified Athletic Trainer Spotters (ATC Spotters)
 10. Broadcast Network
 11. On-Field Media
 - a. Photographers
 - b. LCC (Social Media)
 - c. NFL Network
 - d. NFL Films
 12. Designated Club Tier 3 Individuals. This will include, but not be limited to, club public relations, operations and media staff.
- a. At least three (3) days prior to each Club’s first preseason game, each Club must submit to the NFL (attention: Meghan Carroll) a list of individuals whom the Club wishes to designate Game Day Personnel. Each list must include the

individual's first name, last name, title, role (if unclear with title), employer (if not the Club), and requested access (Bench Area or Field as defined below). The NFL will review the lists and either approve or require revisions. Any proposed changes to a Club's list must be submitted to, and approved by, the NFL (attention: Meghan Carroll).

III. Game Day Access for Game Day Personnel.

- a. Bench Area Access. The "Bench Area" shall be defined as an area on the sidelines of the field surrounding the Home or Visiting Team Bench, which shall be delineated with a yellow dotted line between the respective 30-yard lines (Club personnel with Bench Area Access must stay within the 32-yard lines, which will be delineated with a white line), as depicted on the attached Exhibit A. Only those individuals with Bench Area Access shall be permitted to be within the designated Bench Area at any time during a preseason game or when Tier 1 Individuals are in the Bench Area. All individuals with Bench Area Access except for Players and coaches shall be required to wear face coverings at all times. Coaches and Players who are not substituting into the game are strongly encouraged to wear masks on the side lines. Disposable masks will be provided in the Bench Area for such use.
 - i. Only the following individuals shall have Bench Area Access, and such individuals with Bench Area Access shall be limited to the following numbers of individuals:
 1. Game Day Active Players
 2. Club-Designated Tier 1 and Tier 2 Individuals with Game Day working functions
 3. Game Officials
 4. Chain/Ball Crews
 5. Unaffiliated Neurotrauma Consultants (UNCs)
 6. Airway Management Physician (AMP)
 7. Visiting Team Medical Liaison (VTML) . The VTML may require limited Bench Area Access to assist the Visiting Team or to serve as a back-up UNC, if necessary. Otherwise, the VTML will be permitted on the field but must stand outside the Bench Area.
 - ii. Screening and Testing for Individuals with Bench Area Access.
 1. All players and Club Tier 1 and Tier 2 Individuals will undergo screening and testing in accordance with the Screening and Testing Protocol.
 2. All other individuals with Bench Area Access shall receive virus testing within 48 hours prior to Game Day in accordance with the Screening and Testing Protocol. UNC's, AMP's, EMT's and VTML's may undergo approved PCR testing at an independent testing facility or at their own medical institutions and must provide documentation of a negative viral test to the NFL Chief Medical Officer before they are permitted to report to the Stadium

on Game Day. Game Officials will undergo approved POC or PCR testing and must provide documentation of a negative viral test to the NFL Chief Medical Officer before they are permitted to report to the Stadium on Game Day.

3. No individual subject to this Game Day Protocol who receives a positive virus test prior to Game Day will be permitted access to the Stadium.
4. All individuals with Bench Area Access shall also undergo Symptom and Temperature Screens on Game Day as follows:
 - a. “Pre-Game Home Screen.” Each individual with Bench Area Access must perform a self-screen before leaving his or her residence or hotel for the Stadium on Game Day. As part of the Pre-Game Home Screen, each individual shall measure his or her own temperature before engaging in any activities that might compromise the accuracy of measurements, such as eating, drinking, exercising, or ingesting fever-reducing medications. Each individual with Bench Area Access will also complete a symptom and exposure questionnaire containing the questions in the attached COVID-19 Game Day Screening Form as part of the Pre-Game Home Screen. Any individual who records a temperature at or above 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit, or otherwise responds in a way that requires additional screening must immediately contact his/her club ICO and Head Team Physician as required by his Club’s IDER and must not report to the Stadium.
 - b. “Pre-Game Symptom and Temperature Screen.” Each individual with Bench Area Access will have his or her temperature taken by contactless thermometer and other symptoms checked and recorded prior to entering the Stadium on Game Day. The Pre-Game Symptom and Temperature Screen will include the questions listed on the attached COVID-19 Game Day Screening Form. Any individual who records a temperature at or above 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit, or otherwise responds in a way that suggests they may have been exposed to COVID-19 shall not be permitted to enter the Stadium on Game Day.
- b. Field Access. Individuals with Field Access (but not Bench Area Access) shall be permitted to be on the field during a preseason game, but may not enter the Bench Area, absent emergency circumstances. Individuals with Field Access (but not Bench Area Access) must remain outside of the yellow dotted line, which shall be between the respective 30-yard lines and at least 10 feet away from the Bench Area, as depicted on the attached Exhibit A. Such individuals with Field Access shall wear masks or other face coverings and other proper PPE at all times. Only

those individuals with Field Access shall be permitted to be on the field at any time during which players are on the field.

- i. Only the following individuals shall have Field Access, and such individuals shall be limited to 184 persons, including the following individuals:
 1. Stadium Operations
 2. Field Crews
 3. League Game Day Assistants
 4. Club Game Day Assistants
 5. Designated Club Tier 3 Individuals . This will include, but not be limited to, club public relations, operations and media staff.
 6. Broadcast Network
 7. Other On-Field Media
 - a. LCC (Social Media)
 - b. NFL Network
 - c. NFL Films
 - ii. Screening for Individuals with Field Access. All individuals with Field Access (but not Bench Area Access) shall undergo: (i) testing as required by those with Bench Access, and provided by the NFL or NFL Partners OR (ii) in the case of municipal, state or federal employees or other employees who are members of labor unions, testing as required by their labor agreements OR (iii) in the case of medical personnel, testing as required by the medical institution with which they are affiliated. All Individuals with Field Access must complete a Pre-Game Home Screen and a Pre-Game Symptom and Temperature Screen prior to entering the Stadium on Game Day, as described in Section III(a)(ii) above. Any individual with Field Access who receives a positive virus test, records a temperature at or above 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit, or otherwise responds in a way that suggests he or she may have contracted COVID-19 must not report to the Stadium on Game Day.
 - iii. Location of Individuals with Field Access. As part of their IDER Plans, Clubs will be required to submit a diagram identifying the proposed locations for all Field Access Individuals at their home stadium.
- c. No Field Access.
 - i. Certified Athletic Trainer Spotters (ATC Spotters)
 - ii. No other individuals may be permitted to have Field Access, including but not limited to fans, guests, non-essential Club or league staff, or non-working Club or league staff.
 - d. On-field fan seating is prohibited.
 - e. Any on-field entertainment (e.g., cheerleaders, mascots, flag runners, etc.) must be approved by the NFL in advance and, if approved, must meet physical distancing and screening and testing requirements.

IV. Protocols Governing The Stadium Environment.

a. General Rules.

- i. Clubs must ensure they have proper air flow and filtering throughout the stadium, by measuring ventilation and calculating air changes.
- ii. All individuals with Bench Area Access must maintain physical distancing (of at least 6 feet from other individuals) as much as possible. All individuals with Bench Area Access are prohibited from interacting with fans and security at all times (e.g., no autographs or photos). Interactions with the media shall be governed by the Media Protocol. Home and Away Teams are prohibited from post-game interactions within 6 feet of one another; and jersey exchanges shall be prohibited. All individuals with Bench Area Access (including players and club staff) are prohibited from sharing any personal items, including cups, food, towels, and clothing.

b. Arrivals to the Stadium.

- i. The Home Team will be required to stay at the team hotel the night prior to each game. All hotels must comply with the requirements set forth in the Team Travel Protocol and must provide parking for all players and essential staff segregated from the public.
- ii. Both the Home and Visiting Teams must travel to the Stadium on Game Day via bus. All buses must comply with the requirements set forth in the Team Travel Protocol. Home and Visiting Team bus arrivals must be staggered so that each team's buses arrive and unload at the Stadium separately.
- iii. Where possible, the Stadium arrival area and the path to the applicable (Home or Visiting Team, or Game Officials) Locker Room must be shut down by team and Stadium security to anyone other than the applicable group (Home or Visiting Team or Game Officials) arriving at the Stadium. If it is not practical to shut down the pathway to the applicable Locker Room, the path to the applicable Locker Room must be partitioned so that no other individuals will be within 12 feet of Home or Visiting Team Personnel or Game Officials while they are walking to the Locker Room (e.g., by plexiglass, bike racks, or piped-and-draped).
- iv. No media or fans will be permitted inside the Stadium arrival area. Media will only be permitted to record arrivals to the Stadium from a distance greater than 12 feet, while wearing appropriate PPE or using robotic/fixed cameras.

c. Stadium Food Services.

- i. Only individually pre-packaged food will be permitted for players, Club personnel and Game Day Personnel on Game Day.

d. Locker Room Protocols.

- i. All Locker Rooms for individuals with Bench Area Access must be restricted to those groups.
- ii. Home and Visiting Team and Game Official Locker Rooms must be cleaned and sanitized pursuant to the requirements in the Facilities

Protocol. Such cleaning must occur at least three times on Game Day: once immediately prior to Home and Visiting Teams and Game Officials arriving at the Stadium; once immediately prior to Halftime; and once after Halftime but prior to the end of the game.

- iii. Home and Visiting Teams and Game Official Locker Rooms must be reconfigured to permit six (6) feet of space between each player (by using every other locker or adding additional lockers) where possible. If not possible, Clubs must consider other measures to reduce risk such as adding plexiglass dividers between lockers or adding temporary lockers or other measures to preserve physical distancing and to prevent potential transmission. Each player must have individual space designated to store his belongings, without comingling, if locker space is unavailable.
 - iv. All individuals with Bench Area Access must maintain physical distancing in Locker Rooms to the extent possible.
 - v. Clubs must make hand sanitizer and other hygiene materials (e.g., soap, tissues) available in all areas of the Locker Rooms. Where possible, clubs are encouraged to use no-touch dispensers.
 - vi. For their protection, players and training staff are prohibited from using creams, gels, lotions, or balms from a shared container. Clubs must remove any shared containers from the Locker Rooms to avoid such improper use.
 - vii. Clubs must ensure they have sufficient air flow and filtering in Home and Visiting Team Locker Rooms, by measuring ventilation and calculating air changes.
 - viii. It is recommended that the Visiting Team use its Equipment Staff to assist with Game Day needs. However, the Home Team must provide a dedicated Visiting Team Locker Room attendant who must remain outside the Visiting Team Locker Room for the entirety of the game, remain physically distanced from any Tier 1 and Tier 2 Individual and wear appropriate PPE at all times.
- e. Training Room/Medical Rooms
- i. After every use, clean and disinfect surfaces in the training room (e.g., medical tables, stools, chairs, medical equipment, trash cans, recycle bins) using hospital grade EPA List N disinfectants.
 - ii. Clubs must cover treatment or rehab tables with a clean towel (which should then be left in a dirty clothes basket for laundering) or single-use covering, which should be discarded after usage. Treatment and rehab tables must be disinfected after each use using hospital grade EPA List N disinfectants.
 - iii. All floors are to be swept and mopped with a hospital grade EPA List N disinfectant detergent solution.
 - iv. All carpets shall be vacuumed, extracted if needed and spot cleaned in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications.

- v. All trash and medical receptacles shall be emptied, wiped out with a disinfectant solution, trash removed, and the can liner replaced.
 - vi. Showers may be used but players should be kept at least six (6) feet apart when in use. Clubs may consider shutting off some shower heads to ensure physical distancing is maintained. Showers shall be disinfected after each use using hospital grade EPA List N disinfectants.
- f. Movements On and Off the Field.
- i. Any time individual players or the Home or Visiting Team or Game Officials enter or exit the field, they must do so via a designated “Team/Officials Only” tunnel, where possible. If not possible, the access tunnel to the field must be cleared of all non-team/Game Official personnel for the period of time during which Home and Away Teams (team or individual players) or Game Officials will be traveling through the tunnel to the field. Alternatively, in Stadiums in which Teams/Game Officials must travel through tunnels to which non-team personnel or Game Officials will have access, partitions (e.g., floor to ceiling plexi glass) must be installed to create a barrier between team personnel/Game Officials and any such non-team/Game Official personnel. This shall apply before pregame warmups, after pregame warmups, at halftime, at the end of the game, and when an injured player is being removed from the field and to the Locker Room.
 - 1. Stadium/Team security will be responsible for clearing the tunnels during scheduled times from team arrivals to kickoff.
 - 2. For Stadiums with a limited number of tunnels, the Home Team must use partitions (e.g., plexiglass or pipe-and-drape) to ensure physical distancing may be maintained.
 - ii. With the exception of the 60-minute medical meeting, all pregame meetings are prohibited from taking place on the field or in Stadium tunnels. Any meetings must comply with physical distancing requirements.
 - iii. Any essential pregame on-field personnel, who have been approved by the league, must conduct their job, to the extent possible, before any individuals with Bench Area Access enter the field and before pregame warm-ups.
 - iv. Media and broadcasting network personnel who are authorized to cover pregame warm-ups must remain as close to the stadium wall/as far from the playing field as possible and may not access the playing field or any tunnels where individuals with Bench Area Access may be present. Such individuals must be wearing masks and appropriate PPE at all times. NFL Films and the broadcasting network may each utilize two cameras on-field during warm-ups provided that they maintain at least three (3) yards of distance from players and are wearing proper PPE. Each participating team may also use one camera operator to cover pregame warm-ups on the playing field provided that they maintain at least three (3) yards of

distance from players and are wearing proper PPE. No other personnel will be permitted on the playing field during pregame warm-ups.

- g. Team Introductions
 - i. During Team Introductions, all individuals with Field Access should maintain physical distancing to the extent possible.
- h. In-Game Sanitization Requirements
 - i. All communal equipment must be disinfected regularly throughout the game using hospital grade EPA List N disinfectants.
 - ii. Game balls will be cleaned in accordance with guidelines provided by Wilson.
 - iii. Club equipment and athletic training staffs will be provided with wipes and other cleaning solutions to periodically clean/disinfect benches, chairs, Gatorade carts, communication carts, Surface tablets, hard surfaces, helmets/visors, mouthguards, and any other sideline equipment.
 - iv. Acceptable mouthguard cleaning solution will be available on the sideline, provided by the Home Team.
 - v. Gatorade stations will be set up to ensure that no cups or bottles will be shared by anyone in the Bench Area. Players are not to share water bottles or cups; either individual labeled bottles or disposable vessels to be used for hydration.
 - vi. Players are not to share towels; once used a towel should be placed in laundry pile. A sufficient number of towels will be provided for use in game.
 - vii. Medical tents will be set up for on-field medical evaluations. Clubs may elect to conduct all medical evaluations, including Concussion Protocols, inside their respective Locker Rooms. Hard surfaces in the tents must be cleaned/disinfected following each use with hospital grade EPA List N disinfectants.
- i. Coaches Traveling To and From the Coaches' Booth
 - i. Where possible, the path to and from the Coaches' Booth should be cleared of other individuals. If not possible, Coaches must wear masks when traveling to and from the Coaches' Booth and proper social distancing must be maintained. The elevator to and from the Coaches' Booth must be shut down to non-team personnel during coaches' movements. An elevator operator will be required, and such elevator operator must wear a mask and other proper PPE at all times.
- j. Players Who Are Not Dressed on Game Day.
 - i. Players who are present but not dressed on Game Day must either be in the Bench Area or must remain in the Locker Room or an empty suite or some other designated isolated Stadium location during pregame and throughout the game so as to avoid interactions with any non-team personnel.
- k. Team Departures from the Stadium.

- i. Media will be banned from the Locker Room. For postgame media access/procedures, please see the Media Protocol.
- ii. Post-game meals must be provided in accordance with the Team Travel Protocol.
- iii. Departures from each Locker Room (Home, Visiting Team, Game Officials, etc.) must be staggered, unless separate pathways to exits and Stadium departure areas may be used. All individuals in each Locker Room must leave his or her individual Locker Room at the same time. Each team must depart the Stadium via bus.
- iv. All buses must comply with the requirements set forth in the Team Travel Protocol. Home and Visiting Team bus departures must be staggered so that each team's buses may load and depart the Stadium at the same time.
- v. The path from the applicable (Home or Visiting Team or Game Officials) Locker Room to the Stadium departure area must be shut down by team and Stadium security to anyone other than the Individuals with Bench Area Access departing the Stadium. If it is not practical to shut down the pathway from the applicable Locker Room, the path from the applicable Locker Room to the departure area must be partitioned so that no other individuals will be within 12 feet of any Individuals with Bench Area Access while they are walking from the Locker Room to the relevant exit (e.g., by plexiglass, bike racks, or piped-and-draped).
- vi. No media, fans, family members or other guests will be permitted inside the Stadium departures area. Media will only be permitted to record departures from the Stadium from a distance greater than 12 feet and wearing appropriate PPE or using robotic/fixed cameras.
- vii. When clubs are required to screen for TSA compliance using charter rules, clubs should make every effort to screen in the safest way possible (i.e., where possible, clubs should avoid screening at the airport, unless it is the safest option). Such screening must be conducted in a manner that meets disinfection and physical distancing requirements.

COVID-19 Screening Form

All Game Day Personnel are required to complete the following COVID-19 symptom and exposure questionnaire prior to reporting to the club facility for any activities during the Initial Period. If your answer to questions 1, 2 or 3 is “Yes,” please contact a member of the club’s medical or athletic training staff to discuss whether you may report to the club facility.

1. In the past 48 hours, have you experienced any of the symptoms of COVID-19:

Symptom	YES	NO
Cough		
Shortness of Breath		
Sore Throat		
Headache		
Chills		
Loss of Taste or Smell		
Muscle Pain/Achiness		
Nasal Congestion		
Runny Nose		
Vomiting		
Diarrhea		
Fatigue		

If you answered “Yes” to any of the above, please provide details below:

2. Have you had a fever at or above 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or taken any fever-reducing medications (e.g., Tylenol or Advil) in the last 48 hours?

YES	NO

If you answered “Yes”, please provide details including temperature readings, if possible, below:

3. Do you have any reason to believe that you, or anyone with whom you've had close contact may have been exposed to COVID-19 in the past 14 days?

YES	NO

If you answered "Yes", please provide details and identify the individuals, if possible, below, including approximate duration of contact (e.g., 10 mins, 30 mins, 1 hour, 10 hours, 24 hours):

4. Please list below any countries outside of the United States in which you have spent time in the past 30 days. If you have not left the United States within the past 30 days, please write "None."

NAME _____

DATE: _____