



General Rules & Guidance

2020 Fall Season– September 1st

These unprecedented times for Barrington Youth Baseball and Softball (BYB&S) and its parents and participants have created a number of challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We appreciate your support as we address the rapidly changing rules and regulations governing recreational activities. BYB&S, our volunteers, and families are committed to providing a positive and memorable experience for our community.

These general guidelines can change as state and local restrictions are reduced or increased. We will provide updates with any adjustments. All team managers are receiving additional instruction and guidance.

Our community program will address these challenges as a team, with all participants prepared to assist in following all rules and regulations. All families must complete the “House League Waiver Summer Season’ document prior to participation.

We appreciate your support.

Wash Your Hands Often:

Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds before leaving for your game or practice.

All players and coaches are required to have their own hand sanitizer with them for every practice and game.

Hand washing with personal sanitizer will take place frequently at each scheduled event.

Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.

Cover Your Mouth and Nose with a Cloth Face Covering When Around Others:

Players DO NOT have to wear a face covering while actively playing.

Players should wear a face covering when not playing, and unable to remain 6 feet from others (dugouts, bleachers, etc.).

Coaches have plans in place to maintain social distancing standards including this 6-foot buffer for players in dugouts and bleachers.

Coaches must wear face coverings over their nose and mouth when within 6 feet of others.



Self-monitoring and Quarantine:

Anyone with symptoms of fever, cough, or worsening respiratory symptoms, or any known exposure to a person with COVID-19 should not attend any BYB&S activity until cleared by a medical professional.

Any coach, player or helper who has had close contact with a person who is diagnosed with COVID-19 should quarantine for 14 days.

Before every practice or game, the coach will ask if players are exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms. If a player does have symptoms, they will not be allowed to participate until they have had no fever for at least 72 hours or have 2 negative COVID-19 tests in a row, with testing done 24 hours apart.

A team manager will keep an attendance log of players at every practice and game.

COVID-19 Positive? If a player or coach does contract COVID-19, they should remain isolated at home for a minimum of 10 days after symptoms onset and can be re-tested after feverless and feeling well (without fever) for at least 72 hours.

Before resuming activity with the team they need to receive 2 negative COVID-19 test results, with the test results at least 24 hours apart.

As part of contact tracing, an email must be sent to your Division Commissioner to report the positive test.

On-Field Guidance

Time Limits

Each game will have a specific time limit. The plan is to have all participants and spectators leave the field before the next teams arrive. We have scheduled time for this transition. Teams should not arrive more than 15 minutes prior to their scheduled start time.

No Handshakes/Personal Contact Celebrations:

Players and coaches should take measures to prevent all but the essential contact necessary to play the game. This should include refraining from handshakes, high fives, fist/elbow bumps, chest bumps, group celebrations, etc. We suggest lining up outside the dugout and tipping caps to the opposing team as a sign of good sportsmanship after a game.

Players and families should vacate the field/facility as soon as is reasonably possible after the conclusion of their game to minimize unnecessary contact with players, coaches, and spectators from the next game.



Drinks and Snacks:

Athletes, managers/coaches, and umpires should bring their own personal drinks to all team activities. Drinks should be labeled with the person's name.

Individuals should take their own drink containers home each night for cleaning and sanitation or use single-use bottles.

There should be no use of shared or team beverages.

No food should be present at practices and games. No snacks. No Gum, no seeds, etc. The concession stand is currently closed.

Dugouts:

Players and Coaches must be able to socially distance when off the field.

During the game schedule, all Bleachers are closed to spectators and should be used for players.

Players will use a combination of dugouts and bleachers in order to follow social distancing standards.

Managers/coaches and players should be assigned spots in the dugout or on the bleachers so that they are at least six feet apart and must be placed behind a fence. Some dugouts might be closed, and then players would socially distance around the bleachers.

All Langendorf Park Dugouts are CLOSED.

Players are to stay at their assigned spots when on the bench or while waiting their turn to bat.

Player Equipment:

Measures should be enacted to avoid, or minimize, equipment sharing when feasible.

Players should have their own individual batter's helmet, glove, bat, and catcher's equipment. Team Catcher's equipment should be cleaned before being used by a new catcher. Rookies and Juniors divisions will play without a catcher.

Some critical equipment may not be able to be obtained by every individual. When it is necessary to share critical or limited equipment, all surfaces of each piece of shared equipment must be cleaned first and then disinfected with an EPA- approved disinfectant against COVID-19 and allowed sufficient time to dry before used by a new player. Increased attention should be paid to detailed cleaning of all equipment directly contacting the head and face (catcher's mask, helmets). **Coaches and parents will need to execute any in game cleaning. The best practice is to avoid shared equipment.**



Player's equipment (e.g. bags, helmets, bats, gloves, etc.) should be cleaned and disinfected after each use by a parent/ guardian/caretaker, where applicable.

Players should not share towels, clothing, or other items that they may use to wipe their face or hands

Baseballs and Softballs:

Baseballs and softballs will be rotated through on a regular basis, at least every two innings, to limit individual contact. Balls will be rotated during practice to limit individual contact.

Umpires will limit their contact with the ball, and catchers should retrieve foul balls and passed balls where possible.

Foul balls landing outside the field of play should be retrieved by participating players, coaches, and umpires. No spectators should retrieve the ball.

Spitting, Sunflower Seeds, Gum, etc.:

Sunflower seeds, gum, etc., are not allowed in dugouts or on the playing field.

All players and coaches are to refrain from spitting at all times, including in dugout areas and on the playing field.

Game Operations and Umpire Guidance

Pre-Game Plate Meetings:

Plate meetings should be eliminated.

Social distancing of six feet between individuals should be implemented during all pre-game plate meetings between teams and umpires.

Plate meetings should only consist of one manager or coach from each team, and game umpires.

All participants should wear a cloth face covering.

No players should ever be a part of plate meetings.

Umpire Placement:

Umpires should be placed behind the pitcher's mound/circle to call balls and strikes. Umpires are encouraged to keep a safe distance from players as much as possible.

Umpires will wear cloth face coverings when unable to socially distance.



Spectators:

Must ensure that practices and games follow all local and state directives regarding the number of people allowed to gather in one place. Group sizes are currently limited to 50 total participants at each field.

Spectators should be limited to immediate family members in order to follow these group-gathering restrictions.

All spectators should follow best social distancing practices — stay six feet away from individuals outside their household; wear a cloth face covering, and avoid direct hand or other contact with players/managers/coaches during play.

Spectators should bring their own seating or portable chairs when possible. Bleachers will be used as additional space for players to socially distance.

Spectators should be seated along the foul lines in their own chairs and stay 6 feet away from other spectators that do not reside within your household.

For any interaction where social distancing cannot be maintained, a mask should be worn.

A spectator with any of the following conditions should not attend a practice or game until evaluated by a medical provider and given clearance to do so:

Active COVID-19 infection

Known direct contact with an individual testing positive for COVID-19

Fever

Cough

Those at higher risk for severe disease should consult with their medical provider before attending a game and should ensure the strictest adherence to guidelines regarding face coverings, distancing, and hand washing.

Public Restrooms:

Most public restrooms will be closed at field locations. Families should plan accordingly.

Guideline resources:

Restore Illinois- Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity

Illinois Department of Public Health

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Little League Baseball & Softball

United States Specialty Sports Association

Sadler Sports & Recreation Insurance Agency