



2020 FALL RULE BOOK

SEE ADDITIONAL COVID GUIDELINES
FROM EACH TOWN TOWN

August 22, 2020

www.mrfsoftball.com

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Midwest Recreational Fastpitch (MRF) will be governed by softball commissioners from the Roselle Medinah Softball and Baseball Organization, Streamwood Park District, Carol Stream Park District, Glendale Heights Youth Baseball & Softball, & Bloomingdale Baseball and Softball Association.

2019 MRF Board made of representatives from league members:

Adam Vasquez *Streamwood* Treasurer avasquez@spdcare.com
Beth Stein *Roselle* Secretary beth@mazeinc.com
Enrique Arroyo *Glendale Heights* 8U/10U Commissioner enriquearroyo104@yahoo.com
Anthony Kenny *Carol Stream* Scheduling anthonyk@csparks.org
Eric Eichholz *Bartlett* 12U/14U Commissioner EEichholz@bartlettparks.org
James Vargas *Bloomingdale* Rules jamesmvargas9@gmail.com

Midwest Recreational Fastpitch will have the following four (4) divisions:

- 8U
- 10U
- 12U
- 14U

The players are assigned to a division based upon their age as of January 1 of 2019. For example; a girl born on January 1, 2005 is eligible to play on a 14U team for the 2019 season.

Midwest Recreational Fastpitch League Philosophy

The communities that comprise the Midwest Recreational Fastpitch League value the importance of teaching young girls the skills, values and fun of the game of fastpitch softball. We encourage teamwork, respect, responsibility and positive attitudes from our athletes, coaches, parents and umpires. Our goal is to provide our girls with an atmosphere that encourages skill development and a positive outlook towards the game.

A: Governing Rules

1. All ASA rules will apply, except as modified by the following.
2. All rules are in effect for both regular season and post season play.
3. **No travel players or part time travel players** are allowed to participate in MRF regular season or postseason games.

B: Rosters, Playing Time, Batting Orders

1. Where a town fields more than one team at an age bracket, it should strive to ensure that there is equitable distribution of talent among the teams.
2. All batting orders will be consecutive allowing a space in the lineup for all players at the game that will bat when it is their turn.
3. Any player arriving late is added to the order following the last listed player in the batting order.
4. If a player leaves or is unable to bat due to injury during a game, the next player in the batting order will bat without an out being recorded. The manager will inform the opposing manager if this is to occur.
5. For teams that will fall under the minimum player threshold, call ups are encouraged. In divisions without regular season standings (8U and 10U), player sharing between teams at the level will be allowed during the regular season. In divisions with regular season standings, coaches will be required to seek approval of the opposing managers prior to the game time for regular season games. Call-ups and subs will not be allowed to pitch.

C: Time Limits

FOR ALL DIVISIONS:

1. Games will have no new inning after 1 hour and 45 minutes, and must complete the inning that started prior to the no new inning, and drop dead at 2 hours.
2. The umpire will have the sole determination of the final inning. If a game is 10 minutes to the no new inning time limit, the umpire may declare the start of the next inning to be the last inning.
3. If a last inning is declared by the umpire, the run limits will set as the following: 8 run max for all levels.

FALL BALL DOES NOT KEEP TRACK OF WINS and LOSSES.

There is nothing to report on Quick Scores. If after the last inning the game is tied, the game is over.

D: Defensive Playing Time

1. Managers are to teach every girl at the 8U, 10U levels all defensive positions. Therefore, managers and coaches play each girl different positions from inning to inning, and game to game.
2. In the spirit of the player's development, we recommend that pitchers be rotated on a game to game basis to allow for all players to have an opportunity to pitch. At the developmental levels (8/10U), all players should be allowed to pitch during the season.
3. MRF has categorized defensive position into two specific categories:
 - a. Outfield (LF, CF, RF)
 - i. **NOTE:** 8U: 4 outfield players (see O. Divisional Rules for more detail)
 - b. Infield (1B, 2B, SS, 3B, P, C)
4. A defensive inning shall consist of 3 outs by the same team or reaching the maximum run limit.
5. Any player cannot be benched for two (2) consecutive innings in a game, and no player should sit twice before a player sits once.
6. Pitching and catching will follow regulations specific to each age level. Please refer to ATTACHMENT 2 for details.
7. The maximum run limit is set at 4 runs per inning at 8/10U and 5 runs per inning in 12/14U. This applies to all innings prior to the final inning which is 8 runs.
 - a. **NOTE:** Umpire and managers should come to an agreement on what the final inning is going to be based on the time left in the game.
8. A player arriving late cannot play any more than a player who arrived on time. Refer to ATTACHMENT 1 for "Playing Time" and forward questions to your commissioners.
9. ATTACHMENT 3 is a good resource to use to make sure each player is getting a fair amount of playing time and a rotation of positions. We **strongly encourage** having coaches complete this grid before each game and give to the opposing coach. This will help keep the game running smoothly and help coaches organize their player's time on and off the field.
10. If it is noticed that a player has not been rotated within these rules as stated, they will have until the start of the inning, or anytime during that inning, to notify the other team manager of the infraction to correct it. If the error is discovered after the inning was completed, no action will be taken and the inning will stand as official, however the team manager should be notified and players must be rotated properly for the following inning. If the error in rotation is discovered after the game is completed, results will stand and there will be no forfeit. If a manager refuses to follow the rotation rules as stated, the game must be stopped and the league commissioner should be contacted by phone immediately.

E: Field Conditions

1. Home Team Managers shall contact the opposing team manager when questionable weather and/or field conditions exist.
2. The home team organization will make decisions on field conditions and inform individuals through their websites or rainout lines. **Games will be postponed and rescheduled if the Real Feel temperature is 45 degrees or lower.** The decision to cancel the game must be made by 90 minutes before the scheduled time (e.g., 4:30 PM weekdays for 6 PM games) in order to allow for the opposing manager to contact his/her players. This will also allow time for the home team to cancel the umpire.

- Streamwood Website: <http://www.spdathletics.com>
- Bloomingdale Website: <http://www.thebbsa.com>
- Carol Stream Rainout: <https://rainoutline.com/home/dnis/6307801517>
- RMSBO:
 - i. Medinah: <http://www.medinahparkdistrict.org>
 - ii. Roselle: <http://www.roselleparkdistrict.com>
- Glendale Heights: 630-260-6000 ext 4131
- Bartlett Website: <http://www.bartlettparks.org/>
- Schaumburg Website: <http://parkfun.com/parks/baseball-softball-field-conditions>
- Glen Ellyn Website: <https://gepark.org/rainout-line/>

F: Game Preparation & Managers' Responsibility

1. The home team manager and coaches are to lay out the bases and pitching mound before each game.
2. The home team will get the playing field for practice first. The visiting team will be given the field for warm up at least 15 minutes prior to the scheduled game time. In the event the field is late in being set up, the home team warm up time is penalized accordingly.
3. The home team will occupy the third base dugout and the visiting team will occupy the first base dugout.
4. The home team will supply 2 new, yellow ASA approved game balls prior to the start of the game. The home team keeps the balls after the game. For the 8u level, the home team is responsible for providing a hitting tee.
5. No one is allowed directly behind the backstop. It is the responsibility of both managers to help the umpire enforce this rule.
6. The coach may only visit the mound once per inning per pitcher. If the coach goes to the mound a second time in the same inning for the same pitcher, the pitcher must be removed from pitching.
7. Managers are responsible for the conduct of their players, parents and fans. Cheering by players should be directed to their teammates and not the other team. No one is allowed to cheer or talk during a live pitch.
8. Each team is to police the entire field and place any trash in the receptacles provided. **PLEASE CLEAN YOUR DUGOUT AFTER YOUR GAME.**

G: Helmets and Face Masks

1. All hitters and runners must wear an approved ASA helmet at all times while on the field. The only time the helmet may be removed is in the dugout. If a player is called "out", they must leave the helmet on until they are back in the dugout. If the helmet is removed prior to time being called and the ball is still live, both teams will be given a warning. The next infraction will result in the player being called out and the player being ejected from the game.
2. Pitchers at all levels are required to wear face masks that will be provided by your town. Face masks are strongly encouraged for all infielders, but not required.

H: Line ups, Forfeits, Lightning, Suspended Games, Rain Outs, &Protests

1. Prior to the start of each game the respective managers will submit to each other the game roster that will include batting order. It is strongly recommended that the game grid be utilized to display player positions for the entire game. Players must play the required infield and

outfield positions by the end of the specific inning in the rules (3rd for 8U, 4th for 10/12U). Any changes should be given to the opposing manager.

2. Rain outs re-scheduling will be the responsibility of the impacted managers. Once a date is agreed upon, they will contact the home team's commissioner to arrange for a field and umpire for the game. Once the game is confirmed, it will be added to the schedules. Home team manager will inform Anthony Kenney know the rescheduled game date and time in order to post on Quick Scores.
3. **Umpire No Show**
 - a. 8U-10U: The game will be played with coaches acting as the umpire.
 - b. 12U-14U: Not an official game. Game can be played as a scrimmage with coaches acting as the umpire, and rescheduled for a later date.
4. A minimum of eight players is necessary to start a game. Any team with less than eight players fifteen minutes after the scheduled start time will forfeit that game. If both teams choose to stay and play with less than the required amount the umpire must stay and call the game.
5. Once a game begins, in all cases, the umpire's judgment regarding darkness, rain, etc., is final.
6. Cancellation or rescheduling of any league game will only be allowed under special circumstances and will require the approval of the home team league commissioner.
7. If anyone (manager, coach, spectator or umpire) sees lightning, the game will be suspended for 30 minutes with all participants seeking shelter/safety, off the field. In order for the game to continue, umpires will wait for a minimum of 30 minutes to pass before the last sighting of lightning has occurred. If the umpire sites lightning again after play has resumed, he/she will stop play permanently for that day. If a field or park uses an automatic lightning detector, play will not resume until the 'all-clear' indicator has been signaled. All normal rules apply to suspensions, ties, and legal game decisions.
8. No protests. Umpires decisions are final.
9. Defensive time outs will not exceed three per game per team. Each defensive timeout past three will result in replacing the pitcher. Whenever a timeout is called and the pitcher is removed then that will not be considered one of the allotted three timeouts. Offensive time outs are limited to one per inning per team.

Manager's Note: You are responsible for the behavior of your Team, their respective Parents, and fans before, during and after games. The use of alcohol and smoking before, during or after a game on Park District property is strictly prohibited. Violation of this rule will be cause for immediate expulsion from the MRF and its associated events. Please respect and become aware of all towns rules and policies on this matter.

If an issue arises in your game, the manager will contact their league representative who will, if deemed necessary, bring the matter to the MRF board. Managers will NOT contact an MRF board member outside of reporting scores. If there are any questions, YOU MUST CONTACT YOUR LEAGUE REP FIRST.

All managers will be required to sign a read receipt of these rules that will be kept on record with their respected league representative.

I: Pitching

1. For all divisions, one pitch in any inning will be counted as a full inning pitched regarding individual game allowances.
2. Multiple innings pitched in a game by a player does not have to be in consecutive order. A pitcher may pitch the first and last inning of a game, but cannot return in the same inning. Refer to the Specific Rules Matrix for each division for additional information.
3. In order to move the game along, warm up pitches between innings shall be limited to 5 pitches per inning. Infield warm-up will coincide with the pitcher. Also, if the catcher for the next inning reaches base she must be replaced by a pinch runner with 2 outs. The pinch runner will be the player who made the last out in the inning.

Note: The umpire will enforce the proper pitching motion. The higher the level the more strict the umpire will be. Walking toward the plate to deliver the pitch will not be allowed. Remember, our goal is to show proper technique for all levels.

Pitching Rules:

1. A crow hop is defined as the act of a pitcher who steps, hops, or drags off the front of the pitcher's plate, replants the pivot foot, establishing a second impetus (or starting point), pushes off from the newly-established starting point and completes the delivery.
2. Pushing off with the pivot foot from a place other than the pitcher's plate is illegal.
3. The pitcher must not use a pitching motion in which, after bringing the hands together, the pitcher removes one hand from the ball, and returns the ball to both hands.
4. The pitcher must not make 2 rotations of the arm on the windmill pitch.
5. A pitcher cannot wear items distracting to the batter on the pitching hand, wrist, forearm, thighs elbows or head.
6. If a pitcher hits two batters in one inning, she must be removed from pitching. If the same pitcher hits three batters in a game, she must be removed from the pitching position for the remainder of the game.
7. All rules are subject to umpire interpretation.

Hitting Rules:

1. The batter must make an effort to get out of the way of a pitch. A batter hit by a pitch that hits the ground first is awarded first base as long as, in the umpire's judgment, the batter made an appropriate effort to get out of the way. After the pitch hits the batter, it's a dead ball.
2. A batter hit by a pitch in 8U will not be awarded first base.
3. Bunting is not allowed at the 8U level, but is allowed at the 10U, 12U and 14U levels.
4. A batter who swings at a pitch and is hit by the ball in the hands on the swing is not considered a hit by pitch. If the ball is in fair territory, it must be played as a fair ball. If the ball is in foul territory, it is considered a foul ball.
5. A batter who swings and misses at a pitch and is then hit by the ball after the swing is given a strike and not a "hit by pitch" call.

J: Player Movements

1. Players may be moved up one level to play in another division when there is a shortage of players for games. The player that was called up can never play in the field more innings than any regular team member.

2. The called up player must hit in the last position of the consecutive batting order.
3. Call ups may not be used as a pitcher.
4. Be sure the parents and the player(s) understand these rules.

K: Sportsmanship

NOTE: A coach, player, substitute, attendant or other bench personnel shall not use words or act to incite or try to incite spectators to demonstrations, or use profanity or remarks which reflect upon the opposing player, umpire, or spectator. After an initial warning the umpire will eject anyone as appropriate in order to maintain control of the game and help insure the safety of its participants. It is the organization's intention to deal with disciplinary measures based upon the severity of each occurrence. It is therefore our policy to follow prescribed guidelines that may appear within this document or elsewhere; however, the MRF will take whatever disciplinary action is necessary for any given circumstance, including further suspensions or expulsion. **COACHES ARE NOT ALLOWED TO USE PROFANITY AT ANY TIME.**

1. Poor Sportsmanship (excessive arguing, profanity, equipment throwing, etc.) by any participant (manager, coach, player, parents) is strictly forbidden. The umpire will warn both teams after the first offense. The second and subsequent occurrences will result in a game ejection. Any incidents of poor sportsmanship, fighting, and/or violence are subject to disciplinary action of the MRF.
2. The home team manager must contact their commissioner to let them know if he/she or any parent has been ejected from a game within 24 hours.
3. An initial incident of bat throwing will result in the umpire issuing both teams a warning. The second and any further incidents will result in an automatic out and possible game ejection.
4. Any player, parent ejected from a game for any reason is automatically suspended for the next game that is played by the team.
5. Any coach or manager ejected from a game for any reason is automatically suspended from participating as a manager, coach or spectator for the next two (2) games. The ejected player, parent, manager, or coach must leave the field of play immediately. Failure to comply with this rule will result in a forfeit by the offending team and possible additional disciplinary action by the MRF.
6. Commissioners will be notified and review all incidents.
7. An ejection (same coach or same player) from a game for the second time in a season will result in that individual being suspended for a minimum of the next four games that is played by the team and he/she will be required to meet with the respective Commissioner and subject to disciplinary action by the Commissioner or MRF. Failure to meet with the Commissioners may result in expulsion from the League.
8. An ejection from a game for the third time will result in expulsion from the League for the remainder of the current season.

L: Uniforms

1. The respective approved park district or association uniform is required to be worn in order to participate in all regular and post-season games.

M: Sliding

1. Safety is the number one concern
2. As a rule of thumb the base runner should avoid contact with a player. Sliding is not mandatory, avoiding player contact is. Slide when the play is going to be close.

3. Managers/Coaches should spend time teaching sliding and encourage it on all any possible close plays.
4. The penalty of running over a fielder will be ejection.
5. Covering this rule with the umpires before every game as part of the ground rules is strongly encouraged in order to eliminate confusion.

O: Division Rules

8U

1. **Pitching:** Pitchers will be allowed to pitch one (1) inning per game.
2. Coaches will pitch the entire inning for inning 1, 3, and 5 – a player must still stand near the mound while the coach is pitching so that she can field a ball once it is hit.
3. Innings 2, 4, and 6 each batter in each inning will receive 2 pitches from an opposing team pitcher and the coach will pitch 3 pitches. If the ball is not put into play after 5 pitches, the batter will hit the ball off the tee until the ball is put into play. A 15 foot arc should be drawn in front of home plate. Any ball hit off the tee that does not pass the arc is considered a foul ball and re-placed on the tee until put into play.
4. **Defensive Playing Time:** Each player must play an infield/pitching/catcher and outfield position by the end of the third inning.
5. If it is noticed that a player has not been rotated within these rules as stated, they will have until the start of the inning, or anytime during that inning, to notify the other team manager of the infraction to correct it. If the error is discovered after the inning was completed, no action will be taken and the inning will stand as official, however the team manager should be notified and players must be rotated properly for the following inning. If the error in rotation is discovered after the game is completed, results will stand and there will be no forfeit. If a manager refuses to follow the rotation rules as stated, the game must be stopped and the league commissioner should be contacted by phone immediately.
6. **Run Limit:** The maximum runs a team can score in any innings is four (4) runs.
 - a. **EXCEPTION:** In the 6th inning, or last called inning, in the regular season or post season will be eight (8) runs.
7. **Ball:** An 11" safety (softy) ball will be used at this level.
8. **Stealing:** No stealing. Runners must stay in contact with the base until the ball is hit.
9. **Intentional Walk:** Intentional walking is not allowed. Any perceived attempt to intentionally walk a batter will result in ejection of the manager. The count will revert back to a 0-0 count.
10. **Standings:** Standings will not be maintained for the regular season.
11. **Post Season Tournament:** A bracket will be drawn at random and wins and losses will be maintained for the tournament.
12. Managers and/or coaches are allowed to be on the field with the players during the entire season. Coaches on the field should consist of a pitcher and one to stand near the batting for the team at bat, in addition to base coaches. For the defensive team, one roving infield and one roving outfield coach are allowed.
13. 10 players are allowed on the field (P, C, 1B, 2B, 3B, SS, and 4 outfield). The 4 outfield players should be fanned evenly throughout the field and stand 20 ft. from the baseline or lip of the infield.
14. An outfielder may not cover any base, and cannot force out a runner at any base. Infielders can only cover a base.
15. The play ends and runners may not advance any bases when the ball reaches the infield, inside the base line during a defensive play. Until the ball reaches the inside of the base line, the player can advance to other bases. Any ball thrown past an infielder is a dead ball and no runner may

advance. Runners that aren't more than half way to the next base will be returned to the preceding base.

16. If the Coach does pitch he/she must have one foot in contact with the pitching rubber when throwing a pitch. The coach pitcher will pitch with a windmill style rotation. The pitcher will still be a defensive position and a player should be assigned to the pitcher position every inning.
17. The player/pitcher should stand next to the coach pitcher ready to field the ball when hit. Coaches, please be sure the player/pitcher is ready prior to the delivery of the pitch. If the coach pitcher is hit by a batted ball, the play will be ruled a dead ball and the batter returns to the at bat.

10U

1. **Pitching:** Players will only be allowed to pitch two (2) innings per game. Each player must be given an opportunity to pitch during the regular season. As a coach, it's your responsibility to try and develop as many pitchers at this division.
 - a. **If a pitcher WALKS a batter, the offensive teams coach will finish out his players at bat with 3 additional pitches resulting in a ball in play or a strikeout. THE COUNT IS NOT INHERITED by the coach. A foul ball on the 3rd pitch and any subsequent pitch will result in an additional pitch until the ball is put in play or missed. The pitcher will then pitch to the next and subsequent batters.**
2. Play stops when the pitcher has control of the ball in the mound area, a 10-foot circle centered by the pitching rubber. Runners that aren't more than half way to the next base will be returned to the preceding base. The umpires judgment and decision is final.
3. **Defensive Playing Time:** Each player must play an infield/pitching/catcher and outfield position by the end of the fourth inning.
4. **If it is noticed that a player has not been rotated within these rules as stated, they will have until the start of the inning, or anytime during that inning, to notify the other team manager of the infraction to correct it. If the error is discovered after the inning was completed, no action will be taken and the inning will stand as official, however the team manager should be notified and players must be rotated properly for the following inning. If the error in rotation is discovered after the game is completed, results will stand and there will be no forfeit. If a manager refuses to follow the rotation rules as stated, the game must be stopped and the league commissioner should be contacted by phone immediately.**
5. **Run Limit:** The maximum runs a team can score in any innings is four (4) runs.
 - a. **EXCEPTION:** In the 6th inning, or last called inning, in the regular season or post season will be eight (8) runs.
6. **Stealing:** Base runners must stay in contact with the base at all times until the ball is hit or passes home plate. Base stealing is allowed only after the ball passes home plate. Players detected leaving early will be sent back to their original base. For the entire season runners may attempt to steal 2nd or 3rd base, but may only steal one base per batter. ON AN OVERTHROW ON AN ATTEMPTED STEAL, THE RUNNER CAN NOT ADVANCE TO THE NEXT BASE. No stealing of home will be allowed at any time.
7. **Intentional Walk:** Intentional walking is not allowed. Any perceived attempt to intentionally walk a batter will result in ejection of the manager. The count will revert back to a 0-0 count.
8. **Bunting:** Bunting is allowed. **SLASHING IS NOT ALLOWED. *Slashing* is defined as a batter showing bunt, then pulling the bat back and taking a swing. *Fake Bunting* is showing bunt, then pulling the bat back but NOT taking a swing at the pitch. ANY PLAYER THAT ATTEMPTS TO SLASH WILL BE EJECTED FROM THE GAME, AS WILL THE MANAGER OF THE OFFENDING TEAM.**
9. **Overthrow:** On an overthrow to a base, runners may only advance ONE base, EXCEPTION NO ADVANCEMENT ON AN ATTEMPTED STEAL.

12U

1. **Pitching:** Players will be allowed to pitch a maximum of three (3) innings per game.
2. **Defensive Playing Time:** Each player must play an infield/pitching/catcher and outfield position by the end of the fourth inning.
 - a. **EXCEPTION:** Starting pitcher/catcher if pitches/catches maximum innings must sit in the 4th inning and play the outfield in the 5th inning.
3. If it is noticed that a player has not been rotated within these rules as stated, they will have until the start of the inning, or anytime during that inning, to notify the other team manager of the infraction to correct it. If the error is discovered after the inning was completed, no action will be taken and the inning will stand as official, however the team manager should be notified and players must be rotated properly for the following inning. If the error in rotation is discovered after the game is completed, results will stand and there will be no forfeit. If a manager refuses to follow the rotation rules as stated, the game must be stopped and the league commissioner should be contacted by phone immediately.
4. **Run Limit :** The maximum runs a team can score in any innings is five (5) runs.
 - a. **EXCEPTION:** In the 6th inning, or last called inning, in the regular season or post season will be eight (8) runs.
5. **Stealing:** Baserunners are allowed to steal after the ball has crossed the plate. Stealing home and direct steal to second base after a walk is allowed. When a girl gets walked, she can steal 2nd only if she rounds first and continues to the next base. If she is played on, she can stop her movement. But if she is not played on, she cannot stop any movement as she is rounding first and continuing onto the next base. If this occurs, the runner is called out.
6. **Delayed Stealing:** Delayed stealing is allowed, but if the pitcher is within the 10 foot circle and facing the baserunner (or at umpire discretion), the baserunner must either advance to the next base or return to the original base without delay. Any runner not moving on the 'look back' will be called out by the umpire.
7. **Intentional Walk:** Intentional walking is not allowed. Any perceived attempt to intentionally walk a batter will result in ejection of the manager. The count will revert back to a 0-0 count.
8. **Bunting:** Bunting is allowed. **SLASHING IS NOT ALLOWED.** *Slashing* is defined as a batter showing bunt, then pulling the bat back and taking a swing. *Fake Bunting* is showing bunt, then pulling the bat back but NOT taking a swing at the pitch. **ANY PLAYER THAT ATTEMPTS TO SLASH WILL BE EJECTED FROM THE GAME, AS WILL THE MANAGER OF THE OFFENDING TEAM.**
9. **Drop Third Strike:** This rule applies when first base is open, or if there are two outs. If the batter strikes out (swinging or looking) and the catcher does not catch the pitch before it hits the ground, the batter can run to first base. If the batter fails to run, she can be called out when she enters the dugout.
10. **Infield Fly:** The infield fly rule applies whenever there are runners on first and second (or all three bases) with less than two out and the batter hits a fly ball into fair territory which can be caught by an infielder with ordinary effort. The umpire must invoke the rule, it is a judgment call.
11. **Overthrow:** Runners can advance when the ball is overthrown (including home plate). If the ball is overthrown (beyond the boundary lines) all runners will be awarded two bases and the award will be governed by the position of the runners when the ball left the fielders hand.

14U

1. **Pitching:** Players will be allowed to pitch a maximum of 4innings per game.

2. **Defensive Playing Time:** Each player must play at least, but not limited, two different defensive positions during a game - one infield and one outfield position BY THE 4TH INNING.
3. If it is noticed that a player has not been rotated within these rules as stated, they will have until the start of the inning, or anytime during that inning, to notify the other team manager of the infraction to correct it. If the error is discovered after the inning was completed, no action will be taken and the inning will stand as official, however the team manager should be notified and players must be rotated properly for the following inning. If the error in rotation is discovered after the game is completed, results will stand and there will be no forfeit. If a manager refuses to follow the rotation rules as stated, the game must be stopped and the league commissioner should be contacted by phone immediately.
4. **Run Limit:** The maximum runs a team can score in any innings is five (5) runs.
 - a. **EXCEPTION:** In the 7th inning, or last called inning, in the regular season or post season will be eight (8) runs.
5. **Stealing:** Baserunners are allowed to steal on the release of the pitch. Stealing home and direct steal to second base after a walk is allowed. When a girl gets walked, she can steal 2nd only if she rounds first and continues to the next base. If she is played on, she can stop her movement. But if she is not played on, she cannot stop any movement as she is rounding first and continuing onto the next base. If this occurs, the runner is called out.
6. **Delayed Stealing:** Delayed stealing is allowed, but if the pitcher is within the 10 foot circle and facing the baserunner (or at umpire discretion), the baserunner must either advance to the next base or return to the original base without delay. Any runner not moving on the 'look back' will be called out by the umpire.
7. **Intentional Walk:** Intentional walking is allowed.
8. **Bunting:** Bunting and slashing is allowed. **Slashing** is defined as a batter showing bunt, then pulling the bat back and taking a swing.
9. **Drop Third Strike:** This rule applies when first base is open, or if there are two outs. If the batter strikes out (swinging or looking) and the catcher does not catch the pitch before it hits the ground, the batter can run to first base. If the batter fails to run, she can be called out when she enters the dugout.
10. **Infield Fly:** The infield fly rule applies whenever there are runners on first and second (or all three bases) with less than two out and the batter hits a fly ball into fair territory which can be caught by an infielder with ordinary effort. The umpire must invoke the rule, it is a judgment call.
11. **Overthrow:** Runners can advance when the ball is overthrown (including home plate).

ATTACHMENT 1

“Equal Playing-Time” Chart for all Girls Divisions [regulation 6 or 7 inning game]

| # Of Players (At Game Time) | Minimum # of Innings / Maximum # of Innings |
|--|--|
| 8U/10U/12U | 6 Inning Regulation Game |
| 9 | All players on the field for the entire game |
| 10 | 4 players on the field for 6 innings 6 players on the field for 5 innings |
| 11 | 10 players on the field for 5 innings 1 player on the field for 4 innings |
| 12 | 6 players on the field for 5 innings 6 players on the field for 4 innings |
| 13 | 2 players on the field for 5 innings 11 players on the field for 4 innings |
| 14U | 7 Inning Regulation Game |
| 9 | All players on the field for entire game |
| 10 | 3 players on the field for the entire game 7 players on the field for 6 innings |
| 11 | 8 players on the field for 6 innings 3 players on the field for 5 innings |
| 12 | 3 players on the field for 6 innings 9 players on the field for 5 innings |
| 13 | 10 players on the field for 5 innings 3 players on the field for 4 innings |

ATTACHMENT 2
Divisional “Snap Shot” Rules Matrix

| Category | 8U | 10U | 12U | 14U |
|--------------------------|---------|---------|---------|--------------------|
| Bases | 55 Feet | 60 Feet | 60 Feet | 60 Feet |
| Stealing | No | Yes* | Yes | Yes |
| • Delayed | No | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| • Direct | No | No | Yes | Yes |
| • Stealing Home | No | No | Yes | Yes |
| • Leadoffs | No | No | No | No |
| Pitching | | | | |
| • Innings/Game | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Defensive Innings | | | | |
| • Max Infield time | 3 | 4 | 4 | Manager Discretion |
| Illegal pitch | No | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| • Mound Distance | 30 Feet | 35 Feet | 40 Feet | 43 Feet |
| Dropped Third | No | No | Yes | Yes |
| Infield Fly Rule | No | No | Yes | Yes |
| Bunting | No | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Mercy Rule | No | No | Yes | Yes |
| • Runs/Inn | N/A | N/A | 15/5 | 15/5 |
| Innings per Game | 6 | 6 | 6 | 7 |
| Regulation Game | 4 | 4 | 4 | 5 |
| Runs Per Inning | 4 | 4 | 5 | 5 |

See individual divisional rules (Section O) for more details and/or exceptions.

ATTACHMENT 3

BATTING ORDER & POSITIONS

Batting Order

Positions played during innings

| Player Name and Number | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|-----------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
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|---|
| <p style="text-align: center;">PLEASE REFERENCE YOUR SCOREBOOK FOR THE PROPER WAY TO MEASURE FOR BASES AND PITCHING RUBBER</p> |
|---|

GENERAL MRF COVID GUIDELINES

August 18, 2020

1) **Who needs to be informed if a player/manager/coach gets tested “positive” for COVID?**

In the case of a player/coach/manager testing positive for COVID during our fall ball season, it is incumbent upon the players manager to communicate this information to the rest of their team and their home town commissioner.

The home town commissioner is then responsible to send an “awareness” email to the rest of the MRF commissioners advising of the situation.

Lastly, to ensure that all teams are notified, we are asking that each MRF commissioner communicate this information to their teams. The MRF feels it is important to be transparent regarding those participating in our fall league who have contracted COVID during games or practices. We also want to be as careful and respectful as much as we can without jeopardizing anyones personal information. **So please, do not disclose to the MRF, the name(s) of the person who tested positive for COVID. We do not want to violate any HIPPA laws.**

2) **Where do umpires stand?** Carol Streams rule is that all umpires are to be positioned behind the pitcher – not behind the plate during games on their own turf. The opposing team will also have to follow this rule when they are on the field when playing at Carol Stream. In every other town, umpires can stand behind the plate. NOTE: we are not requiring umpires to wear “COVID” masks when on the field – only when they are off the field.

3) **Where do catchers stand?** Carol Stream is the only town that has a specific **8u** “catchers” rule: None of their 8U teams are allowed to utilize a catcher directly behind the plate. If other teams decide to also follow Carol Streams rule, we require that any player who is standing off to the side of the plate, to wear a helmet.

4) **Game balls.** Each team is to supply their own game balls (2 of them per game). Each ball should be labeled with the towns name or initials. When you are playing defense (out in the field), you use your own ball. When you are up to bat, if a foul ball is hit too far to retrieve, you are to use your second ball.

5) **Can coaches stand at the 1st and 3rd base line?** Yes, as long as you are keeping a 6-foot distance from the base and player at all times.

**FOLLOWING THIS PAGE ARE ADDITIONAL RULES
BROKEN OUT BY TOWN.**

**EACH TOWN HAS SIMILAR, YET DIFFERENT RULES
WHICH MUST BE RESPECTED.**

ROSELLE/MEDINAH

COVID-19 SAFETY GUIDELINES DURING 2020 FALL BALL

Illinois Phase 4 Guidelines currently allow for groups of 50 people or less, comprised of players, coaches and umpires. Spectators are not included in this group. In addition to the guidelines stated below by the RMSBO, all teams are expected to follow the Phase 4 Guidelines as set forth by the State of Illinois. Teams are expected to adhere to all guidelines at all Roselle, Medinah or opposing team park districts and facilities.

GENERAL RULES

- Use of dugouts for teams on a whole, or in part, is prohibited. Only players preparing to bat or returning from base running may enter the dugout. Managers should ensure that players do not congregate in the dugout.
- Players not on the field should be situated behind the dugout with 6 feet of distance between each other. Parents are prohibited from entering the player area at all times.
- All bags and gear must be placed at a safe distance apart. No gear should be touching at any time.
- Players must use their own equipment at all times. When equipment must be shared, it should be sanitized in between each use. There is to be absolutely no sharing of batting or catcher's helmets.
- A team manager, coach or parent must be designated to sanitize equipment when equipment sharing cannot be avoided. Sanitization should take place between every use.
- Water bottles must remain in bags and should be clearly labeled with the player's names.
- Food of any kind is prohibited. In cases where food is medically necessary, it should be stored safely in the player's bag and consumed away from the field and all people or equipment.
- No post game treats or snacks to be shared among the teams.
- Each team is required to have hand sanitizer on-hand at all times. Players should be encouraged to use it after any and all interaction both on and off the field.
- If a player is feeling unwell or displaying any symptoms, or a fever, they are prohibited from attending any games as a player or spectator. Players must be fever and symptom free for 72 hours before returning. Parents are expected to check temperatures of their child(ren) prior to arrival at each game.
- Managers and coaches are required to have masks on hand at all times and must be worn in the event that 6 feet of social distance cannot be maintained with any players, officials, coaches or parents.
- Managers and coaches are prohibited from congregating in the dugout.
- Dugouts are to only be accessed for players preparing to bat or exiting the field of play.

ROSELLE/MEDINAH COVID-19 SAFETY GUIDELINES DURING 2020 FALL BALL (Continued)

- If back to back games are to be played at the same field, arriving teams must not approach the field of play until current occupying teams have fully vacated. Teams should be held to a pre-designated and marked staging area.
- No team meetings on the mound or in the infield are permitted at any time.
- Pre and postgame handshakes are strictly prohibited.

SPECTATORS

Spectators are allowed to attend RMSBO games, however they are expected to adhere to the following guidelines. Team managers are responsible for distributing these guidelines to team parents to be read, understand and pass on to any family or friends who may attend a game.

- No spectators are allowed in the infield area or bleachers and may not congregate behind the players on the sidelines.
- Spectators may be seated along the outfield lines or beyond the outfield fencing.
- Spectators should be encouraged to sit only with their immediate family members, maintaining 6 feet of distance between groups.
- All spectators are expected to have masks on hand and worn when 6 feet of social distance cannot be maintained. This includes while walking to and from the venue, entering and leaving any bathroom facilities or approaching any players, managers, coaches or umpires.
- The RMSBO, Roselle Park District, Medinah Park District and game officials reserve the right to ask any and all spectators to leave the immediate premises if the above guidelines are not followed.

CONTACT TRACING

The aforementioned rules laid out lend themselves to ensure limited contact between players, coaches and families and thus limiting the amount of potential virus exposure. In the event that a manager or player was to contract COVID-19, we must have proper precautions in place to perform contact tracing. As such, the RMSBO is enforcing the following protocol.

- One coach is required to take written attendance at every game and should include all coaches, players and umpires.
- Every manager should retain a copy of each attendance form and submit an additional electronic copy to their Commissioner after every game.
- Should a player or coach test positive or is suspected of having COVID-19, the RMSBO Travel Commissioner must be notified immediately. Teams may be suspended for a 14-day quarantine period.

ROSELLE/MEDINAH COVID-19 SAFETY GUIDELINES DURING 2020 FALL BALL (Continued)

RMSBO will make all efforts to contact any team and person(s) who may have come in contact with the infected individual.

The RMSBO Board will be strictly adhering to all of the above rules and reserves the right to modify, add or omit any at any time. It is the expectation of the RMSBO that all of our teams, and their families, will respect the rules and guidelines in place and serve as model participants. Persons or teams that do not strictly abide by the rules may face Board review, including suspension of team practices and games for the remainder of 2020.

CAROL STREAM

COVID-19 SAFETY GUIDELINES DURING 2020 FALL BALL

Youth Baseball/Softball – Guidelines

All Athletic Groups must abide by the Phase 4 Youth Sports Guidelines set forth by the State of Illinois. The Phase 4 Guidelines can be found here: <https://dceocovid19resources.com/assets/Restore-Illinois/businessguidelines4/youthsports.pdf>.

Equipment

Minimize sharing of high-touch equipment. If equipment should be shared, coaches should sanitize equipment before and after use. Players should have their own glove, bat, and helmet.

Attendance

Group sizes limited to 50, including participants, coaches and referees per field. No spectators will be allowed to enter the hub except for concessions or bathrooms, face coverings must be worn (especially inside the hub). Player benches will be extended to allow for social distancing. Bleachers will not be available for use. Spectators will be limited to 2 adults per participant. Spectators should bring their own seating and must sit along the foul lines and outside the homerun fence, and must maintain a social distancing of at least 6 feet. Spectators cannot enter the complex until the previous group of spectators has cleared.

Athlete Behaviors

Coaches/Instructors should maintain attendance log of participants. Players and coaches are encouraged to bring their own hand sanitizer. Participants should wash hands with soap and water or use hand sanitizer before participating. No handshakes at the beginning or end of the game. There are limited warm up areas inside the complex, and 30 feet of social distance must be maintained between groups at all times. Upon completion of the game the team must immediately leave the field and proceed to your vehicles. Players cannot enter the dugouts until the previous team has cleared.

Concessions

Concessions will be sold at McCaslin only, face coverings required. All water fountains are turned off. All shelled products including sunflower seeds and peanuts will not be allowed on premise.

Face Coverings

Spectators should wear face coverings over your nose and mouth at all times except when eating, drinking, or when outside and able to maintain a safe social distance. If spectators or players enter the hub for bathroom or concession use face coverings must be worn. Coaches will be required to wear face coverings if not able to maintain a social distance of 6 feet.

Virus Precautions

Before participating in the sport, coaches/instructors should ask whether participant is currently exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms. If a participant does have symptoms, they should wait to enter premises until they have had no fever for at least 72 hours, other symptoms have improved, and at least 10 days have passed since their symptoms first appeared, and after afebrile and feeling well (without fever-reducing medication) for at least 72 hours or has 2 negative COVID-19 tests in a row, with testing done at least 24 hours apart.

Thank you,

Carol Stream Park District Staff

CAROL STREAM COVID-19 SAFETY GUIDELINES DURING 2020 FALL BALL (Continued)

Youth Baseball/Softball – FAQ's

Will face coverings be required?

Yes, the only exception is when the players are participating on the field.

Will I be able to attend my child's practice/game?

Yes, however will be limited to 2 adult per participant. Bleachers will not be available for use. Spectators should bring their own seating and must sit along the foul lines and outside the homerun fence, and must maintain social distancing of at least 6 feet. Spectators cannot enter the complex until the previous group of spectators has cleared. Face coverings will be required when entering the hub at McCaslin and Armstrong for bathrooms and concessions.

Where will the umpires setup?

The home plate umpire will setup behind the pitcher to allow for social distancing from the batter and catcher. There will be a zero tolerance for any arguments by coaches, players, or spectators on all judgement calls especially balls and strikes. Umpires will be required to wear face coverings.

What do I do about equipment?

Each player must bring their own equipment including glove, bat, and helmet. All equipment bags will be placed at predetermined markers along the fence line. These markers will be spaced at a distance to ensure of social distancing.

What about catcher's equipment?

All teams will be provided with 2 sets of catcher's equipment, and no more than 2 kids per game will be allowed to catch. After the game is completed the coach will collect the catcher's equipment and sanitize before the next game. There will be no catchers at the 8U level as the coach will act as the catcher.

What about baseball/softballs?

Coaches will be required to sanitize practice and game balls frequently. Game balls should be sanitized every half inning, and practice balls at least halfway through practice.

Will there be concessions?

Concessions will be sold at McCaslin only, face coverings required. There will be no use of water fountains as they are all turned off. Please refrain from eating any shelled products including sunflower seeds and peanuts. Players must bring their own water bottle with their name clearly labeled. No post game treats or snacks should be shared among the teams.

What about post game?

No handshakes or high fives after completion of the game. Once game/practice is completed please exit the facility, and return to your vehicle.

What do I do if my child feels ill?

Before allowing participation in sporting activities, coaches should ask whether participant is currently exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms. If participant does have symptoms, they should wait to enter premises or participate in any sporting activity for a minimum of 10 days after symptom onset or until feverless and feeling well (without fever-reducing medication) for at least 24 hours or confirmed to not have COVID-19 via 2 negative COVID-19 tests in a row, with testing done at least 24 hours apart.

Thank you,

Carol Stream Park District Staff

BARTLETT

COVID-19 SAFETY GUIDELINES DURING 2020 FALL BALL

Restore Illinois Phase 4 House Softball Guidelines **July 23, 2020**

2020 is different than any of us had expected. We are excited to be in Phase 4 of the Restore Illinois Plan. The safety of our staff, patrons, and participants is of the utmost importance and it's vital that we follow the state guidelines as well as recommendations put forth by health officials. Please note as guidelines change we will make changes and communicate them with you.

In Phase 4, youth sports activities are limited to:

- Drills, practices, lessons, and competitive gameplay.
- Non-competitive activities (e.g., practices, drills, lessons) should be set up to allow for 6-ft. of distancing between participants whenever possible
- Group sizes should be limited to 50 total participants, coaches, and referees (i.e. excludes spectators)

Best Practice Guidelines:

General

- Practice social distancing (at least 6 feet) whenever possible
- Stay home if you are sick or do not feel well. (See health monitoring section below)
- Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching hand/nose/mouth.
- Cover coughs and sneeze with a tissue or direct into your elbow.
- Teams/groups/volunteers should be static, with no mixing of volunteers or players between groups for the duration of the season.
- Teams/groups do not add new participants once the season has started.
- Players should bring their own water bottle with names written on their bottles so they don't get mixed up.
- Players should avoid touching facility accessories (e.g., fences, goal posts, flags, etc.)
- Please clean and police the field area removing all refuse, litter, etc. that has accumulated as a result of your use.

BARTLETT COVID-19 SAFETY GUIDELINES DURING 2020 FALL BALL

(Continued)

Face Masks

Face masks are required where 6 foot social distancing is not possible (exceptions can be made for people with medical conditions or disabilities that prevent them from safely wearing a face mask). If you qualify for an exception please contact Eric Eichholz, so we are aware of your unique situation. The exception is being outdoors and/or maintaining a social distance of 6 feet.

Social Distancing

The Bartlett Park District is committed to our participant's well-being and providing a safe environment. Social distancing practices will be implemented during programs to minimize and avoid contact. We will manage the situation, but unfortunately we cannot guarantee a 100% socially distanced environment.

Drop-off/Pick-up for Practices

Parents dropping-off or picking-up players should wait at designated area away from the practice and arrive during designated time. Spectators are not permitted unless required for parental supervision.

Health Monitoring

Coaches or players should stay at home if they are sick or do not feel well. If a coach or player can respond "Yes" to any of the questions below or shows symptoms they should stay home.

- Have you felt feverish?
- Do you have a cough?
- Do you have a sore throat?
- Have you been experiencing difficulty breathing or a shortness of breath?
- Do you have muscle aches?
- Have you had a new or unusual headache (e.g., not related to caffeine, diet, or hunger, not related to a history of migraines, clusters, or tension, not typical to the individual)?
- Have you noticed a new loss of taste or loss of smell?
- Have you been experiencing chills or rigors?
- Do you have any gastrointestinal concerns (e.g., abdominal, pain, vomiting, diarrhea)?
- Is anyone in your household displaying any symptoms of COVID-19
- To the best of your knowledge, have you or anyone in your household come into close contact with anyone who has tested positive for COVID-19?

If a coach/player does have symptoms, they should wait to resume practices until they have had no fever for at least 72 hours, other symptoms have improved, and at least 10 days have passed since their symptoms first appeared and are feeling well (without fever-reducing medication) for at least 72 hours or has 2 negative COVID-19 tests in a row, with testing done at least 24 hours apart.

BARTLETT COVID-19 SAFETY GUIDELINES DURING 2020 FALL BALL (Continued)

If coach/player does contract COVID-19, we will contact the proper authorities and follow the appropriate protocol.

If a player or coach becomes ill at practice they will be immediately be isolated from the group.

Supplies and Equipment

Supplies, equipment and sharing will be limited.

- Minimize sharing of high-touch equipment.
- If equipment is shared, coaches should sanitize equipment before and after use.
- Encourage frequent hand sanitizing or hand washing if equipment is shared.
- Players should use their own equipment (e.g., helmet, bat, gloves) as much as practical.
- Players should place personal belongings at least 6 feet away from others' personal belongings.
- Players are allowed to wear PPE items if they choose, as long as the items do not compromise the safety of any players.

Practices

- All practices must be scheduled with the park district.
- Activities (e.g. practices, drills, lessons) should be set up to allow for 6 feet of distancing between players whenever possible.
- Group sizes should be limited to 50 total participants, coaches, and referees (i.e. excludes spectators).
- Everyone should wash hands with soap and water or use hand sanitizer before participating.
- Display visual markers 6 feet apart at any queue points (e.g. check-in, along sidelines).
- Multiple groups permitted at once as long as:
 - 30 feet of distancing is maintained between groups
 - Areas for each group are clearly marked to discourage interaction between groups.

Games

- Group sizes should be limited to 50 total participants, coaches, and referees (i.e. excludes spectators).
- Everyone should wash hands with soap and water or use hand sanitizer before participating.
- Display visual markers 6 feet apart at any queue points (e.g. check-in, along sidelines).
- Multiple groups permitted at once as long as:
 - 30 feet of distancing is maintained between groups
 - Areas for each group are clearly marked to discourage interaction between groups.

BARTLETT COVID-19 SAFETY GUIDELINES DURING 2020 FALL BALL (Continued)

- Any team members not participating in gameplay should still maintain 6 feet distance apart from one another while on the sidelines/when not directly involved in the game.
- No team huddles on the field during the game.
- If a coach visits the pitcher, all other players to stay at their positions.
- **Pre-Game Meeting:** One coach is allowed from each team and must properly social distance. No players allowed at the coaches meeting. Each team's scorekeeper should exchange line up cards electronically example: Take a photo of your lineup and send it via text to the opposing teams scorekeeper and umpire.
- **Softballs:** Use two softballs for each game to minimize cross team contamination.
 - Each team will use their own softball when they are on defense.
- **Umpires:** Umpires will not handle the game balls. Umpires will call balls and strikes 6 feet away from behind the pitcher. Umpires may wear PPE if they desire but are not required to do so. Umpires will verbally confirm final score with both teams.
- Once your game has ended, we ask the parents, players, and coaches to vacate the premises to avoid large groups of people gathering. Only show up to the fields if your team is scheduled to play.
- Parents, please vacate the area you were sitting at once your game has finished to allow the next teams parents to come in and set up their seats.
- **Post-Game:** Each team will line up along their respective foul line, then acknowledge the opposing team with a round of applause.
- If you have a team meeting after a game, please take your team away from the dugout, field and others and distance your group. While still maintaining 6 feet distance apart from one another.

Spectators

- Bleachers can only be used at 20% of capacity (maximum 15 people) and ensure at least 6 feet between seats occupied by spectators that are not members of the same household or party.
- Spectators will only be permitted in the outfield and deep along the foul lines.
- Spectators will not be permitted in the areas behind home plate or around the dugouts.
- If practical, limit spectators to immediate household members or guardians of players. To keep the amount of spectators to a minimum, we recommend that you limit the amount of spectators to 2 per player.
- If you are a spectator please do not enter the park until it is your team's time to play. This will allow the other teams to clear out and open up space for you to enter.
- It is encouraged spectators bring their own seating (e.g., chairs) from home and utilize any available field space to encourage social distancing between spectators.
- Spectators from the same household should sit together.

BARTLETT COVID-19 SAFETY GUIDELINES DURING 2020 FALL BALL (Continued)

Attendance

Coaches will maintain a written attendance log of participants and coaches for each practice and game. Coaches should retain these logs and turn into the park district at the end of each month.

Any non-player or coach who attends a practice/game must be logged on the attendance sheet to the best of your ability. This includes any parents who approach the field for any reason that are less than 6 feet away for more than 15 minutes.

Personal Hygiene

- Everyone should wash hands with soap and water or use hand sanitizer before participating.
- Hand sanitizer will be provided to each team and should be available at each practice & game. Personal hand sanitizer is encouraged.

Restrictions

Post-activity group snacks, usage of water fountains or shared water jugs/coolers and handshakes/hi-fives are currently prohibited.

Have fun!

We encourage other creative shows of sportsmanship, tip of the cap or bow or social distant “air” high fives.

We are looking forward to fun & safe fall. If you have any questions or concerns please contact Eric Eichholz, Recreation Manager at 630-540-4831 or eechholz@bartlettparks.org.

SCHAUMBURG

COVID-19 SAFETY GUIDELINES DURING 2020 FALL BALL

SAA Fall Softball

Participation Guidelines for Phase 4 of the Restore Illinois Plan

Purpose: This document is to be used in conjunction with the “SAA Official Practice, Game, and Event Gathering Protocols Policy for “Return to Play” during the COVID-19 Pandemic Shutdown of the State of IL” (“SAA Guidelines”) dated June 22, 2020. This document pertains solely to the SAA Rec Softball program and expands on the SAA Guidelines as pertained to Rec Softball to ensure all rec softball participants (commissioners, parents, volunteers, spectators, and players) understand the guidelines and can properly execute them. **In the event of a conflict between the two policies, the more strict policy will be enforced.**

Safety Guidelines:

- Masks are required to be worn while walking to and from fields.
- Social distance of at least six (6) feet must be maintained between non-household individuals unless participating on the field of play.
- When visiting other facilities, players and coaches will wear masks in the dugout if accommodations do not allow for social distancing when off the field of play.
- All participants (players, coaches, umpires) will sanitize hands before any practice or game, and each time leaving the field of play. Players are to supply their own hand sanitizer and face coverings. SAA will have additional available only if needed.
- Any equipment to be shared must be disinfected before sharing. SAA will provide disinfectant wipes for equipment sharing, such as catcher's gear.
- Thermometers for taking participant's temperature will be provided to each coach.
- No handshakes, high-fives, and other unnecessary contact.
- Participants, in particular pitchers, should refrain from touching their face with their hands, blowing into their hands, licking their fingers, etc.
- SAA, as well as Schaumburg Park District, reserve the right to revoke player and/or team privileges if not strictly abiding by the guidelines.
- It is up to the parents/guardians of all participants to actively take temperatures at home, and or watch for COVID-19 related symptoms and to not send their player to participate in an SAA event if their participant is not fever free of a 100.3 F or higher temperature for 48 hrs and have no COVID-19 symptoms or have not tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 14 days.
- All SAA participants and participant guardians are required to inform their coach and/or league commissioner of any positive COVID-19 test results for a participant and/or immediate family member/friend that is actively in the participants non-social distanced contact circle that has been actively participating in SAA sporting events. They must report this within 24 hrs of a positive test result.
- In the event that an immediate family member/friend of a participant that is in their non-social distanced contact circle is found to have a positive test for COVID-19, the participant will be required to have a test as well; if negative the individual can return to participate in SAA events, following the same guidelines as stated in this document and their individual sport. If positive, the participant must quarantine from SAA sport participation for 14 days after symptom free from COVID-19. If the participant does not get tested, or refuses to be tested, then they will not be permitted to return to the SAA activity until they have a test completed.
- All SAA sports programs are required to report any COVID-19 positive case of any participant, coach, commissioner, official, and/or spectator ASAP to the head commissioner of that sports program. In the event that a person that attended an SAA gathering/event has tested positive for COVID-19 then it will be investigated as to where the infected person was participating in/at an SAA gathering/event (hence attendance is taken for all events) and trace back all possible events others could have been exposed at. The information must be shared with that SAA sports program participants that attended these particular events “not the identity of the infected person” but that someone has tested positive and was at X, Y, Z events at X, Y, Z times. Then there will be a 14-day quarantine from SAA events for the infected person from the last day they are symptom free from COVID-19. Further participation for all of those that had any possibility of being exposed will be up to those individuals, and it strongly recommended that any possible exposed participant watch their health, possibly symptoms, and take temperature regularly.

SCHAUMBURG COVID-19 SAFETY GUIDELINES DURING 2020 FALL BALL

(Continued)

Facilities:

- Dugouts at Schaumburg Park District fields will be closed to players and players will be stationed six (6) feet or more when not participating on the field.
- All bleachers at Schaumburg Park District fields will be closed. Spectators must bring their own seating and must abide by 6-foot social distancing for non-household individuals. Spectators must be ten (10) feet or more from extended dugout fence lines and player bag areas. Practices and games will be suspended if social distancing is not maintained.
- There will be no concessions or food cart service at Schaumburg Park District fields.
- Portable restrooms at Schaumburg Park District fields will be wiped down by a coach with disinfectant at the opening of the fields.
- At Schaumburg Park District fields, each player shall be 6 feet apart to comply with social distancing guidelines.
- At Schaumburg Park District fields total attendance of players is subject to limitations. No more than 50 participants are allowed to participate (Players, Coaches and Umpires).
- Players will not be allowed to be in dugouts.
- Coaches may be in the dugouts if social distancing or with masks when within six (6) feet of one another.
- No seeds or food is allowed at Schaumburg Park District fields.

Coaches:

- Coaches will be required to have a mask and wear masks when arriving to and leaving fields.
- Head Coaches will maintain participation logs for every practice and game.
- Before each practice and game, the team's Head Coach will ask whether participants, including all coaches, are currently exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms.
- Before each game, Head Coaches or a Commissioner will ask whether umpires are currently exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms.
- Coaches will take the temperature of each participant and log any with a temperature above 100.3. Any participant with a temperature above 100.3 must be logged and reported to the league commissioner. The participant will need to immediately leave the event.
- Coaches and Board Members will monitor social distancing. Practices and games at Schaumburg Park District fields will be suspended if social distancing is not maintained.
- Coaches may be in the dugouts if social distancing or with masks when within six (6) feet of one another.

Players:

- Players will be required to wear masks when arriving to and leaving fields. Please have your player bring a clean zip lock bag to store their mask inside bat bags during practice.
- Players will not be allowed to be in dugouts.
- At Schaumburg Park District fields, each player shall be 6 feet apart to comply with social distancing guidelines.
- Players should bring portable seating to be used at their bat bag location during games.
- Players must bring their own water bottles and cannot share them. We ask that the player's name be written clearly on their water bottle, to ensure there is no confusion during practice.
- All participants (players, coaches, umpires) will sanitize hands before any practice or game, and each time leaving the field of play. Players are to supply their own hand sanitizer. SAA will have it available only if needed.

Parents and Spectators:

- Social distance of at least six (6) feet must be maintained between non-household individuals.
- Masks are required to be worn while walking to and from fields.
- All bleachers at Schaumburg Park District Fields will be closed. Spectators must bring their own seating and must abide by 6-foot social distancing for non-household individuals. Spectators must be ten (10) feet or more from extended dugout fence lines and player bag areas. Practices and games will be suspended if social distancing is not maintained.
- At Schaumburg Park District fields total attendance of players is subject to limitations. No more than 50 participants are allowed to participate (Players, Coaches and Umpires).

SCHAUMBURG COVID-19 SAFETY GUIDELINES DURING 2020 FALL BALL (Continued)

SAA Official Practice, Game, and Event Gathering Protocols Policy for “Return to Play” during the COVID-19 Pandemic Shutdown of the State of IL (First Drafted June 22, 2020)

Until further notice, and after execution by all participants of any/all SAA sports Program “Return to Play” waiver, the following are the guidelines for conducting practices games and/or other gatherings (including tournaments, uniform fittings, fundraising events, fundraising event product pickups, SAA board meetings (all), SAA parent or team meetings, SAA clinics and training sessions, SPARQ Sessions, and SAA office usage for any aforementioned event) for our teams, commissioners, parents, volunteers, spectators, and players (these guidelines are set by leveraging the IL DCEO guidelines for operation of youth sports in phase 3 and 4 as well as SAA Executive Board determined mandates):

1. Every registered participant that will take part in any SAA sports program practices/games/season that were already registered prior to the date of May 29th 2020 (IL Phase 3 start date) MUST sign a printed out version of their sport program “Return to Play” waiver and then provide the signed copy to their SAA coach/commissioner. All registered participants that will take part in any SAA sports program practices/games/season that register electronically for any sports program after June 15th 2020 must agree to the “Return to Play Waiver” during registration through SportsConnect or they will not be permitted to participate in the sport programs in Phase 3 or Phase 4 of the IL reopening plan. If any registered participant decides not sign/agree to the “Return to Play Waiver” for their sport program AND they have already paid the registration fee, they are entitled to a full refund for that sport program season.

2. At every gathering/event (all mentioned above) temperature checks will be administered by the coach/commissioner of all participants (coaches/players/officials). Any participant with a temperature of more than 100.3 will not be allowed to partake in the gathering/event, per IL DCEO phase 4 guidelines. The individual must leave the event and cannot return to an SAA event until they have been fever free (100.3 F or less) for 48 hrs without the aid of fever reducing medication.

3. Number of participants that can gather within a 30 foot space for the aforementioned gatherings/events and therefore total number allowed for each of the gatherings/events, including participants Coaches and officials is 10 for phase 3 and 50 persons maximum for phase 4. In addition to the participant/coach/official (those required to be involved in said event) all SAA spectators for the event will follow the same phase 3 or phase 4 IL DCEO guidelines. Therefore additional gatherings with 10 or 50, phase 3 or 4, persons maximum in the designated spectator areas, as well as any individual SAA sport social distancing requirements set forth by the SAA sports “return to play” Protocol policy. Furthermore, all parks, gyms, other facilities cannot operate at a capacity of greater than 50% normal capacity and spectator/seating areas cannot operate at greater than 20% of normal capacity, per IL DCEO phase 4 guidelines.

4. Sanitation of Dugouts, bathrooms, concession stands, gyms, location of gathering/event to occur before every event, and to be kept on a recorded and well maintained cleaning/sanitation schedule. Each SAA sports program will detail this in their programs “return to play” Protocol policy.

SCHAUMBURG COVID-19 SAFETY GUIDELINES DURING 2020 FALL BALL (Continued)

5. Supply of additional disposable facemasks and gloves will be available for all Participants (coaches/players/officials) ONLY during gatherings/events (all mentioned above) in case of need. SAA will not provide back-up masks and gloves for additional persons beyond participants, i.e. spectators. SAA is NOT the main supplying source of PPE for participants, it is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to send PPE with participants, and SAA will have back up supplies for emergency need only.

6. ALL participants, coaches, officials, and spectators MUST follow the IL DCEO guidelines for wearing a mask at any/all SAA gathering/event (all mentioned above) if a social distance bubble of 6 feet cannot be maintained. This excludes immediate family interaction (for example a parent and their participant and or parent and another child or spouse that are 6ft away from anyone else are not required to wear a mask within 6ft of each other). Participants are NOT required to wear a mask during competitive activity (exercise related), and wearing of a mask is up to parent discretion for their participants during this time. It is expected that the players wear masks, per the phase 4 guidelines, when not participating in the act of competitive activity (exercising). For example, a player should wear a mask (as able) when on a bench or in a dugout, or in a team meeting where they are not running around or participating in a competitive activity, then at their parents discretion, may remove it when the physical activity that the sport demands occurs.

7. Every participant, parent/guardian/spectator, coach, commissioner, volunteer and official will also comply with each individual SAA sport program "Return to Play" protocol. This will have details surrounding unique guidelines for the participants sport program and will be provided by the sport to every participant. For example, this can include details around positioning of officials on a field or in a gym during an event, sanitizing a ball or other equipment a certain number of times or frequency of sanitizing said equipment before, during, and after an event and/or details around spectator rules during an event and guidelines..etc. In the event a conflict arises between the SAA main policy and the Individual Sports Policy, the controlling policy will be the one that is more stringent and stipulates additional requirements for the detailed guideline.

8. ALL SAA participants, spectators, officials, coaches, commissioners, volunteers will do everything in their power to always practice safe social distancing, cleanliness, and respect for others while SAA and the state of Illinois are under strict guidelines for operation of youth sports programs.

9. NO SAA participant is required to participate in any individual activity/gathering/event if they do not feel comfortable with the risk associated due to possible exposure to COVID-19. The participant, even after signing a "Return to Play" waiver, may still decide to not participate in individual activities/gatherings/events without any repercussion. No refund, beyond final published refund end dates, will be provided for these instances.

10. It is up to the parents/guardians of all participants to actively take temperatures at home, and or watch for COVID-19 related symptoms and to not send their player to participate in an SAA event (all mentioned above) if their participant is not fever free of a 100.4 F or higher temperature for 48 hrs and have no COVID-19 symptoms or have not tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 14 days.

SCHAUMBURG COVID-19 SAFETY GUIDELINES DURING 2020 FALL BALL (Continued)

11.All coaches/commissioners responsible for a team/squad etc... During an SAA event must take ATTENDANCE of all coaches, players, and officials for every event. Practice, clinics, uniform fittings, games, et al. The attendance is for trace back purposes only, and will not be shared with anyone besides SAA League Commissioners or Officers, and used solely for the purpose of informing those that attended of any possible COVID-19 exposure, in the event that a COVID-19 positive case is reported to SAA involving a participant at one of the events.

12.All SAA participants and participant guardians are required to inform their coach and/or league commissioner of any positive COVID-19 test results for a participant and/or immediate family member/friend that is actively in the participants non-social distanced contact circle that has been actively participating in SAA sporting events. They must report this within 24 hrs of a positive test result.

13.In the event that an immediate family member/friend of a participant that is in their non-social distanced contact circle is found to have a positive test for COVID-19, the participant will be required to have a test as well; if negative the individual can return to participate in SAA events, following the same guidelines as stated in this document and their individual sport. If positive, the participant must quarantine from SAA sport participation for 14 days after symptom free from COVID-19. If the participant does not get tested, or refuses to be tested, then they will not be permitted to return to the SAA activity until they have a test completed.

14.All SAA sports programs are required to report any COVID-19 positive case of any participant, coach, commissioner, official, and/or spectator ASAP to the head commissioner of that sports program. In the event that a person that attended an SAA gathering/event has tested positive for COVID-19 then it will be investigated as to where the infected person was participating in/at an SAA gathering/event (hence attendance is taken for all events) and trace back all possible events others could have been exposed at. The information must be shared with that SAA sports program participants that attended these particular events “not the identity of the infected person” but that someone has tested positive and was at X, Y, Z events at X, Y, Z times. Then there will be a 14-day quarantine from SAA events for the infected person from the last day they are symptom free from COVID-19. Further participation for all of those that had any possibility of being exposed will be up to those individuals, and it strongly recommended that any possible exposed participant watch their health, possibly symptoms, and take temperature regularly.

15.ALL guidelines set forth by SAA for “return to play” must be met to participate in an SAA sports program during this time, as well as adhere to the IL DCEO Youth and Recreations Sports Guidelines.

<https://dceocovid19resources.com/assets/Restore-Illinois/businessguidelines4/youthsports.pdf>

THESE PROTOCOLS are established within the IL Phase 4 opening plan guidelines as published by the IL DCEO and ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AS CIRCUMSTANCES DEVELOP MOVING FORWARD.

ELK GROVE

COVID-19 SAFETY GUIDELINES DURING 2020 FALL BALL

Elk Grove Girls Softball

COVID 19 Safety Guidelines – Fall 2020

General Rules:

- If a player is not feeling well, demonstrating any symptoms or has a fever they should not attend any practices or games until they are feeling better and symptom/fever free for a period of 72 hours.
- All players and coaches must always have a mask with them. Masks are to be worn when appropriate social distancing (6 ft.) can't be maintained.

Field Set Up:

- The bleachers and dugouts on both sides of the field as well as the area behind the backstop will be roped off and only accessible to players and coaches throughout the game.
- All teams are always required to have hand sanitizer and disinfecting wipes in their dugout.
- All spectators are required to sit beyond the roped off areas and are expected to maintain appropriate social distancing (6 ft.) from anyone who is not an immediate family member.
- Spectators will be required to wear masks when appropriate social distancing (6 ft.) can't be maintained.

During Game Play:

- Masks do not need to be worn during normal softball activity (batting, baserunning, fielding).
- All players equipment should be kept within the roped area and spaced to avoid equipment touching.
- Players are to be spaced out between the dugout and bleachers when batting with the space in the dugout and nearest the backstop being prioritized for girls preparing to bat.
- Shared water, food, gum, etc. is prohibited in the dugout area. Individual water bottles are allowed but should be kept in the player's individual equipment bags.
- Masks must be worn in the dugout/bleacher area until the player goes up to the plate to bat.
- Any shared equipment must be wiped down between uses by multiple players. Managers are encouraged to limit their catching rotations to as few players per game as possible and are required to wipe down the equipment between all practices/games. Additionally, it is strongly recommended that each team designate a coach/parent to be responsible for wiping down all shared equipment.
- Managers can visit pitchers on the mound, but meetings are restricted to managers and pitchers only. Managers must wear masks during these meetings.
- There will be no postgame handshakes.

BLOOMINGDALE
COVID-19 SAFETY GUIDELINES DURING 2020 FALL BALL

Please refer to ROSELLE MEDINAH's Covid Guidelines

GLENDALE HEIGHTS
COVID-19 SAFETY GUIDELINES DURING 2020 FALL BALL