

Guidance applicable to Baseball & Softball Field Use

GUIDELINES FOR PRACTICES & COMPETITIONS

Arrival at Playfields

1. Incoming teams are permitted to enter the playfield facility no more than 30-minutes prior to their scheduled event.
2. Incoming teams must wait until the preceding team has exited the dugout and the field is clear before entering.

Staffing Limitations

3. A maximum of three (3) coaches are allowed in designated team-only areas.
4. One (1) scorekeeper for competitions is allowed to sit in the bleachers for each team.
5. One (1) umpire allowed per game. The umpire will be required to wear facemask and gloves.
6. Umpires will call the game from at least six (6) feet behind the pitcher's mound.

Designated Team-only Areas

Dugouts and bleachers are designated as team-only areas.

Equipment Protocol

7. Organizer must provide hand sanitizer or disinfectant wipes for use during practices & competitions.
8. Each team will provide their own balls for when their team is on the field. Teams will not share balls when on defense.
9. After the last out, each team will bring their ball into the dugout.
10. Only teams in the field will chase or replace foul balls.
11. Coaches or support staff are responsible for wiping down all shared items (i.e. bats, balls, etc.) between practices and competitions.
12. All equipment must stay in the individual player's bag unless currently being used, not on the bat racks or bench.
13. Players are not permitted to share equipment (i.e. gloves, batting gloves, helmets)
14. Catchers must not share equipment.
15. Players are discouraged from sharing bats. If coaches witness sharing, the bat must be wiped down.
16. When a player is at-Bat:
 - a. Bats are retrieved by players if out at bat or at first base.
 - b. In all other scenarios, bench coach will retrieve bat and sanitize it.

Spectators

17. Spectators are not permitted onsite with **adult athletes** during Phase-1. Spectators accompanying the athlete must remain in their vehicle for the duration.
18. Onsite spectators are limited to one per **youth athlete** during Phase-1. Additional spectators must remain in their vehicle.
19. **Youth Practices** during Phase-1. One (1) parent or guardian may accompany a youth athlete for check-in / check-out purposes, but should return to their vehicle immediately following.
Youth Competitions during Phase-1: One (1) parent or guardian may stay onsite throughout the game if physical distancing requirements can be met.
20. Organizers are responsible for ensuring spectators adhere to the following minimum guidelines:
 - a. Spectators are not permitted in designated team areas only.
 - b. The area designated for spectators will be down the foul line (beyond the bases) and behind outfield fencing where available.
 - c. Practice physical distancing guidelines by standing or sitting at least six (6) feet apart except for those spectators residing in the same household.
21. Organizations are responsible for ensuring that the maximum number of total persons allowed in each Phase is adhered to.

General Etiquette Protocols

22. Mound visits will require the visitor to practice physical distancing and to be masked.
23. Bubble gum and shelled nuts (i.e. sunflower seeds, peanuts, etc.) are not allowed for players, coaches, umpires and fans.
24. Team huddles, handshakes, hugs, or fist bumps, or other interactions that would infringe on social distancing restrictions are not allowed.
25. Arguing calls are not allowed – coaches will be immediately ejected.

Food & Vendors

26. Vendors are not allowed at the playfields. This includes Food, Merchandise and Service vendors.
27. On-site food or beverage preparation is not allowed.

Compliance Coordinator

Organizations must assign a Compliance Coordinator who will be responsible for the following:

- a. Ensuring enforcement of the foregoing safety plan and offering direction where needed
- b. Maintaining Contact Trace Rosters and adhering to rosters' minimum requirements
- c. Act as the primary point of contact with the City for COVID-19 related concerns

Safe Start Protocol Agreement

I, _____, being an authorized representative of (organization) _____ have reviewed the above Safe Start Protocols and agree to adhere to the guidance as it pertains to my Field Use Permit with the City of Burlington. I understand that non-compliance with any portion of the guidance will result in immediate termination of my organization’s Field Use Permit.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name: _____

Playfield use will not be permitted until the organizer has submitted a signed Safe Start Protocol agreement and has received an approved Field Use Permit from Burlington Parks and Recreation.

