

PLAY BALL



GUIDE TO RESTART PLAY

NYS COVID-19
HEALTH & SAFETY
PLAN



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GUIDE TO RESTART PLAY

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PREFACE:

Our region has started its phased reopening and HP REC is excited to offer a Baseball League for the 2020 season. Although this season is not in a traditional one, it is our mission to offer safe, healthy, fun and quality programs to our community in these trying times.

The requirements outlined in this safety plan will be necessary to operate safely with respect to stopping the spread of COVID-19 and comply with the requirements for restarting play. This plan was developed using the New York State Reopening Guide for Sports and Recreation Guidelines, other guidelines on youth sports from the CDC, baseball and softball best practices advocated by Little League International, USSSA, and other states that have restarted youth sports. Information contained reflects the date it was published. If the situation changes and other information becomes available, modifications might be made to this plan. These modifications can be found within each specific program page on our website at www.hprecreation.org. Details are subject to change at any time. It is our goal to make every possible and reasonable attempt to offer programs and services while maintaining public safety conditions.

If you have any questions or concerns moving forward please reach out to League Manager, Ryan Rockefeller at 392-9030 or rrockefeller@parmany.org.

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PREFACE:

The novel coronavirus, Coronavirus/COVID-19, has been declared a worldwide pandemic by the World Health Organization (WHO). Coronavirus/COVID-19 is extremely contagious and is believed to spread mainly from person-to-person contact. The WHO, The Center for Disease Control (CDC), and additional Federal, New York State and local health agencies recommend social distancing and proper hygiene to prevent the spread of Coronavirus/COVID-19. Contracting Coronavirus/COVID-19 can lead to severe illness, personal injury, permanent disability, and death. The Town of Parma Parks and Recreation Department and staff undertake every effort to keep our facilities clean and disinfected and have created new protocols and preventative measures to reduce the spread of Coronavirus/COVID-19; however as with any public facility, the Town cannot guarantee that you, adult family members or your minor child(ren) will not be exposed to, or 100% safe from, airborne illnesses such as Coronavirus/COVID-19 or colds and flu while using Town of Parma facilities or participating in its programs.

Due to the spread of the Covid-19 virus, the Town of Parma will be following the recommendations of the World Health Organization (WHO), the Center for Disease Control (CDC), the Executive Order from New York State's Office of the Governor and the NYS/Monroe County Departments of Health to limit and slow the spread of this virus.

These recommendations include: (1) Maintaining a social distance of at least 6 feet; (2) limiting group sizes; (3) limiting contact with people who are sick; (4) covering mouth and nose when sneezing or coughing; (5) cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched objects and surfaces; (6) avoiding touching others, including shaking hands, fist bumps or hugging; (7) limiting shared use items; (8) frequently washing hands with soap and water; and (9) voluntarily wearing cloth face masks.

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SECTION 1:

**PROMOTING
BEHAVIORS TO REDUCE
THE SPREAD OF COVID**

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SECTION 1:

PROMOTING BEHAVIORS TO REDUCE THE SPREAD OF COVID

Physical distancing of six-feet is required to be practiced as follows:

- All Players/Coaches/Volunteers/Spectators must adhere to six-feet distancing whenever possible. If one cannot adhere to six feet distancing then a face cover must be worn by individual.
- Participants must refrain from personal contact celebrations such as high-fives, fist bumps and shaking hands. All participants are encouraged to give each other unique, non-contact options to show appreciation.
- Bleachers will be closed to spectators.

Face coverings (masks) are required to be worn as follows:

- Players are required to wear face coverings when six-feet distancing cannot occur and when arriving or leaving the field. Players are not required to wear masks while on the field during games and practices.
- All Coaches, Spectators (ages 3 and older) and other Staff are required to wear face coverings during games and practices when six-feet distancing cannot occur and when arriving or leaving the field.
- Acceptable face coverings include but are not limited to cloth (e.g. homemade sewn, quick cut, bandana) or surgical masks.

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SECTION 1:

PROMOTING BEHAVIORS TO REDUCE THE SPREAD OF COVID

All participants must exhibit healthy hygiene practices:

- Healthy hygiene practices include hand washing, using alcohol-based (60-95%) sanitizer, refraining from spitting, and covering coughs and sneezes. Hand sanitizer will be available to Players and Coaches during games and practices. It is recommended that sanitizer be used between innings and at regular intervals during practice. Eating seeds, chewing gum and products of the like are not permitted.
- Players, Coaches and Volunteers are not permitted to share drink bottles or other personal items such as face covers. If it is necessary to share critical game equipment such as bats and balls, the equipment must be cleaned with a disinfectant approved against COVID between innings.
- HP REC will provide supplies including alcohol-based (60-95%) sanitizer and wipes to Coaches.
- HP REC will post signs on premises and online reminding participants of the infection control requirements that are in effect.
- Signs reminding all participants of requirements will be posted conspicuously around common areas at each site.
- Physical distancing markers will be posted in common and high-traffic areas.
- Requirements will be posted on the HP REC website, social media sites and sent via email to participants.

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SECTION 2:

MAINTAINING HEALTHY OPERATIONS

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SECTION 2:

MAINTAINING HEALTHY OPERATIONS

HP REC will actively communicate COVID-related plan requirements and set expectations with participants.

- Requirements for the season will be made known to all registrants and potential participants via email and through online posting.
- Coaches, and other Volunteers/Staff will be required to acknowledge receipt and understanding of the requirements; Volunteers will attend a Coaches meeting to review requirements and clarify their understanding.
- If critical game equipment must be shared ie. bats and balls, the equipment must be properly sanitized between innings.
- Players/Coaches/Volunteers/Spectators must disinfect hands after touching high risk areas.
- High risk equipment should not be shared with opposing teams, i.e. bats.
- Upon the conclusion of games, Coaches or Volunteers will ensure all team issued equipment has been properly sanitized prior to reuse for the next game.
- Restrooms and garbage receptacles will be cleaned daily.
- After games Coaches or Volunteers will clean dugout bleachers.

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SECTION 2:

MAINTAINING HEALTHY OPERATIONS

- Players will be required to practice good hygiene to clean and disinfect personal equipment after games and practices.
- Game balls will be cleaned every inning or new balls will be put into play.
- Spectators should stay at one field and not retrieve foul balls.
- Spectators will be limited to two family members of players.
- Participants are discouraged from congregating in common areas prior to or following games and practices. Upon conclusion of games Spectators, Players, Coaches and Volunteers should immediately leave the fields.
- League events such as the Coaches Appreciation Night, Red Wings Night, and Pizza Party will not be held.
- All league meetings, coach's meetings, and training will be held in a virtual environment.
- The league will continue to promote virtual coaching and at home drills for player development.
- Participants will have the opportunity to escalate any matter to the League Manager Ryan Rockefeller at 392-9030 or rrockefeller@parmany.org.

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SECTION 2:

MAINTAINING HEALTHY OPERATIONS

A health screening assessment questionnaire for all Players, Coaches and Volunteers shall be administered consisting of the following questions:

- 1. Have you experienced COVID-19 symptoms in past 14 days?**
- 2. Have you tested positive for COVID-19 in past 14 days, or been in close proximate contact with a confirmed or suspected COVID-19 case in past 14 days?**
- 3. Do you have a fever greater than 100.4 F. or have you felt feverish in the last twenty-four (24) hours?**

As per the CDC, COVID symptoms include shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, cough, fever, chills, muscle pain, headaches, sore throat and loss of taste or smell.

Assessment responses must be reviewed every day and such review must be documented.

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SECTION 3:

HANDLING A COVID-19 EVENT



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SECTION 3:

HANDLING A COVID-19 EVENT

- If you or a member of your family becomes sick or begins experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, at any time during a game or practice, the individual will be isolated and medical care for the individual will be sought; affected areas will be closed off and sanitized in a manner and time frame consistent with CDC guidelines.
- HP REC will immediately notify state and local health officials about any suspected COVID exposure or case. All participants will be immediately notified.
- HP REC will retain event schedule information, team rosters and staff information. HP REC will provide this information to state and local health officials to assist in contact tracing of exposed/potentially infected individuals.
- HP REC will comply with all HIPPA requirements and directives issued by the NYSDOH.

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RESPONSIBILITY SUMMARIES

**PLAYERS
COACHES/VOLUNTEERS
SPECTATORS**

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RESPONSIBILITY SUMMARIES

PLAYERS

- **Staying home when sick:** Players must be assessed for COVID symptoms daily. Players experiencing COVID symptoms must stay home. All spectators must be symptom-free for 14-days or medical clearance is provided by a physician indicating that the presenting symptoms are associated with a known non-COVID illness, to participate in or be a spectator at games.
- **Physical distancing:** Players must adhere to six-feet distancing whenever possible on the playing field for games or practices; off the playing field players must maintain six-feet distancing from those not in the same household. Players should not congregate in common areas prior to or following games and practices. All Players will be assigned a designated space where they are required to sit when their team is at bat or when not playing in the field.
- **Use approved face coverings (masks):** Players are required to wear masks when six-feet distancing cannot occur and when arriving or leaving the field. Players are not required to wear masks while on the field during games and practices.
- **Healthy hygiene practices:** Players are required to wash their hands with soap frequently, use alcohol-based (60-95%) hand sanitizer after touching high risk equipment, refrain from spitting, and must cover their coughs and sneezes. Seeds, chewing gum and products of the like are not permitted. Player's personal equipment must be cleaned and disinfected after use. Players are not permitted to share drink bottles and other personal items such as face covers; if it is necessary to share critical game equipment such as bats and balls players must disinfect hands after usage and the equipment must be cleaned with a disinfectant approved against COVID between innings. Players must refrain from personal contact celebrations such as high-fives, fist bumps and shaking hands. Players are encouraged to give each other unique, non-contact options to show appreciation.

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RESPONSIBILITY SUMMARIES

COACHES & VOLUNTEERS

- **Staying home when sick:** Coaches must conduct a daily self-assessment for COVID symptoms. Coaches experiencing COVID symptoms must stay home; all spectators must be symptom-free for 14-days or medical clearance is provided by a physician indicating that the presenting symptoms are associated with a known non-COVID illness, to participate in or be a spectator at games.
- **Physical distancing:** Coaches must adhere to six-feet distancing on the playing field for games and practices; off the playing field coaches must maintain six-feet distancing from those not in the same household. Coaches should not congregate in common areas prior to or following games and practices.
- **Use approved face coverings (masks):** Coaches are required to wear masks when six-feet distancing cannot occur and when arriving or leaving the field.
- **Health Screening:** Coaches will conduct a COVID symptoms assessment for other Coaches/Volunteers and Players. Coaches must record daily screenings.
- **Healthy hygiene practices:** Coaches are required to wash their hands with soap frequently, use alcohol-based (60-95%) hand sanitizer, refrain from spitting, and must cover their coughs and sneezes. Seeds, chewing gum and products of the like are not permitted. Coaches are not permitted to share drink bottles and other personal items such as face covers. When it is necessary to share critical game equipment such as bats and balls, the equipment must be cleaned with a disinfectant approved against COVID between innings. Game balls will be cleaned or swapped out every inning of play. Each half inning coaches will designate two players to retrieve foul balls. Coaches must refrain from personal contact celebrations such as high-fives, fist bumps and shaking hands. Coaches are encouraged to give each other unique, non-contact options to show appreciation. After games, Coaches or Volunteers will clean dugout bleachers.
- **Nightly assign a "COVID COACH" to administer COVID symptoms assessment.** Clean bats, balls, and other high traffic equipment/areas such as dugouts.

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RESPONSIBILITY SUMMARIES

SPECTATORS

- **Staying home when sick:** Spectators must conduct a daily self-assessment for COVID symptoms. Spectators experiencing COVID symptoms must stay home; all spectators must be symptom-free for 14-days or medical clearance is provided by a physician indicating that the presenting symptoms are associated with a known non-COVID illness, to participate in or be a spectator at games.
- **Physical distancing:** Spectators must adhere to six-feet distancing from those not in the same household. Bleachers will be closed to spectators and spectators should plan to bring their own lawn chairs or blankets. Spectators should not congregate in common areas prior to or following games and practices. Spectators should only stay at one field. **SPECTATORS SHOULD NOT RETRIEVE ANY FOUL BALLS.**
- **Use approved face coverings (masks):** Spectators are required to wear masks when six-feet distancing cannot occur and when coming to or leaving the field.
- **Healthy hygiene practices:** Spectators are required to wash their hands with soap frequently, use alcohol-based (60-95%) hand sanitizer, refrain from spitting, and must cover their coughs and sneezes.
- **Those spectators at higher risk for severe disease should consult with a medical professional before attending any HP REC event and ensure strict adherence to all guidelines regarding PPE, social distancing and handwashing. Such groups include:**
 - Those with a serious underlying medical condition, including immunocompromised, heart disease, morbid obesity, diabetes, chronic kidney and lung disease.
 - Those currently residing in a nursing home or long-term care facility.
 - Those over the age of 65.