



Hamlin Park Baseball Association, Inc.  
[www.hamlinparkbaseball.org](http://www.hamlinparkbaseball.org)

## **HPBA Phase 4 Implementation Rules**

Friday, June 26, 2020

Updated Thursday, May 20, 2021

Hamlin Park Baseball Association (HPBA) is fully committed to supporting and following the City of Chicago Phase 4 Guidelines for Parks and Outdoor Attractions. A copy of that document can be found on the home page of the HPBA website ([hamlinparkbaseball.org](http://hamlinparkbaseball.org)). These are the rules we will implement while facilitating any and all HPBA events, at Hamlin Park or elsewhere. Any HPBA coaches, players, families or umpires who do not comply with these rules will be asked to discontinue participation in HPBA events.

- These rules will remain in effect throughout Phase 4 of the Restore Illinois plan as directed by Mayor Lori Lightfoot, the City of Chicago and the Chicago Park District.
- All participants (i.e. coaches, players, umpires, supervisors and spectators) must self-identify any symptoms and stay at home if symptomatic.
- HPBA events (i.e. practices and games) must be limited to only rostered players and coaches. Non-rostered participants (i.e. spectators) must remain 30-feet from HPBA events. HPBA officials, supervisors and umpires are excluded from this rule for the strict purpose of their role as such.
- At least 6-feet of social distancing is required between non-household individuals, except during limited game/practice situations. When not actively playing, all participants are expected to maintain 6-feet of social distancing. Benches, dugouts and spectator seating areas will be marked off accordingly to help provide special guidance.
- All participants **MUST** wear face covering over their nose and mouth at all times, including during physical activity. Face covering may be temporarily removed when drinking water. Additional exceptions can be made for people with medical conditions or disabilities which prevent them from safely wearing a face covering. In cases in which exceptions are allowed, additional attention should be taken to ensure those participants maintain at least 6-feet of social distancing. To help clarify the face covering requirements, here are examples for each type of participant:
  - Players – Players must wear face coverings as they arrive to practices/games and store their equipment. As they take the field for practices/games, face coverings are required. If there are any on-field meetings, players must wear face coverings. As players leave the field, they must put on their face covering.
  - Coaches – Coaches must wear face coverings as they arrive to practices/games. During practices while coaches are actively participating, face coverings are required. During any team discussions, face coverings must be worn. During games, coaches must wear face coverings at all times.



Hamlin Park Baseball Association, Inc.

[www.hamlinparkbaseball.org](http://www.hamlinparkbaseball.org)

- Spectators – Spectators must wear face coverings as they arrive to games and set-up their seating. While spectators are in their seats, face coverings are encouraged but may be removed. If spectators get up and move from their seats, face coverings must be worn.
- Umpires – Umpires must wear face coverings as they arrive to games and conduct pre-game activities. During game play, umpires are required to wear face coverings. During any direct discussions, umpires must wear face coverings. After games, as umpires are leaving the fields, face coverings must be worn.
- Supervisors – Supervisors must wear face coverings during any interaction with coaches, umpires, spectators or players, including before, during and after practices/games.
- All spectators are discouraged from attending practices, including parents. Any parents/spectators who attend must stay at least 30-feet from the field space and follow all other rules in this document. During games, spectator seating will be marked off with a “X” along the sideline to support proper distancing. Bleachers, benches and dugouts are strictly off limits to all spectators.
- All baseballs/softballs and equipment must be sanitized by the coach or parent before and after every event. During games, each team will be given a distinct set of baseballs/softballs to manage during the game. The team in the field will be responsible for the baseballs/softballs.
- All bat bags and equipment must be placed at least 6-feet apart. During practices, equipment should be placed along the inside (field-facing side) of the fence. During games, equipment should be placed on the outside (dugout-facing side) of the fence.
- Players are discouraged from using shared equipment, including bats, helmets and catchers gear. If shared equipment is required, a coach must sanitize before and after each use. For example, if multiple players are using the same batting helmet, a coach must sanitize that helmet before and after it is used by each player.
- All participants must bring their own hand sanitizer.
- All participants must be given ample time to use hand sanitizer before, during and after events.
- All participants should avoid touching their face before, during and after events.
- No group huddles, handshakes or high fives before, during or after events. Face coverings are required for any team discussions.
- No group snacks before, during or after practice.
- All participants should avoid touching fences and benches.
- Common areas (i.e. fences and benches) should be sanitized by a coach before and after each event.
- All participants must bring their own water. No shared water bottles. Water fountains will be shut off.



Hamlin Park Baseball Association, Inc.

[www.hamlinparkbaseball.org](http://www.hamlinparkbaseball.org)

- We will stagger start and end times by at least 15 minutes to minimize contact between groups.
- Coaches must keep an attendance log of all participants (including players, coaches, supervisors and spectators) at every event.
- Coaches must communicate these rules with all expected team participants before each event. E-mail communication is sufficient.
- All participants must comply with any posted signage within the park, especially as it relates to access to and utilization of common areas (i.e. playground equipment, fieldhouse amenities, portable restrooms, etc.) Concessions and fieldhouse amenities are expected to be closed during all HPBA events.
- All players, coaches and parents will be made aware of and expected to follow these rules.