



Tri-Cities Baseball & Softball

431 W Bedford Euless Road Suite 431E, Hurst, TX 76053

Tri-Cities Baseball & Softball – Game Play Protocol **REVISED July 24, 2020 to align w/ applicable COVID compliance**

This protocol is pursuant to Texas Executive Orders, with support and approval from the City of Hurst.

1. COACHES/PLAYERS/PARENTS/FANS **MUST** read, understand, and agree to the protocols in order to participate in game play. Furthermore, we recommend those in attendance follow the recommended CDC, state, and local guidelines and/or mandates as applicable.
2. PARENTS AND FANS (SPECTATORS). Each field will have designated areas where Parents and Fans, are restricted from entering. Parents and fans are recommended to maintain appropriate social distancing, while family units may sit together.
 - a. Parents or fans are NOT allowed inside any warm-up area, dugout, or the field of play. These areas are RESTRICTED TO COACHES AND PLAYERS ONLY.
 - b. There shall be NO grouping of the team outside of the field of play for typical “post-game” meetings, or shared snacks, etc.
 - c. Teams are strongly encouraged to leave immediately after their game and sportsmanship greeting conclusion to allow for the next teams to have ample warm-up time on the game field.
 - d. Signs will be posted reminding Parents and Fans of Social Distancing recommendations.
 - e. Parents should supervise and facilitate the arrival and departure of their player. If the parent or parents remain to watch the game, they are asked to practice social distancing and remain 6 feet apart and spread out in the common area around the outside of the ballfield.
 - f. Bleachers, tables, and playgrounds (within HCP) will be blocked off from use.
 - g. Scoreboards will not be set up or used. Teams will need to use Game Changer Team Manager via cell phone or paper books.
 - h. Siblings should not be brought to the ballfields if it can be avoided.
 - i. **Clarification:** We realize that this is not possible for all families to leave siblings at home due to various reasons. If you need to bring a sibling with you, please feel free to do so. Siblings must stay with the family unit and follow the social distancing recommendations and other applicable CDC, state, and local mandates.



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3. GAME PLAY

- a. Home Plate Meeting shall consist of the umpire(s) and the head coach (1) from each team.
 - b. Coaches. Max of 4 coaches per team.
 - i. Offense:
 - a. Normal Base Coach Positions, one (1) at 1B and one (1) at 3B.
 - b. Two (2) additional coaches allowed outside the dugout, along the dugout fence.
 - ii. Defense: all coaches should remain near dugout area out of the field of play.
 - c. Umpires: Umpire assignments and positions will remain normal on the field of play unless otherwise approved between UIC & TCBSA.
 - d. Play Ruleset: Normal TCBSA baseball rules apply.
 - e. Protest/Appeals: Any rules protest or appeals request must be made by first seeking time out from the umpire and using the recommended social distancing guidelines. Any protest or appeal **MUST** be handled in a calm professional manner and must follow tournament rule guidelines. This is a ZERO TOLERANCE policy. Coaches that cannot abide by this protocol will be immediately ejected and asked to leave the ballpark and are subject to league rules regarding ejections.
 - f. No Post Game Handshake/High Fives between teams. Instead players and coaches will line up “Home Plate to First Base” (for teams on the 1B side) & “Third Base to Second Base” (for teams on the 3B side) to extend their good sportsmanship greetings to each other.
 - g. Teams need to leave immediately after game play/sportsmanship greeting has been completed. This requirement is made to ensure all teams have adequate warm-up time and to avoid potential clustering.
 - h. Game Start Times: Games will be scheduled with a 30-minute break to allow for teams to exit and enter dugout areas without potential clustering, and to allow for adequate pre-game warm-ups.
 - i. Teams Arriving for Games: Teams arriving must wait just outside of the designated dugout areas, or in the designated Warm-Up Areas.
 - j. Pre-Game Warm-Ups. Zero pre-game warm-ups may take place in the designated common areas. Warm-ups are RESTRICTED to: 1) Designated Warm-Up Areas, 2) On the Game Field (outfield only).
 - k. Dugouts: The use of dugouts for game play is permitted.
4. DUGOUT CLEANLINESS: Head Coaches are responsible to ensure the dugout is clean PRIOR to departing after their game. TCBSA will have sanitizer available in dugouts for final cleaning prior to exiting the dugout.



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5. **WATER:** Coaches and Players are responsible for their own water/PowerAde, Gatorade, etc. Concessions may or may not be open throughout the season as CDC, state, and local mandates change.
6. **COACHES/PARENTS/FANS SCREENING.**
 - a. Coaches shall monitor their teams and request that ALL PARENTS/FANS self-monitor pursuant to CDC guidelines.
 - b. Parents/Fans shall self-monitor pursuant to CDC guidelines.
 - c. We encourage parents, players and coaches to practice good personal hygiene.
 - d. We also encourage you to bring and use your own hand-sanitizer, disinfectants, etc.
7. TCBSA will have staff on site to monitor game play protocol.

THANK YOU! We are doing all we can to SAFELY PROVIDE BASEBALL and SOFTBALL this year for our TCBSA teams (Players, Coaches and Parents/Fans) because we believe that these activities are important for the children we serve. We also believe and trust that our coaches, players and parents/fans will not attend if sick and will abide by CDC Guidelines and will also abide by the additional safety protocol and social distancing recommendations as set forth in this document.