

NEAAU Baseball League Game Safety Recommendations

April 1, 2021



CLUB/TEAM RESPONSIBILITY

- It is imperative that all coaches/teams understand and ensure the enforcement of the safety guidelines before, during and after the game. Teams/coaches need to follow the guidelines required by their town, city and state.

SAFETY FIRST

- While conditions are improving, it continues to be difficult navigating these tricky times. We ask that all participants and spectators play it safe by following guidelines to ensure safety is priority number one and our youth athletes can remain on the fields and play ball.

LOCAL/PERMIT REQUIREMENTS

- League games are played throughout each state and facility permits are acquired from many different towns, cities and facilities. The below game day safety guidelines recommended by NEAAU Baseball do not supersede any required by the town, city or facility at which you will be participating. Host team should communicate any specific town/field safety rules with their opponent's coaching staff prior to their arrival.

TRAVELING to LEAGUE GAMES

- All attendees should self-screen for signs/symptoms of COVID-19 before arriving to the field
- Teams should refrain from arriving to the field in a team vehicle with multiple players
- Players should handle their own bags, equipment, etc.
- Teams should ensure they have a sufficient amount of sanitizing product

COVID SYMPTOMS

- Any person with positive symptoms reported should not be allowed to participate and should contact his or her primary care provider or other appropriate health-care professional

FACE COVERINGS

Requirements regarding face coverings can differ from state to state. We highly recommend you regularly monitor your state restrictions to ensure you are aware of the current requirements. Again, the host team for all league games should know their local and state requirements for face coverings and pass this along to their league opponent. Please see below links to each state's latest youth sports guidelines.

- Massachusetts – <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/executive-office-of-energy-and-environmental-affairs-eea-covid-19-guidance-documents>
- Rhode Island – <https://reopeningri.com/parks-recreation>
- New Hampshire – <https://www.covidguidance.nh.gov/>
- Connecticut - <https://portal.ct.gov/Coronavirus/Covid-19-Knowledge-Base/Latest-COVID-19-Guidance>

SPECTATOR SIZE, SOCIAL DISTANCING

- Spectators must follow proper social distancing guidelines at all times
- The amount of spectators at the field should be monitored to ensure the local/state restrictions are not violated. Limiting the amount of spectators to 1-2 spectators per player helps ensure capacity limits are met
- Spectators should avoid team dugouts
- Social distancing must be enforced while in and around the dugout. Coaches must require some players to remain out of the dugout if social distancing cannot be properly practiced within the dugout

EQUIPMENT

- There should be no shared athletic equipment (gloves, bats, helmets, towels, water bottles, clothing, shoes, or sports specific equipment) between players or teams

HYDRATION

- There should no team coolers or shared drink stations

CELEBRATIONS

- No handshakes between teams
- Teams line up on the baselines after the game for a tip of the cap instead of handshakes. No mass celebrations
- Coaches and Players should refrain from team celebrations such as high fives, handshakes, etc. with teammates, opposing team, umpires, spectators
- Teams required to clean their dugout after their game(s)