

# Pulaski County Parks and Recreation

## Covid-19 Policy and Procedures

### Baseball/Softball

#### General Guidance:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- **Players are encouraged to bring their own hand sanitizer for personal use.**
- Coaches will have adequate supply of hand wipes, gloves, alcohol wipes.

#### On-Field Guidance:

- **No Handshakes/Personal Contact Celebrations:**
  - Players and coaches should take measures to prevent all but the incidental contact necessary to play the game. This should include refraining from handshakes, high fives, fist/elbow bumps, chest bumps and group celebrations. **We suggest lining up outside the dugouts and tipping caps or thumbs up to the opposing team as a sign of good sportsmanship after a game.**
  - Players and families should vacate the field/facility as soon as reasonably possible after the conclusion of their game to minimize unnecessary contact with players, coaches and spectators from the next game, ideally within 15 minutes.
  - If back to back games teams cannot enter field until last game participants and spectators have left the area completely
- **Drinks and Snacks:**
  - Players, coaches and umpires should bring their own personal drinks. Drinks must be labeled with the player's name.
  - There will not be shared or team drinks.
  - Teams will not share any snacks or food. Players should bring individual, pre-packaged food, if needed.
- **Dugouts:**
  - Coaches and players will be assigned spots in the dugout or on the bleachers so that they are at least six feet apart and must be placed behind a fence.
  - Players are to stay at their assigned spots when on the bench or while waiting their turn to bat.
  - Players and coaches must wear facemask while in the dugout if they cannot keep their social distancing.
  - Hand wipes and sanitizers at entrance/exit of each dugout space.
- **Player Equipment:**
  - Players must have their own individual batting helmet with facemask, glove and bat. If a player does not have catcher's equipment, the recreation department will provide each team with 2 sets of catcher's equipment. It will be the coaches responsibility to make sure the catchers equipment has been disinfected and sanitized before another player can use.
  - No personal players bat bags/equipment bags will be allowed in the dugout. Player's equipment should be spaced accordingly outside of the back of the dugout to prevent direct contact.
  - Some critical equipment may not be able to be obtained by every individual. When it is necessary to share critical or limited equipment, all surfaces of each piece of shared equipment must be cleaned first and then disinfected with an EPA-approved disinfectant against COVID-19 and allowed sufficient time to dry before used by a new player. Increased attention should be paid to detailed cleaning of all equipment directly contacting the head and face (catcher's mask, helmets).

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- Player's equipment (bags, helmets, bats, gloves and etc.) should be cleaned and disinfected after each game by a parent or guardian.
- Player's should not share towels, clothing, or other items that they may use to wipe their face and hands.
- **Baseballs and Softballs:**
  - Baseballs and Softballs should be rotated on a regular basis, with sanitized balls. It will be the home teams job to keep freshly sanitized balls in the rotation.
  - Baseballs and Softballs will be sanitized throughout practices and games
  - Umpires should limit their contact with the ball, and the catchers should retrieve foul balls and pass balls where possible.
  - Balls used in infield/outfield warm-up should be isolated from a shared ball container.
  - Foul balls landing outside the field of play should be retrieved by participating players, coaches and umpires. No spectators should retrieve the ball.
- **Sunflower Seeds, Gum, Tobacco, Peanuts and Spitting:**
  - No sunflower seeds, gum, tobacco, peanuts or spitting allowed in the facilities.

## **Game Operations and Umpire Guidance:**

- **Pre-Game Plate meeting:**
  - Social distancing of six feet between individuals must be implemented during all pre-game plate meetings between umpires and team manager or coach.
  - No players should be part of plate meeting.
- **Equipment Inspection:**
  - Players should place their bats in a well-spaced out manner for inspection. Umpires should avoid direct contact with equipment when possible but, when required, use hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol after the inspection of each individual piece of equipment.
- **Games/Practices:**
  - Practices should be limited to the coaches and players.
  - Home team will keep the official scorebook. Proper social distancing should be practiced.
  - Patrons will be required to bring a chair and sit behind outfield fence. There will not be any spectators allowed to sit in the bleachers, around backstops and dugouts. Must also practice social distancing.
  - League administrators should schedule sufficient time in between practices and games to facilitate the complete evacuation of individuals from a previous practice or game from the premises before the next group enters.
  - Players/families/spectators are instructed not to show up to fields more than 40 minutes before game time.
  - Each facility that you play at will have instructions for entry points and exits points on practice and game schedule.
  - If there is a game or practice prior to your event, families and spectators are encouraged to stay in their vehicles or at recommended social distances until the start of their gameplay to prevent overcrowding of spectator spaces and walkways.
  - Ensure that practices and games follow all local and state directives regarding the number of people allowed to gather in one place.
  - Wait in cars before practice or game
  - Limit the use of carpools. If a player or spectator test positive for the COVID-19, all in the carpool must meet the NRV Health District guidelines and regulations.
  - Allow time between practices and games for cleaning and disinfecting.

## **Public Restrooms:**

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- Access to public restrooms should be limited if possible
- A “one-in-one-out” policy, where only one individual is permitted within the restroom at one time, should be implemented to ensure adequate distancing in the confined restroom space.
- Prior to and after any league activity restrooms should be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected. Restrooms must be disinfected on a regular basis.
- Public water fountains or refillable water stations should not be used, and should be turned off.

**Concession Stands:**

- No food or concession sales will be allowed at facilities.
- Families are encouraged to bring their own food and drinks. Please pick up all trash.

**Stay Home:**

- All players, coaches and parents should stay at home if not feeling well or displaying any of the following symptoms.

**Chills**

**Shortness of breath**

**Vomiting**

**Fever or running a temperature over 100 degrees**

**Sore throat**

**Loss of smell**

**Coughing**

**Headaches**

**Runny nose**

**Diarrhea**

**Players, Coaches and Parents must understand that they are at risk of the COVID-19 virus no matter how many pre-cautions that we may take to try to keep everyone safe during this pandemic.**

**Players, Coaches, Parents and Spectators that display any symptoms of COVID-19 will not attend practices or games until being cleared by a NRV Health District.**

**Players or coaches signature: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Date: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Parents signature: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Date: \_\_\_\_\_**