

SPRING 2021 COVID-19 GUIDELINES -

Updated May 21, 2021

League Responsibilities

Piedmont will take a leadership role regarding all safety policies.

1. The league will establish and enforce all safety procedures.
2. The league will communicate these policies to all participants, spectators, coaches, and volunteers to ensure compliance during practices and games.
3. The league will continue to monitor state, local and Babe Ruth/Cal Ripken guidelines for practices and games and will update and communicate any modifications to managers and parents as applicable.
4. The league will provide hand sanitizer to teams and at the entrance to our fields so that it is readily available for all volunteers and participants.

Symptom Checks

All participants, volunteers, managers, coaches, umpires, and spectators must conduct a daily symptom check before participating in practices and games.

1. Symptoms discussed below include, but are not limited to the following:
 - a. Active COVID-19 infection.
 - b. Known contact with someone who tested positive for COVID-19.
 - c. Fever,
 - d. Cough and/or
 - d. Loss of sense of smell and/or taste.
2. Players, coaches, volunteers, and spectators must stay home if any of these conditions exist:
 - a. They exhibit symptoms listed above or live in a household with someone who does,
 - b. They, or a member of their household, have tested positive for COVID-19 and/or
 - c. They, or a member of their household, have had known contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 within the past fourteen days.
3. In order to return to the field, the player or coach must have a negative test result for COVID-19.
4. Likewise, all members of the household who have either tested positive or had contact with someone who tested positive must have a negative test result for COVID-19 before the player or coach who lives in that household is allowed to return to the field.

When A Player or Coach Gets Sick

If a player or coach reports experiencing Covid symptoms, is concerned or their parents are concerned about possible symptoms or tests positive for the virus, the following guidelines must be followed:

With the assistance of his/her parents/guardian, the player will quarantine at home and stay away from the field until a determination has been made on the players condition relative to the virus and in accordance with Delaware DPH.

1. If the player tests positive for the virus they will continue to quarantine at home.
2. All team members and the coaches will be informed of the situation.
3. A suggestion will be made to the parents of the players team members to consider having their player tested.
4. The players' team (and Piedmont affiliated teams such as tournament/travel) will not be able to play for the next ten days from the last known contact with the player who tested positive. Quarantine can end after Day 10 without testing if no symptoms have been reported during daily monitoring.
5. The policy calls for a 10 day quarantine for all UNLESS a parent wants to VOLUNTARILY provide the league with proof of a negative test in the time frame as set forth by the DPH (which would allow a player to return on the 8th day).
 - a. Quarantine can end after Day 7 if a diagnostic specimen tests negative and if no symptoms were reported during daily monitoring. The specimen may be collected and tested within 48 hours before the time of planned quarantine discontinuation (as early as Day 5 of quarantine)), but quarantine cannot be discontinued earlier than after Day 7.
 - b. This rule applies equally to both rec and tournament teams. If an entire rec team wants to voluntarily provide the league with proof that each player is negative, then the rest of the team (other than the positive player) may play on day 8.
6. DPH will be contacted for each specific case and the time period may be adjusted accordingly.
7. All surface in and around the player areas will be disinfected prior to the next series of games.
8. All guidelines for safety, social distancing, hand sanitizing/washing, wearing of masks will be reiterated to all team coaches, players and parents.

General Guidance

All volunteers and participants must follow safety protocols involving social distancing and transmission prevention.

1. Anyone who is fully vaccinated (again relying on the honor code) may participate or watch outdoor activities without wearing a mask or physically distancing. All others must practice social distancing wherever possible from individuals not residing within their household, especially in common areas.

Spectator Guidance

1. Bleachers have been removed to ensure distancing. Spectators should bring their own seating or portable chairs when possible.
2. All families are encouraged to limit the number of family members and friends they bring to games.
3. Anyone sick or showing symptoms or being sick should stay home.

Player Equipment

1. Equipment bags must not be hung in the dugouts. They should be hung outside the dugout along the fence line.
2. Players must not share food, beverages, or equipment. Only the single owner of the equipment should use that gear. Equipment includes, but is not limited to, gloves, bats, helmets, caps, water bottles, and equipment bags.
3. Catcher's gear will be disinfected after every use. If players own their own catcher's gear, they may not share their personal gear with other players.

Dugouts

1. All players are now permitted to be in dugouts unmasked.

Umpires must follow safety protocols while calling games

1. Umpires who are vaccinated no longer need to wear a mask.
2. If meetings are needed, social distancing must be observed and only one coach from each team may meet with umpires.

Coaches

1. Coaches and umpires who have been vaccinated no longer need to wear a mask while on the field. Those who have not been vaccinated must wear a cloth face covering at all times.
2. Base coaches should distance themselves from base runners, players, and umpires in the field of play.
3. Coaches are responsible for clearing dugouts of debris following each game.

Drinks and Snacks

1. Players, coaches, and umpires should bring their own personal drinks to all team activities. Drinks should be labeled with the person's name. Please be safe and courteous and take trash with you when you leave the complex.
2. Individuals should take their own drink containers home each night for cleaning and

sanitation or use single-use bottles

3. There should be no use of shared or team beverages.
4. Teams should not share any snacks or food. Players should bring individual, pre packaged food, if needed.
5. Sunflower seeds, gum, etc., is not allowed in dugouts or on the playing field. 6. All players and coaches are to refrain from spitting at all times, including in dugout areas and on the playing field.