

# WHLL COVID-19 GUIDELINES FOR COACHES

## Everyone (Players, Coaches, Spectators) should social-distance and wear masks

- **Masks must be worn in areas where distancing is not possible such as dugouts**
- Players should NOT wear medical-style gloves during game play
- All individuals should monitor body temperature prior to participation
- Players should have their own hand-sanitizer available
- No spitting, chewing gum, or seeds on/off the field is permitted
- No handshakes, high-fives, groups celebrations, etc.
  - LLI suggests lining up outside the dugout and tipping caps to the other team
- Players should bring their own pre-made snacks and drinks.
- No "Team" snacks are permitted
- **Only designated team managers/coaches/team parent will be allowed within the field fences during practices/games.** Parents and other spectators should remain outside the fences during practices/games.

## Dugouts

- **No personal equipment is allowed in the dugouts**
- Each player must have their own helmet, gloves, bat, and catcher's equipment\*
- Equipment must be hung on the fence outside the dugout and spaced appropriately
  - Shared equipment (catcher's equipment\*) must be cleaned and disinfected with an EPA approved disinfectant against COVID-19 and allowed sufficient time to dry before another player uses it
  - Suggestion is to create name tags to hang on the fence for each player to place their gear and wait to bat instead of being inside the dugout

## Baseballs

- Practice balls used for game warm ups should be isolated from shared containers
- Game balls should be rotated every two innings
- **Foul balls should only be retrieved by umpires, the catcher, or a coach. Spectators should not touch foul balls. If time doesn't permit retrieval of a fouled ball a new ball should be used to resume play.**

## Practices

- Coaches should make all reasonable attempts to abide by CDC and SC DHEC guidelines and regulations for social distancing during practices and drills.
- Managers/Coaches should use masks whenever possible.
- The League will stagger practice times to allow one team to fully evacuate the field before another team enters the field area. Coaches should instruct their players/parents to remain in their cars until their set practice time to ensure the field has been fully evacuated prior to their making their way onto the field.

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## Potential/Known Exposure to COVID-19

- Coaches should inform team parents that any potential or verified exposure to COVID-19 MUST BE immediately and confidentially reported to the Team Manager and required quarantining should be self- imposed by the exposed party in accordance with CDC and SC DHEC guidelines and regulations.

DHEC COVID Contact  
Flyer.pdf

- Parents/Players should immediately refrain from attending practice/game/league activities if they become aware or suspect that they have been exposed to COVID-19 in accordance with CDC and SC DHEC guidelines and regulations until they have tested negative or have quarantined for the required time period without further or new onset symptoms.
  - SC DHEC Testing Site: [scdhec.gov/covid19testing](https://scdhec.gov/covid19testing)
- Coaches should inform team parents that in the event that a report of potential or verified exposure is made to the Manager, the Manager will immediately and confidentially forward the report to our League Safety Officer (LSO). The LSO will immediately, in accordance with privacy regulations and requirements, notify the team of the possibility of further exposures due to interactions with the reporting party (WHOSE IDENTITY WILL BE HELD CONFIDENTIAL BY THE LSO) during certain practice/game activities.
  - LSO Contact Information:
    - Darren Strong
    - 614-496-4498
    - darrenmstrong@gmail.com
- COACHES SHOULD NOT RELEASE ANY NAMES OR ELABORATE ON ANY REPORT OF POTENTIAL/VERIFIED EXPOSURE TO THEIR TEAM MEMBERS/FAMILIES BUT SHOULD REPORT ONLY TO THE LSO WHO WILL THEN NOTIFY ALL WHO MAY HAVE HAD CONTACT WITH THE REPORTING PARTY TO ENSURE THAT PRIVACY REQUIREMENTS AND REGULATIONS ARE STRICTLY UPHELD IN THE NOTIFYING OF POTENTIAL EXPOSURE RISKS.