

# MAPLEWOOD INDEPENDENT YOUTH BASEBALL LEAGUE

## COVID-19 PHASE III Step 1 GUIDELINE

(Guidelines are subject to change at any time)

<b>OUTDOOR SPORTS AND ATHLETIC FACILITIES:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organizations, businesses, schools and government entities that operate outdoor or indoor sports facilities, such as athletic fields, courts and other playing surfaces, pools, and sailing and boating facilities can open their premises and facilities for use by adults and youth in Phase III, Step 1 provided that the safety measures outlined herein are implemented by facility operators and activity organizers.</li> </ul>
<b>ACTIVITIES:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outdoor athletic facilities shall be open and available for organized youth and adult sports activities</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sports and activities included in the Moderate Risk category can participate in Level 1, 2 and 3 type of play</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Moderate Risk sports and recreation activities are characterized by:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sports or activities that involve intermittent contact, but with protective equipment or mitigating measures in place that may reduce the likelihood of respiratory particle transmission between participants (e.g., wearing masks, modifying play) Examples: Baseball, softball, crew/sailing (2-3 people in a boat), track and field, cross country, running clubs, team swimming, volleyball, dance class, fencing, field hockey, no-contact lacrosse</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	<p>Type of Play: The following types of play are defined by level from least to greatest risk.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Level 1: Individual or socially distanced group activities (no-contact workouts, aerobic conditioning, individual skill work, and drills)</li> <li>Level 2: Competitive Practices (Intra-team/group games, contact drills and scrimmages)</li> <li>Level 3: Competitions (Inter-team games, meets, matches, races, etc.</li> </ul>
<b>OPERATIONAL SAFETY MEASURES</b>	
<b>Social Distancing:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All persons, including employees, customers, and vendors should remain at least six feet apart to the greatest extent possible, both inside and outside workplaces</li> <li>Establish protocols to ensure that employees can practice adequate social distancing</li> <li>Provide signage for safe social distancing</li> </ul>
<b>Hygiene Protocols:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide hand-washing capabilities</li> <li>Ensure frequent hand washing by employees and adequate supplies to do so</li> <li>Provide regular sanitization of high touch areas, such as workstations, equipment, screens, doorknobs, restrooms throughout work site</li> </ul>
<b>Staffing and Operations:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide training for employees regarding the social distancing and hygiene protocols</li> <li>Employees who are displaying COVID-19-like symptoms do not report to work</li> <li>Establish a plan for employees getting ill from COVID-19 at work, and a return-to work plan</li> </ul>
<b>Cleaning and Disinfecting:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish and maintain cleaning protocols specific to the business</li> <li>When an active employee is diagnosed with COVID-19, cleaning and disinfecting must be performed</li> <li>Disinfection of all common surfaces must take place at intervals appropriate to said workplace</li> </ul>

<b>Social Distancing Detail:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For team and group sports, no more than 25 players or participants can be on a single playing surface/area/court at any one time. The number of coaches and staff should be limited. Larger playing areas and surfaces, such as athletic fields, tracks, facilities that have multiple courts or playing areas, may be used by more than one group at one time, provided that adequate social distance and group separation can be maintained. To ensure group separation, groups must be spaced at least 20 feet apart while sharing a single playing surface, court or field.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Limit any nonessential visitors, spectators, staff, volunteers, and activities involving external groups or organizations as much as possible.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spectators must maintain distance of at least 6 feet between spectator’s groups. Spectators should wear masks.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access to equipment storage and office space should be limited to employees only. First aid kits should be available at the playing area or court rather than in an office, where possible.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facility managers must set, post, and monitor occupancy limits for bathrooms based on the ability to maintain six-foot social distancing.</li> </ul>
<b>Activity Detail:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For team and group sports, no more than 25 players or participants can be on a single playing surface/area/court at any one time. The number of coaches and staff should be limited. Larger playing areas and surfaces, such as athletic fields, tracks, facilities that have multiple courts or playing areas, may be used by more than one group at one time, provided that adequate social distance and group separation can be maintained. To ensure group separation, groups must be spaced at least 20 feet apart while sharing a single playing surface, court or field.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Face coverings and social distancing of six feet is required when participants are not actively engaged in an activity (e.g., on bench, huddles, breaks, locker rooms, pre/post practice).</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use of dugouts is not permitted, there should be no players in dugout what so ever.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spectators should be limited to ensure social distancing on the sidelines or other observation areas.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coaches, staff, referees, umpires and other officials are required to wear facial coverings and maintain social distancing of 6 feet from players, coaches, spectators, and other persons at all times when not engage in coaching activity.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coaches must be responsible for maintaining social distance among players, coaches, staff, and spectators.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth chaperones should be helping their own child maintain distance before and after game. Youth chaperones must wear face coverings when social distance is not possible.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Athletes should be discouraged from high fives, fist bumps or other social contact during practice</li> </ul>
<b>HYGIENE PROTOCOLS</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If any equipment is provided by the operator, operators must minimize equipment sharing, and clean and disinfect shared equipment at the end of a practice session using a product from the list of disinfectants meeting EPA criteria for use</li> </ul>
<b>Facility Operator Guidance:</b>	<p>All facilities must supply employees with adequate cleaning products (e.g., sanitizer, disinfecting wipes).</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Operators must post visible signage throughout the site to remind employees and visitors of hygiene and safety protocols.</li> </ul>

<b>Activity Organizer Guidance:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organizers must ensure that participants use their own personal equipment if not provided by the organizer or facility operator.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is required that that every player has his or her own equipment including helmet, bat, gloves, water bottle, and *chair. The sharing of equipment is prohibited. (*Chairs only required for games played when we reach Phase III)</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organizers must ensure that participants use their own personal equipment if not provided by the organizer or facility operator. Personal equipment may not be shared and must be dedicated to an individual player throughout the season. Personal equipment includes all gear that is worn by players (e.g., gloves, helmets, masks, skates, footwear, pads, etc.).</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No shared food or drink may be provided during any activities for participants or spectators (e.g., concession stands or team snacks). No use of public water bubblers, fountains or bottle fillers if present on site. Participants and spectators should only drink from their own containers. Organizers must provide individual, dedicated water bottles for children if they do not have their own.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participants and coaches must achieve proper hand hygiene at the beginning and end of all activities, either through handwashing with soap and water or by using an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organizers should ensure that athletes arrive dressed for play and leave immediately after contest: <i>no recreational play or loitering is allowed</i>, and locker rooms must remain closed. <i>Teams completing contest should not stay to watch other activities before or after their scheduled game.</i></li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No participant, fans, chaperones, or coaches allowed in dugouts.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All equipment bags should in socially distance space established by players and coaches</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sportsmanship should continue in a touchless manner – no handshakes/slaps/fist bumps</li> </ul>
<b>STAFFING AND OPERATIONS</b>	
<b>Operator Guidance:</b>	<p>Operators must ensure that hand sanitizer or hand washing stations are available in indoor facilities for use by players, staff and coaches.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All high touch surface areas must be sanitized at the end of each activity.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Operators should log persons (name and phone number or name and email address) who remain on site for a sustained period of time to facilitate contact tracing, including staff, participants, and spectators.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Operators must post notice to employees, workers, and participants of important health information and relevant safety measures as outlined in government guidelines.</li> </ul>
<b>Organizer Guidance:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To participate or attend, organizers should ensure that participants, volunteers, coaches, and spectators must show no signs or symptoms of COVID-19 for 14 days</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If any individual develops symptoms of COVID-19 during the activity, they should promptly inform organizers and must be removed from the activity and instructed to return home.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organizers of activities are responsible for following all guidelines and creating a safe environment for participants.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organizers must educate all participants and spectators on the applicable protocols for the relevant activity, protocols for entering/leaving the facility, and any other hygiene requirements.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organizers in coordination with operators must ensure that hand sanitizer is available to all players.</li> </ul>
<b>Face Coverings:</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is highly recommended facial coverings to be worn while engaged in a moderate risk sport/activity where intermittent contact might occur and it is safe to do so (i.e., baseball/softball player while at bat/on base, volleyball)</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Face coverings should otherwise be worn by coaches, volunteers, other staff, officials, youth chaperones, and spectators in accordance with MA guidelines to prevent against the transmission of COVID-19 throughout the duration of the activity.</li> </ul>
<b>CLEANING AND DISINFECTING</b>	
<b>Operator Guidance:</b>	Restrooms facilities shall be cleaned and disinfected in accordance with Centers for Disease Control guidance and best practices linked here: : <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptomstesting/symptoms.html">https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptomstesting/symptoms.html</a>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Keep cleaning logs that include date, time, and scope of cleaning.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conduct frequent disinfecting of heavy transit areas and high-touch surfaces (e.g., doorknobs, handrails, bathrooms).</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In event of a positive case, shut down site for a deep cleaning and disinfecting of the workplace in accordance with current guidance</li> </ul>
<b>Organizer Guidance:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organizers should assess the cleanliness and disinfection protocols being employed at the facility they are using for athletic activity. If cleanliness is low, or any other concerns arise organizer should immediately stop any ongoing athletic activity until such time as operator can show that conditions have been brought up to the standards outlined in this guidance.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organizers should understand the cleaning and disinfection protocols employed at the facility they are using and should raise any issues to the operator or local board of health</li> </ul>
<b>LOCAL GUIDELINES</b>	
<b><u>Local League Guidelines</u></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Personal Responsibilities:</b> We are asking that if anyone is sick or not feeling well, coaches, players, parents, or spectators, to please stay home. Parents, please check your child’s temperature prior to bringing them to and baseball activity including games and practices. If your child has a temperature greater than 100.3, please stay home.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Social Distancing:</b> We ask everyone to please adhere to the social distancing guidelines of at least 6’ between individual at all times.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Waivers:</b> Every player registered within MIYBL is required to have a waiver filled out and signed by a parent in order to participate this season. This is an absolute requirement which has been set forth by our parent league, Babe Ruth Cal Ripken Baseball. There will be no exclusions.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Equipment:</b> It is required that that every player has his or her own equipment including helmet, bat, gloves, and water bottle. The sharing of equipment is prohibited.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Masks:</b> Face masks are requirement for coaches, manager for phase III or until otherwise changed.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Masks:</b> Face coverings and social distancing of six feet is required when participants are not actively engaged in an activity (e.g., on bench, huddles, breaks, locker rooms, pre/post practice).</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Masks:</b> It is highly recommended facial coverings to be worn while engaged in a moderate risk sport/activity where intermittent contact might occur and it is safe to do so (i.e., baseball/softball player while at bat/on base, volleyball)</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No high fives or fist bumps or contact between players and coaches is allowed at any time.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gum and sunflower seeds are prohibited.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Players must provide their own drinks.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any shared team equipment such as catcher’s equipment and baseballs will be sanitized by league coaches as required by our governing body’s guidelines. However, we will make every effort not to have shared equipment where possible.</li> </ul>
<b>LOCAL FACILITY CHANGES</b>	
<b>Facility Changes:</b>	
	<p><b>Player Area:</b> Players will be stationed in their respective home or away cordoned off bleachers. Players should sit social distance from one another and are required to wear mask while in this area.</p>
	<p><b>Player Area:</b> No chaperone, parent or family member is permitted behind the dugout, backstop, or cordoned off area.</p>
	<p><b>Spectator Areas:</b> In an effort to follow social distancing guidelines, we have made the following changes at both of our facilities. We are asking that all family members and spectators not to use the bleachers as viewing areas. In turn, we have designated “<b>Spectator Areas</b>” outside of the outfield fence. All fences are lined with yellow plastic safety tubing which we have always used in the past. We ask that everyone please respect these areas and maintain safe social distancing</p>