



Restore Illinois Phase 4 Adult Softball Guidelines
August 24, 2020

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, currently Softball activities are Lower Risk/Level 3 and is limited to:

- Intra-conference or Intra-EMS-region or intra-league play/meets only; state- or league-championship game/meet allowed for low-risk sports only.
- At least 6-feet apart in dugout areas, or players seated 6-feet apart in bleachers behind dugout.
- Group sizes should be limited to 50 total persons including participants, coaches, officials and spectators.

Best Practice Guidelines:

General

- **Please do not enter the field area 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.**
- **Once your game has ended, we ask the players and spectators vacate the premises to avoid large groups of people gathering. Only show up to the fields if your team is scheduled to play.**
- 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)
- Avoid touching hand/nose/mouth.
- Cover coughs and sneeze with a tissue or direct into your elbow.
- Players should bring their own water bottle.
- Players should avoid touching facility accessories (e.g., fences, etc.)
- Please clean and police the field area removing all refuse, litter, etc. that has accumulated as a result of your use.
- No Spitting. This will result in an automatic removal from the field.

Face Masks

When playing softball outdoors, participants should wear face coverings over their nose and mouth whenever not actively participating in the sport (exceptions can be made for people with medical conditions or disabilities that prevent them from safely wearing a face covering). Face masks are required where 6 foot social distancing is not possible.

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.

Health Monitoring

Players or spectators should stay at home if they are sick or do not feel well. If a player or spectator 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 player/spectator does have symptoms, , they should remain isolated at home for a minimum of 10 days after symptom onset AND 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.

If anyone reports having any COVID-19 related symptoms, they are encouraged to contact their health care provider; if multiple individuals report having any COVID-19 related symptoms, park district will notify local health department.

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

If a player or spectator becomes ill at a game 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, players should sanitize equipment before and after use.
- Frequent hand sanitizing or hand washing is encouraged if equipment is shared.
- Players should use their own equipment (e.g., 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.

Games

- Multiple groups of 50 or fewer participants are permitted at once as long as:
 - Venue allows for social distancing.
 - 30 feet of distancing is maintained between groups/opposing team's sidelines.
 - Areas for each group are clearly marked to discourage interaction between groups.
- Any team members not participating in gameplay should still maintain 6 foot 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.
- **Pre-Game Meeting:** One captain is allowed from each team and must properly social distance.
- **Umpires:** Umpires will not handle the game balls. Umpires will call balls and strikes 6ft. 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.
- **Post-Game:** No end of game handshakes.

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. Spectators from the same household should sit together.
- 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.

Attendance

The team captain will maintain a written attendance log of participants and spectators at games, in case they need to be used for contact tracing.

Personal Hygiene

- Everyone should wash hands with soap and water or use hand sanitizer before participating.
- Personal hand sanitizer is encouraged.
- Athletes should be encouraged to shower and wash their workout clothing immediately upon returning home.

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.