



POST COVID-19 2020 Slow Pitch Return to Play  
Recommended Best Practices for the Field-of-Play:

**General**

**There is an expectation that any individual experiencing symptoms should take the initiative and stay home.**

- Players will be expected to maintain social distancing before and after the game and during the game when possible
- No smoking, sunflower seeds or spitting.

**Dugout Rules**

- The schedule will have a minimum 15 minute gap to ensure physical distancing between games
- All teams are directed to clean their dugouts and team bench areas on arrival and departure.
- Each team will be supplied with disinfectant spray to clean the bench area and fence covering
- It is recommended that this be done before and after the game. Please be considerate to the next team.

**Capacity of Players on bench / dugout**

- Will need to be consistent with government guidelines relating to number of individuals allowed to gather in a given area.

**Post-Game Bench/Dugout Cleaning**

- Each team will be supplied with disinfectant spray to clean the bench area and fence covering
- It is recommended that this be done before and after the game. Please be considerate to the next team.
- During the game, players entering and exiting the playing field should do so in an orderly fashion that allows a 6- foot distance to be maintained between players as much as possible.
- Any player not required to be on the field should not enter the playing surface (e.g. homerun celebrations).

**Game Recommendation**

- Players and coaches are instructed not to share equipment.
- After a ball has been introduced into a game, it will be sanitized every ½ inning if it has been used.

## **Bats**

- Recommend the reduction of bat sharing if possible.
- Sanitize bat handles as frequently as reasonably possible.
- When picking up a bat from the ground try to use the barrel.

## **Player's Equipment**

- No gloves are to be left lying/sitting on the fence
- No bringing out gloves to a team mate, touch only your own equipment.
- Players should be reminded to reduce the amount of shared equipment and attempt to keep each individuals equipment isolated and reduce coming into contact with the equipment of other players.

## **Protective Face Masks/Helmets**

- There should be no sharing of protective face masks or helmets at any time.

## **Balls**

- Consideration should be made for safe ball retrieval, homeruns, foul balls, must be sanitized before they are allowed back in the game.

## **Catcher and Umpire**

- Will need to maintain 6-foot distance, when possible

## **On-Deck Batter**

- The on-deck batter must be considerate of the 6 foot rule.

## **First and Third Base Coaches**

- If the coaches are on the playing field they should remain a minimum of 6-feet away from the base they are coaching to prevent contact with the defensive player.

## **Injured Player**

- If medical personnel are on hand, injured players should be dealt with primarily by these individuals, unless further assistance is requested.
- The number of individuals attending to an injured player should be limited to the number necessary based on the severity of the injury. Sufficient first-aid kits should be provided that include latex gloves and facemasks to help increase the safety of their interaction with the injured player.

## **Spectator Rules**

- Spectators will be requested to bring own chairs – bleachers are not to be used.
- Spectators are required to maintain 6 feet physical distance.

## **Restaurant/Bar/Concession/Playground Area**

- Guidelines for these areas should be consistent with local guidelines/regulations.