

COVID-19 Protocols



2021 Season

Rev. 1

AAGSL Protocols



- All protocols contained in this document are subject to change; AAGSL will follow guidance from State and Local authorities and revise Protocols as necessary
- The AAGSL COVID Safety Officer is Tori Yankow (570) 687-2872
- Parents should wear face coverings while at AAGSL facilities when in common areas such as the snack stand, the restroom, or around players or other spectators; parents are required to follow CDC and Pennsylvania Mask guidelines
- Coaches/Parents/Athletes and other spectators should measure their body temperature prior to attending or participating in any AAGSL activity

AAGSL Protocols



- Parents are not permitted to watch practice or games from the bleachers/sidelines and must remain in their vehicles or sit on the hill adhering to social distance requirements
- Parents are not permitted past the walking trail (next to the fields, bullpen or batting cage) while practices or games are underway
- Bleachers will be off-limit to spectators and will be used as an extension of the dugouts for players
- Spectators should not retrieve foul balls; only players, coaches or umpires are permitted to touch softballs
- Concession stand will be limited to two people in the stand at one time; workers must wear face coverings; social distancing signs will be placed in the lines

Coach Protocols



- Coaching staff and other adult personnel are **required** to wear masks at all times in compliance with the PA DoH Updated Mask Order Nov 2020
- Coaches and athletes must maintain appropriate social distancing at all times possible, including in the field of play, dugouts, batting cages and benches; during down time, athletes and coaches should not congregate
- Coaches and athletic staff must monitor athletes for symptoms prior to and during games and practices
- Maximum of 3 coaches per team (one each for 1st & 3rd base and one for the book or pitching); one team parent may help organize and control kids on bleachers (8U and younger; parent to remain outside of the dugout and off the field of play)
- Coaches to assign player spots in the dugouts and bleachers to ensure social distancing

Coach Protocols



- Only head coach to attend pre-game managers' meeting; must wear a mask and maintain social distancing (coaches on opposite sides of batters' boxes)
- If a manager/umpire meeting needs to take place during the game, distances of 6' need to be maintained and masks need to be in place
- Coaches need to be 6' from players when addressing the team
- When a coach makes a mound visit, they must maintain 6' distance from the pitcher and not allow the other players to join
- Utilize the scoreboard to confirm the score each inning instead of meeting with the opposing coaches
- Coaches must clean out all garbage from the dugout (place into the trash receptacle) after each game
- Each defensive team will have their own game balls; the balls will be wiped down between each inning

Player Protocols



- All players must have their own equipment (helmets, bats, gloves & masks); the AAGSL can provide equipment on a limited basis for the season
- Catchers' equipment must be thoroughly disinfected between players; the goal would be to have two sets of equipment per team
- No sunflower seeds, gum or any food in the dugout or on the field; NO spitting
- All players must have their own water bottle; no team water coolers
- No high-fives or handshakes between teammates or teams; teams will line up on the base lines and applaud each other at the end of the game
- No player meetings at the pitcher's circle at any time
- Players are **required** to wear masks at all times in compliance with the PA DoH Update Mask Order Nov 2020
- Parents should disinfect all player equipment and bags after each use

Action Plan



- In the event an athlete, official or coach is determined to be **positive or a presumptive-positive** with COVID-19, the following steps will be taken:
 - The individual will be encouraged to work directly through their healthcare provider to ensure all appropriate medical steps are taken and that the PA Dept of Health is notified to conduct Contact Tracing
 - The individual must notify the AAGSL COVID Safety Officer so that appropriate notifications may be made to the League
 - All potentially impacted individuals will be notified of the positive or presumptive-positive and encouraged to watch for symptoms and consult with their healthcare provider as necessary
 - All facilities that the individual may have come in contact with will be disinfected
 - The individuals may not return to any AAGSL sponsored activity without following the AAGSL Return to Play Guidelines which includes clearance from the individual's health care provider
 - Specific names will not be used to protect an individual's identity

Action Plan



- In the event a player or coach comes in close contact with a person that is positive or presumed-positive with Covid-19, that player or coach is required to quarantine in accordance with guidelines provided by the CDC
 - Stay home for 14 days after your last contact with a person who has COVID-19.
 - Watch for fever (100.4°F), cough, shortness of breath, or other symptoms of COVID-19
 - If possible, stay away from others, especially people who are at higher risk for getting very sick from COVID-19
- If your child has been quarantined from school or by another youth sports organization, they are required to quarantine from all AAGSL activities
- What counts as close contact:
 - You were within 6 feet of someone who has COVID-19 for a total of 15 minutes or more
 - You provided care at home to someone who is sick with COVID-19
 - You had direct physical contact with the person (hugged or kissed them)
 - You shared eating or drinking utensils
 - They sneezed, coughed, or somehow got respiratory droplets on you

Return to Play



- Any sick player, coach, or volunteer must, at minimum, quarantine as required by CDC/PADoH.
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/quarantine.html>
- A sick player, coach, or volunteer can only return with a doctor's approval
- Individuals must be cleared to play by the AAGSL prior to resuming activity

Resources



- Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
 - <https://www.governor.pa.gov/covid-19/sports-guidance/>
- Center for Disease Control (CDC)
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/youth-sports.html>
- USA Softball
 - <https://www.teamusa.org/USA-Softball/COVID-Resources>