



Ridge Baseball Club 2021 COVID-19 Operations Plan

Version 2.0

January 9, 2021

Ridge Baseball Club COVID-19 Operations Plan

- This RBC COVID-19 Operations Plan (“Plan”) is based on the following guidance:
 - CDC Considerations for Youth Sports: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/youth-sports.html>
 - New Jersey Department of Health Guidance for Sports Activities:
 - <https://covid19.nj.gov/faqs/nj-information/general-public/can-organized-sports-practices-resume>
 - https://nj.gov/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/COVID_GuidanceForSportsActivities.pdf
- This Plan is subject to change as required to ensure compliance with any changes to local regulations.

FAILURE TO FOLLOW THE RULES SET FORTH HEREIN MAY BE CONSIDERED A VIOLATION OF THE RBC [CODES OF CONDUCT](#) AND MAY CAUSE COACHES, PLAYERS, AND/OR TEAMS TO BE SUBJECT TO DISCIPLINE UNDER THE RBC [DISCIPLINE POLICY](#) AT THE SOLE DISCRETION OF THE RIDGE BASEBALL CLUB BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

Coaches' Responsibilities and Best Practices

- Coaches will be responsible for communicating applicable details of this Plan to parents/guardians and/or participants before commencing practices or games. Coaches will be responsible for ensuring that all players and spectators are aware of and follow the rules set forth herein.
 - This includes communicating the details of the Plan to visiting travel teams from other towns and programs.
- Coaches will follow all rules and regulations as required by the league in which their team is participating or the facility being used, whichever is stricter. However, the requirements set forth herein shall be the minimum requirements expected of all RBC players, coaches and spectators at all facilities.
- Coaches must remain 6 feet apart from each other, players, and spectators, whenever possible.
- Coaches must wear cloth face coverings at all times while in dugouts/bench areas and when social distancing is not possible outdoors. Coaches must wear face coverings at any time while they are on the field, such as when coaching bases or conferencing with players.
 - At any practice, game or other event at an indoor facility, coaches must wear face coverings at all times without exception.
- Coaches are responsible for minimizing equipment sharing and disinfecting equipment. Best practice includes frequent sanitation procedures for team equipment during games (balls, bats, etc.).
- Sharing of equipment should be avoided whenever possible and if not possible, coaches are responsible for properly sanitizing the equipment before it is utilized by another player.
 - It is understood that each player may not have his/her own catching equipment and that catching equipment may need to be shared during a game.
- Coaches are responsible for assessing the appropriateness of COVID-19 related preventive measures at any field or facility, and deciding when it is appropriate for their team to participate or play.
 - If a coach deems any field or facility unsafe or not adequately equipped for COVID-19 related measures, the coach should notify RBC by email to safety@ridgebaseballclub.com.
- Coaches should not attend practices/games if they:
 - Are feeling sick
 - Have tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 14 calendar days
 - Are showing symptoms of COVID-19 within the last 14 calendar days
 - Have recently (within the last 14 calendar days) had close contact with a person with COVID-19.
 - Are subject to a quarantine order by State or local authorities (e.g., traveled to a stated designated by NJ Governor travel advisory or similar order).
- All coaches (and players) must fill out an online [Health Screening Form](#) at least 2 hours prior to every game or practice. The [Health Screening Form](#) is an online form that can be accessed [HERE](#).
- Prior to any practice, game, or other event, coaches must:
 - Obtain visual confirmation that each player's parent or guardian has filled out the [Health Screening Form](#) and that the player has received clearance to play. Visual confirmation will be in the form of "Clear to Play Email" received by the player's parent or guardian that looks like this:

Subject: RBC COVID Screening Form – John Smith is
Clear to Play on 01/09/2021



Jane Smith:

Thank you for submitting the RBC COVID Screening
Form. John Smith is cleared to play on 01/09/2021.

Ridge Baseball Club

- Parents/guardians must show the “Clear to Play Email” to the coach prior to participating in a practice, game or event.
 - At the coach’s discretion, a parent may email or text a copy of the “Clear to Play Email” to the coach prior to the practice, game or event.
- **RBC is no longer requiring coaches to take temperature checks of each player and coach.** The Health Screening Form requests that parents/guardians perform a temperature check and requires parents/guardians to certify that the player has a temperature of 100.3 degrees Fahrenheit or below.
- Coaches must immediately notify RBC if a player or coach is unable to participate due to an answer on the Health Screening Form or because of COVID-related issues by email to safety@ridgebaseballclub.com.
 - Coaches must immediately notify RBC if a player or coach tests positive for COVID-19 or displays COVID-19 symptoms by email to safety@ridgebaseballclub.com.
 - Coaches developing any symptoms of COVID-19 during the activity should promptly inform the other coaches and must leave the practice/game.
 - Practice activities should be designed to limit activities which involve person to person contact between players and/or coaching staff. Activities should focus on having players in small groups that remain together and work through stations rather than switching or mixing groups.
 - All teams must have at least 2 (two) coaches present for all practices/games to ensure completion of appropriate health screenings and to facilitate social distancing of players. More than 2 coaches are highly encouraged. If only 2 (two) coaches at a game, one coach must remain in the dugout to manage players when the team is batting.
 - Coaches should encourage frequent use of hand sanitizer by players and coaches.

- Coaches are responsible for maintaining social distancing of at least 6 feet for all players and coaches whenever possible. This includes, without limitation, in dugouts and on benches, where players must social distance.
- Coaches and players must refrain from spitting, handshakes, high-fives, team huddles and any other close-contacting activities.
- All coaches/players must bring their own water/drinks to all practices/games to avoid inadvertent sharing of drinks and or food. Team water coolers are not permitted.
- All equipment must remain separate from other player/coach's belongings. It is recommended that all equipment and water bottles are labeled with a name.
- No gum, seeds or other food will not be allowed for the players or coaches during games or practices.

Players' Responsibilities and Best Practices

- Players must remain 6 feet apart from other players and coaches whenever possible.
- All players must use their own equipment and avoid sharing equipment with other players. It is understood that each player may not have his/her own catching equipment and that catching equipment may need to be shared during a game.
- Each player must bring his/her own face covering to every practice and game and it is recommended to have his/her own supply of hand sanitizer whenever possible.
- Players should wear face coverings when not engaging in vigorous activity and when 6 foot of distancing is not possible (e.g. sitting on the bench).
- Face coverings do not need be worn by players while engaging in high intensity aerobic or anaerobic workouts. Face coverings are not required while players are on the field, but players may choose to wear face coverings while on the field.
- At any indoor practice, game or event, face coverings must be worn at all times.
- Players should not attend practices/games if they:
 - Are feeling sick
 - Have tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 14 calendar days
 - Are showing symptoms of COVID-19 within the last 14 calendar days
 - Have recently (within the last 14 calendar days) had close contact with a person with COVID-19
 - Are subject to a quarantine order by State or local authorities (e.g., traveled to a stated designated by NJ Governor's travel advisory or similar order).
- At least 2 hours prior to practices or games, the parent/guardian or other responsible adult representing the player must complete an online [Health Screening Form](#).
- Upon completion of the Health Screening Form, the parent/guardian will receive either a "Clear to Play Email" or a "Do Not Play Email" at the email address supplied on the Health Screening Form.

"Clear to Play Email"

Subject: RBC COVID Screening Form – John Smith
is Clear to Play on 01/09/2021



Jane Smith:

Thank you for submitting the RBC COVID Screening Form. John Smith is cleared to play on 01/09/2021.

Ridge Baseball Club

"Do Not Play Email"

Subject: URGENT John Smith IS NOT CLEAR TO
PLAY TODAY



Jane Smith:

Based on your responses to the RBC COVID Screening Form dated 01/09/2021 and submitted on behalf of John Smith, John Smith is not permitted to participate in RBC activities. Please contact safety@ridgebaseballclub.com for more information.

Ridge Baseball Club

- If a player receives a “Do Not Play Email” the player is not permitted to participate in any RBC activities until cleared to do so by the RBC President or Safety Officer.
- Upon arrival at the field or facility, the player’s parent/guardian must show the player’s coach the “Clear to Play Email” to confirm that the player has completed the Health Screening Form and is clear to play. At the discretion of the coach, the “Clear to Play Email” may be emailed or texted to the coach prior to the game, practice or event.
- Players developing any symptoms of COVID-19 during the activity should promptly inform the coaches and must leave the practice/game.
 - Parents/guardians are responsible for transporting their child home or to a healthcare facility if he/she becomes sick.

Spectator Responsibilities and Best Practices

- It is the coaches' responsibility to communicate and enforce spectator best practices.
- All non-essential visitors and spectators should be limited as much as possible.
- Games at the RBC Complex can be viewed on www.yourgamecam.com for those wanting to stay at home and watch.
- Spectators are prohibited from sitting in bleachers. Bleachers, where available, are reserved for players to sit in order to adhere to social distancing.
- Spectators should remain at least 6 feet from all other individuals who are not members of the same household. Spectators should wear face coverings when social distancing of 6 feet is not possible, unless doing so would inhibit the individual's health or the individual is under the age of two (2).
- Spectators are encouraged to bring their own chairs and ensure that they avoid interaction between spectators who are not members of the same household.
- Spectators must refrain from interaction with coaches and players during practices/games.
- Spectators should not attend practices/games/events if they:
 - Are feeling sick
 - Have tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 14 calendar days
 - Are showing symptoms of COVID-19 within the last 14 calendar days
 - Have recently (within the last 14 calendar days) had close contact with a person with COVID-19
 - Are subject to a quarantine order by State or local authorities (e.g., traveled to a stated designated by NJ Governor travel advisory or similar order).

Health Screening Forms to be Completed Before All Games, Practices and Events

- All players and coaches must complete the online [Health Screening Form](#) at least 2 hours prior to every game or practice. This includes games or practices at non-RBC facilities.
- As part of the [Health Screening Form](#), player and coaches must certify that they have a temperature below 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit.
 - RBC is no longer requiring coaches to perform temperature checks prior to practices or games. It is the responsibility of the player's parent/guardian to perform a temperature check prior to completing the [Health Screening Form](#).
- Upon completion of the [Health Screening Form](#), the person who filled out the form will receive either a "Clear to Play Email" or a "Do Not Play Email" at the email address supplied on the [Health Screening Form](#).

"Clear to Play Email"

Subject: RBC COVID Screening Form – John Smith
is Clear to Play on 01/09/2021



Jane Smith:

Thank you for submitting the RBC COVID Screening Form. John Smith is cleared to play on 01/09/2021.
Ridge Baseball Club

"Do Not Play Email"

Subject: URGENT John Smith IS NOT CLEAR TO
PLAY TODAY



Jane Smith:

Based on your responses to the RBC COVID Screening Form dated 01/09/2021 and submitted on behalf of John Smith, John Smith is not permitted to participate in RBC activities. Please contact safety@ridgebaseballclub.com for more information.

Ridge Baseball Club

- Prior to the start of every practice, game or other event, parents/guardians **must provide visual confirmation to a coach** that they have completed the Health Screening Form and received the "Clear to Play Email". At the coach's discretion, the "Clear to Play Email" may be emailed or texted to the coach prior to the practice, game, or event.
- If a player receives a "Do Not Play Email" the player is not permitted to participate in any RBC activities until cleared to do so by the RBC President or Safety Officer.
- Coaches and parents/guardians must immediately report any players or coaches unable to participate due to the COVID related issues by email to: safety@ridgebaseballclub.com.
- What Happens if a Player or Coach is confirmed as having COVID-19?
 - Players and coaches will be notified by RBC via email of any potential exposure while maintaining the confidentiality and privacy of the coaches/players involved.
 - RBC will work with Bernards Township Health officials and league officials to identify additional reporting requirements and mitigation measures.

RBC Complex

- Fields owned or managed by third parties (such as Bernards Township fields or away games in other towns) shall be subject to the signage and other restrictions in place at those facilities. But the requirements set forth herein shall be the minimum requirements expected of all RBC players, coaches and spectators at all facilities.
- At all facilities, gatherings of players, coaches, staff, and spectators must abide by the gathering limitations under any applicable NJ State Executive Order in effect at the time of the practice/game.
- The following COVID-mitigation measures have been implemented at the RBC Complex:
 - Signs, tapes and/or physical barriers have been implemented at the RBC Complex to reinforce best practices that help prevent the spread of coronavirus.
 - Signage has been placed in highly visible locations at the Complex including dugouts, at the facility entrance and the bathroom facilities.
 - Bathrooms will be open. Bathrooms will be cleaned by a professional cleaning service on a regular basis.
 - Practice/game times will be staggered per field to reduce crowding at the fields and avoid contact between incoming and outgoing teams and spectators.
 - To avoid crowding at the fields, players, coaches and spectators should not arrive at the fields more than ½ hour prior to the start of any game or practice.
 - RBC will provide hand sanitizer, soap, or other sanitizing materials at dugouts, bathrooms, and any other area prone to high traffic.
 - The Snack Shack will be open, and subject to all necessary COVID restrictions.
 - All gum and seeds and are banned from the complex.