



Return to Play Guidelines

Players

- **Social Distancing** is required and players are to remain **10 feet apart** to the extent possible. Incidental contact during practice and games (i.e. tagging base runners) is allowed.
- Players may not attend practice or games if they feel sick, have a temperature higher than 100.4 degrees, have COVID-19 symptoms, or have been exposed to a person with COVID-19 in the past 14 days.
- Should wash hands before and after practices and games, and wash and sanitize personal equipment after each practice or game.
- May not share water / drink bottles, food or personal equipment.
- Personal equipment (bags) shall be spaced apart. All equipment must be kept, after each use, with the player's bag. Use of bat racks is discouraged.
- Bleachers shall only be used as an extended dugout, which shall be monitored by at least one adult. A parent may sit with their child in a younger division to ensure social distancing.
- No high fives, fist bumps, team huddles are allowed. At the end of the game the players shall line up on each baseline and tip or wave their hats to the other team.
- Players may wear face coverings, but it is not required.
- A player that needs league equipment (i.e. catcher's gear) must be the only person to use it during the practice or game and such gear shall be sanitized after each use.
- Sunflower seeds, gum, etc. and spitting of any kind is not permitted.

Managers, Coaches, Volunteers and Umpires

- All team volunteers are encouraged to wear face coverings, especially in close contact where social distancing is hard to maintain.
- Adult volunteers should monitor players for COVID-19 symptoms (listed below).
 - If an adult volunteer believes a player is exhibiting any COVID-19 symptoms, they should immediately locate the player's parent or guardian to discretely have a conversation regarding their concern.
 - We strongly encourage the volunteers and parents to use their best judgment to determine whether the player should continue with the activity.

- Prior to each practice and game, as part of the normal reminder, the manager shall remind parents that if their child has a fever or other possible symptoms of COVID-19 that the player should not come to practice or the game.
- No team snacks, drinks, or treats are permitted. No common water / gatorade jugs are permitted.
- Umpires should maintain social distancing and limit contact with the ball.
- Sunflower seeds, gum, etc. and spitting of any kind is not permitted.
- Managers and coaches are responsible for ensuring safety guidelines for their players and monitoring players for COVID-19 symptoms.

Parents and Spectators

- Monitor your child for COVID-19 symptoms prior to going to practice or a game. A parent should keep their child home or other family members if that person has:
 - A fever (100.4 or higher) or a sense of having a fever; or
 - A new cough, health condition, new shortness of breath, new chills, a new sore throat, or new muscle aches that cannot be attributed to another health condition or specific activity (such as physical exercise).
- Ensure your child has water, hand sanitizer and snacks, if necessary.
- Consider purchasing a cooling towel and keeping readily available for your player in between innings. A traditional hand or bath towel soaked in ice water is effective as well.
- Maintain social distancing of 10 feet.
- May not use the bleachers and are encouraged to bring their own portable chairs.

Practice and Game Schedules

- All practices and games will be scheduled to have sufficient time for the prior participants to leave the facility before the next participants arrive (generally around 30 minutes) to the extent possible.
- All teams should vacate the field and facility within 20 minutes of the completion of their game or practice.
- Players, families and spectators should not show up more than 30 minutes prior to a practice or game.

Concessions and Restrooms

- Concessions will remain closed until allowed under state / local guidelines. Once concessions are allowed to reopen, appropriate health and safety measures will be implemented.
- Restroom use is limited to one person at a time.
- Everyone is encouraged to wash their hands after using the restroom and are encouraged to bring hand sanitizer for use after using a port-a-potty.

League

- Signage will be posted at the Manchester and Horner Park facilities providing public health guidance on COVID-19 and social distancing recommendations.
- Communicate with all participants of the league to communicate appropriate guidelines for returning to play.
- Hand sanitizer will be available in dugouts during games. Players are encouraged to use some every time they come off the playing field.