



Ridge Baseball Club COVID-19 Program Preparation and Reopening Plan

Version 1.1
August 19, 2020

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- The RBC Program Preparation 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 Program Preparation Plan is subject to change as required to ensure compliance with any changes to local regulations.

FAILURE TO FOLLOW THE RULES SET FORTH HEREIN WILL BE GROUNDS FOR IMMEDIATE SUSPENSION OF COACHES, PLAYERS, AND/OR TEAMS 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.
- 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. Unless 6 feet of social distancing can be maintained, coaches should wear face coverings at any time while they are on the field, such as when coaching bases or conferencing with players.
- 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 questionnaire at least 2 hours prior to every game or practice. The Health Questionnaire is an online form: <https://forms.gle/yP4qMW6MVWH43kf18>
- Upon arrival at the field, coaches must:
 - Obtain verbal confirmation from each players' parent or responsible guardian that the online health questionnaire was filled out that day prior to the practice or game; and
 - Perform a temperature check on each player. Temperature readings must be less than 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit. Players with temperatures above 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit will not be allowed to participate. One no-touch thermometer will be provided to each team by RBC.

- Coaches must immediately notify RBC if a player or coach is unable to participate due to an answer on the Health Questionnaire or because of a temperature of 100.4 or above 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

- It is the coaches' responsibility to communicate and enforce player 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.
- 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 Questionnaire: <https://forms.gle/yP4qMW6MVWH43kf18>
- Upon arrival at the field, the player's temperature must be taken by a coach **and** the player's parent guardian must confirm to the coach that they filled out the online Health Questionnaire and are approved to play. Temperature readings must be less than 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit. Players with temperatures above 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit will not be allowed to participate.
- 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 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 Questionnaire and Temperature Reading to be Completed Before All Games and Practices

- All players and coaches must complete the online Health Questionnaire at least 2 hours prior to every game or practice.
 - The Health Questionnaire is an online form available at the following link:
<https://forms.gle/yP4qMW6MVWH43kf18>
- Coaches must perform temperature checks on all players and coaches prior to the start of any practice or game. One no-touch thermometer will be provided to each team manager by RBC for use during the duration of the season.
- Temperature readings must be less than 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit. Players with temperatures above 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit will not be allowed to participate.
- Prior to the start of every practice or game, coaches must obtain verbal confirmation from a parent/guardian of each player that the Health Questionnaire has been completed.
- Coaches must immediately report any players or coaches unable to participate due to the Health Questionnaire or a temperature reading above 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit 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.

Reopening of RBC Complex

RBC is working diligently to open the RBC Complex as soon as possible in a safe and effective manner. RBC hopes to be able to open the RBC Complex prior to the start of the Fall 2020 season.

- 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 outlined by NJ State Executive Order 152 and/or the Order in effect at the time of the practice/game.
- Upon reopening of the RBC Complex, RBC will institute some or all of the following measures:
 - Signs, tapes and/or physical barriers will be implemented at the RBC Complex to reinforce best practices that help prevent the spread of coronavirus.
 - Signage will be 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.
 - Picnic tables are not to be used.
 - RBC will provide hand sanitizer, soap, or other sanitizing materials at dugouts, bathrooms, and any other area prone to high traffic.
 - All gum, seeds and candy are banned from the complex.
 - Dugouts and Bleachers:
 - Visual markers will be placed in dug outs and on bleachers to remind players of social distancing requirements.
 - Bleachers will be marked and designated for player use only.