



## AVON JUNIOR ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

### AJAA Baseball/Softball COVID-19 Protocols

In preparation for the upcoming baseball/softball season, as spectators, parents, coaches and players, we must be proactive in how we safely conduct our team activities. It will take everyone doing their part to ensure this happens and protects those at the highest risk of COVID-19 infections and complications. Listed below is the beginning of how we will approach our “new normal” regarding baseball/softball events. These concepts are fluid and open to change at any time. “Baseball/Softball events” will include: practices, games or other events where our AJAA Baseball/Softball family will gather.

Governor’s Guidelines: We will do our best to comply with Indiana guidelines as set by the Governor for event participation. These guidelines are announced weekly on local news sources and may change with very short notice.

School’s Guidelines: We will also do our best to comply with school policies regarding facility usage set by the Avon School Corporation for the safety of all involved.

#### Player Admission/ Exit for Football Events:

- Players hands must be sanitized upon entry. Each player should sanitize their hands in between innings, after games, and after any contact with other players.
- Players should be dropped off to help with social distancing (if parents wish to watch, they must comply social distancing guidelines.)
- After a baseball/softball event, player pads, helmets, and cleats should be wiped and/or sprayed with disinfectant spray per CDC guidelines.
- Parents should launder any sports attire between baseball/softball events.
- Players are advised to bring their own clearly marked water bottles and not share water bottles with any other participant. No water stations shall be used throughout the season.
- Players are advised to not share any ancillary items such as towels, blankets, other clothing, and hand warmers.
- Players and coaches on-field will be provided a “gaiter mask” to wear while on field. These are washable and re-usable, and are part of the uniform this Summer/Fall. Wearing the gaiter mask is up to each family’s discretion.
- Catcher’s gear will be shared, so coaches will spray all equipment per the CDC guidelines. AJAA will have a disinfectant spray at each field to aid in this process.
- Players will need to bring their own chairs, rather than sitting in the dugout. There will be yellow zip ties on the fences signifying where players can hang their bags, and sit.
- No gum/sunflower seeds, etc. will be permitted to eliminate risk of germs. (no spitting)
- Players will not do handshakes before or after a game, but are advised to tip their hats to the other team in a show of continued good sportsmanship.
- Meetings at the plate before the start of the game will be short and with few players as possible; with social distancing guidelines intact.



## AVON JUNIOR ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

- Parents/spectators will not be permitted to sit behind the backstop. The exception will be for those parents that are keeping book for their team if it is not a coach.
- Parents keeping book will need to provide their own masks at this time. We will mark spots around the outfield and sides to show safe social distancing for families.
- Umpires will not be behind the plate. They will position themselves at least 6 feet away from the pitcher, on the non-throwing side. Umpires will also change balls more frequently, and wipe the balls down with a disinfectant prior to putting them into the bag.
- Concessions and restrooms will have line cues to adhere to social distancing guidelines. Our Concessions staff will also take extra precautions to reduce contact to members. This includes installing a plexiglass shield at the concessions window.

**Coaching Staff:** Coaches shall be provided with disinfectant to spray any and all communal equipment used during baseball/softball events at the conclusion of the event and prior to the next event. This includes, but is not limited to: balls, catcher's gear, clipboards, bats, and any other sporting equipment used during play.

**Spectators:** For practices and games we ask that any and all spectators spread out and adhere to all social distancing guidelines between your family and other spectators. Continue to stay loud and have fun.

**PLEASE DO NOT attend or send your child to play in a Baseball/  
Softball event (practice, game or other) if...**

- You now have, or had in the past 14 days a fever over 100.3 AND shortness of breath
- In the past 14 days, you have been within 6 feet for 15 minutes or more of a person who is COVID-19 positive AND/OR who has a fever Other COVID-19 Related Symptoms.
- You have medical conditions that would classify you as high risk for COVID-19
- You don't feel well for any other reason with or without COVID-19 symptoms

By complying with these guidelines, we have an opportunity to create a safer environment for our players, coaches, referees, spectators and especially those who are considered to be high risk for the disease. We appreciate your anticipated cooperation and look forward to a great season!