

EBA Covid-19 Guidance for Social Distancing for Games and Practices – updated 6/28

Sources for guidelines:

[COVID-19 Sports Guidance for Youth and Adults](#) Updated 6/19/2020

[COVID-19 Prevention Guidance for Youth, Student, and Child Care Programs](#) Updated 6/19/2020

Game Play COVID plans

- If players or anyone in their family are feeling ill or have a fever or a family member has tested positive for Covid, DO NOT attend the game. Coaches and umpires should follow the same rules and postpone the game if necessary.
- Players, coaches and umps should maintain six feet of distance whenever possible.
- No touch rule – coaches, player, umpires refrain from high fives, handshake line and any other physical contact. A “tip of the cap” will be used as a salute to the opposing team to promote sportsmanship following the game.
- When there is a play at a base, the runner and fielder should resume physical distance immediately upon completion of the play.
- No spitting, seeds or gum allowed for players, coaches or spectators.
- Players should not share equipment (water bottle, gloves, bats, catching gear); if catcher's gear or any other equipment is shared between players, it should be disinfected between each player use.
- During the game, players and coaches will be seated or lined up outside the dugouts and behind the backstop unless on defense in the field or offensively in the immediate 4 batters in the line-up. When offensive players and necessary coaches are in the dugout, they should maintain a six-foot distance.
- It is encouraged that coaches and players wear a face covering while not actively participating on the field of play.
- Spectators are asked to sit along the 1st and 3rd baselines and in the outfield, maintaining a six-foot distance. Face coverings are strongly recommended. Spectators are strongly discouraged from attending scrimmages.
- We recommend that teams use Game Changer or other App to keep family members updated to limit spectator attendance.
- Each team must provide and handle their own baseballs when their team is on defense. Teams should retrieve their own foul balls to the best of their ability.
- Umpires must avoid exchanging documents or equipment. For 9U through 14U, they will officiate the game from behind the pitcher’s mound. For 15AAA, 15AA, and high school games, the game will be called from behind the plate. Face coverings are encouraged.
- EBA has provided coaches with sanitizing solution with their equipment to sanitize any shared equipment (primarily baseballs/buckets/catching gear) after practices. Dugouts should be sanitized after games.

- Bathrooms will be open at the facilities. Drinking fountains will not be available. There will be no concessions at Courtney fields (Braemar) for the season.

We want all coaches and families to be aware that we will be communicating these plans to all communities in the league in which we are playing so that teams coming to play on Edina fields are aware and follow our guidelines. There is not a standard Covid-19 plan established for all communities, so you may see different rules and guidelines (or lack thereof) when going to away games. We are requesting that our coaches still create a social distance plan, limiting the team in the dugout, for Edina players when the team is not on the field even if it is not the expectation of the community you are visiting. Please be respectful of other community rules if they are different from EBA's home field rules.

Practice COVID plans (continued guidance from prior communication)

- If players or anyone in their family are feeling ill or have a fever or a family member has tested positive for Covid, DO NOT attend practice. Coaches should follow the same rules and postpone the practice if necessary.
- Only one team is allowed on the field per practice session. Pod size for practices is 25 people or less. Players and coaches should maintain 6 feet social distancing and avoid contact. Dugouts not to be used for equipment storage and limited to following 6' social distance rules.
- Parents are asked to drop off players and not stay to watch practice. Parents should avoid gathering in groups after drop-off and when picking up players. Spectators should not attend scrimmages or practices. If it is necessary for a parent to be at practice for whatever reason, maintain social distancing.
- No seeds or gum allowed.
- Players should not share equipment (water bottle, gloves, bats, catching gear); if catcher's gear or any other equipment is shared between players, it should be disinfected between each player use.
- EBA has provided coaches with sanitizing solution with their equipment to sanitize any shared equipment (primarily baseballs/buckets/catching gear) after practices.

Note: As per the direction provided from the MDH in [Guidance for Social Distancing in Youth and Student Programs UPDATED 5/13/2020](#), if a coach or player is diagnosed with Covid-19, we will notify families and reach out to MDH for further direction.

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