



Big Lake Baseball Association's Return to Play Plan

** This plan is subject to change.*

- 1) Parents will be reminded that players cannot attend practice or games if they are exhibiting any symptoms of being sick. Please notify your coach immediately if you show any symptoms of being sick, or you have been exposed to someone that has been sick.
- 2) Coaches will be given the return to play guidelines.
- 3) Every player participating must bring their own equipment to include: Bat, glove, batting helmet, catching gear (if they are a catcher), hand sanitizer, and their own water bottle. We have some catching gear we can lend to travel players for the entire season. For teams where there is no single catcher, the coach will sanitize the equipment before giving it to a new player.

Phase 2- return to practice (starting June 1)

- 1) Teams will be allowed to return to practice. Teams will be split into "pods". Each pod will contain no more than 10 people (coaches and players combined). Each pod will have their designated practice time. The players within the pods will remain consistent. Coaches are responsible for ensuring no more 2 pods are on a field at a given time.
- 2) During practice, the following precautions will be taken.
 - a. No more than 2 pods/field at the practice.
 - b. All players will be responsible to provide all of their own equipment (batting helmet, glove, bat, water bottle). There will be no sharing of equipment other than balls. Players should store their equipment with enough distance between other players to maintain social distancing measures while at practices.
 - c. All players must bring their own hand sanitizer to practice. Players must sanitize their hands before they take the field to practice and after.
 - d. Coaches will sanitize down all team equipment at the end of each practice.
 - e. During practice, when at all possible, players will maintain social distancing.
 - f. No physical contact between players and coaches or team "huddles" at the end of practice during phase 1.
- 3) Parents will not be allowed to be at practice. Parents may watch from their cars in the parking lot.

Phase 3 (expected to begin June 15)

- 1) Teams will be allowed to practice with their entire team (we will provide more information of the approved guideline amount of people at a practice, including players/coaches when it becomes available).
- 2) Social distancing measures listed in item 2 will continue to be followed.
- 3) Games will return sometime during phase 2. Once spectator guidelines have been released from the Minnesota Department of Health we will update our Return to Play Policy.
- 4) Bleachers at the fields cannot be used.
- 5) No one, except for players and coaches will be allowed to approach the team bench/dug out area at any time before, during or after a game. Players will not be allowed sunflower seeds or any food on the bench during a game. There can be no community snacks/beverages provided to the team after games.
- 6) There are to be no family members/friends of players or other children of the coaches allowed at team practices or in the dugout during games.
- 7) No parents will be allowed to sit behind the backstop during a game. The dug out areas for most teams will be extended to allow for social distancing when the team is up to bat. Parents are able to sit along the 1st and 3rd baseline from the base to the outfield.
- 8) It is highly recommended that all players wear batting gloves when hitting. While the CDC recommends players wear facemasks while attending and playing our return to play policy does not require them.

Phase 4 (the 2020 season may not reach this phase)

- 1) This is when baseball will return to its normal participation and operation, i.e. no restrictions on seating and social distancing measures are relaxed.
- 2) The following guidelines will still be enforced:
 - a. All players must provide and use their own equipment. If players do not have equipment any shared equipment must be sanitized between players by a coach.
 - b. Parents will not be allowed in the dugout or to approach the dugout during a game. No siblings of players or other children of coaches will be allowed in or near the dugout during a game.