



Trophy Club Roanoke Youth Baseball Association

RULES FOR GAME PLAY

Date: **July 11, 2020**

To: **COACHES, PLAYERS, PARENTS & FANS**

Trophy Club Roanoke Youth Baseball Association ("TCRYBA") is pleased to say that, per the Texas Governor's executive order, a return to youth sports was recently authorized!

These rules and precautions are pursuant to Governor Abbott's Executive Order and comes with the support and approval from the Town of Trophy Club and the City of Roanoke. (*Social Distancing for spectators will still be recommended; see details below.*)

****IMPORTANT**** Despite youth sports being allowed by the Governor, there is always a risk with any activity where interaction with, or close proximity to, other people exists. The ultimate decision to participate lies with parents and coaches and no refunds will be given for players withdrawing from the league once registration closes. Please read through the Rules below and carefully consider whether or not you want to participate in Fall baseball before you register. Please direct any questions to the league at info@tcrbaseball.com

RULES GAME PLAY:

1. **COACHES/PLAYERS/PARENTS/FANS MUST READ, UNDERSTAND, AND AGREE TO THE PROTOCOLS IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN GAME PLAY. FURTHERMORE, WE RECOMMEND THOSE IN ATTENDANCE FOLLOW THE RECOMMENDED CDC GUIDELINES. IF YOU WITNESS ANY FAN, COACH, PLAYER OR STAFF MEMBER WHO IS BLANTANLY NOT FOLLOWING THE RULES LISTED BELOW PLEASE REPORT YOUR INFORMATION TO THE LEAGUE EMAIL ADDRESS LISTED ABOVE.**
2. **PARENTS AND FANS (SPECTATORS).** Each field will have designated areas (see 3.i below) where Parents and Fans, are restricted from entering. Parents and fans are recommended to ensure social distancing is maintained at all times. (*Family units may sit together.*)
 - a. **NO PARENTS OR FANS ARE ALLOWED INSIDE ANY WARM-UP AREA, DUGOUT, OR ON THE FIELD OF PLAY.** These areas are restricted to Coaches and Players only.
 - b. There will be **NO** grouping of the team outside of the field of play for typical "post-game" meetings, or shared snacks, etc.
 - c. Teams are strongly encouraged to leave immediately after their game and sportsmanship greeting has concluded to allow for the next teams to have ample warm-up time on the game field.
 - d. The Town of Trophy Club and the City of Roanoke has provided signs that have been posted throughout each complex reminding Parents and Fans of Social Distancing recommendations.
 - e. Parents should supervise and facilitate the arrival and departure of their player. If the parent or parents remain to watch the game, they are asked to practice social distancing and remain 6 feet apart and

spread out in the common area around the outside of the ballfield. Bleachers may be used pursuant to suggested social distancing guidelines. (*A family unit may sit together.*) Siblings of players must be under the parent's control at all times and they must ensure that they practice the same social distancing as recommended that all spectators follow. Siblings must stay with the family unit and follow the social distancing recommendations during their time at the ballfields.

- f. Concessions stands will NOT be available before, after or during game times. Please ensure your player and family members have adequate snacks and drinks during your time at both Indy East and West (sunflower seeds or shelled peanuts are NOT permitted at either Indy East or West at any time).

3. GAME PLAY.

- a. **Home Plate Meeting.** It shall consist of the umpire(s) and the head coach (1) from each team.

- b. **Coaches.** Max of 4 coaches per team.

- i. **Offense: Normal Base Coach Positions,** one (1) at 1B and one (1) at 3B.

- a. Two (2) additional coaches allowed outside the dugout

- c. **Umpires.**

- i. Recreational Game Play: One (1) umpire for 7U & 8U. Two (2) umpires for 9U and up. Umpires will be in their normal positions on the field of play.

- ii. Interlock, TEBA, Tournament Play: Two (2) umpires for all ages. Umpires will be in their normal positions on the field of play.

- d. **Rules.** Normal baseball rules apply. TCRYBA uses NFHS rules and has modified rules for recreational play.

- e. **Protest/Appeals.** Any "on the field" rules protest, or appeals request must be made by first seeking time out from the umpire and using the recommended social distancing guidelines. Any protest or appeal MUST be handled in a calm professional manner and must follow game rule guidelines. This is a ZERO TOLERANCE policy. Coaches that cannot abide by this protocol will be immediately ejected and asked to leave the ballpark and are subject to league rules regarding ejections.

- f. **No Post Game Handshake/High Fives between teams.** Players and coaches will line up outside of their respected dugouts to extend their good sportsmanship greetings to each other with a "tip of the cap" gesture.

- g. **Teams need to leave immediately after game play/sportsmanship greeting has been completed.** This requirement is made to ensure all teams have adequate warm-up time and to avoid potential clustering.

- h. **Game Start Times.** Games will be scheduled with an adequate break between games to allow for teams to exit and enter dugout areas without potential clustering, and to allow for adequate pre-game warm-ups.

- i. **Teams Arriving for Games.** Teams arriving must wait outside of the designated dugout areas, or in the designated Warm-Up Areas. Parents/fans and siblings are NOT permitted to enter the designated warm-up areas. Designated warm-up areas for Indy West will be no closer than 15 feet from each dugout to the foul line on either side of the field(s). Designated warm-up area for Indy East will be located on the tee-ball fields exercising proper social distancing at all times.

- j. **Pre-Game Warm-Ups.** Zero pre-game warm-ups may take place in the designated common areas.

Warm-ups are RESTRICTED to: **1) Designated Warm-Up Areas, 2) On the Game Field (outfield only).**

- k. **Dugouts. USE OF DUGOUTS FOR GAME PLAY ONLY.** Teams are permitted to use the dugout.

- 4. **DUGOUT CLEANLINESS.** Teams are required to clean their dugout PRIOR to departing after each game. It will be the coach's responsibility to ensure ALL trash is picked up and the dugout is ready for the next team to enter.

- 5. **WATER.** Coaches and Players are responsible for their own water/PowerAde, Gatorade, etc. There will be no sharing of water bottles etc. by coaches and or players inside or outside of the dugout.

6. TCRYBA STAFF & UMPIRE STAFF SCREENING.

- a. TCRYBA Staff will be monitored by TCRYBA for temperature and symptoms, as per CDC guidelines.

- b. Umpires will be monitored by NTSO for temperature and symptoms, as per CDC guidelines.

7. COACHES/PARENTS/FANS SCREENING.

- a. Coaches shall monitor their teams and request that ALL PARENTS/FANS self-monitor pursuant to CDC guidelines.
 - b. Parents/Fans & players shall self-monitor pursuant to CDC guidelines.
 - c. We encourage parents, players and coaches to practice good personal hygiene.
 - d. We encourage you to bring and use your own hand-sanitizer, disinfectants, etc.
 - e. We encourage the use of face covering while practicing proper social distancing during your time at both Indy East and West. Players and coaches are not required to wear masks inside the field of play but may do so at their discretion.
8. **THANK YOU!** We are doing all we can to SAFELY PROVIDE BASEBALL this summer / fall for our TCRYBA teams (Players, Coaches and Parents/Fans) because we believe that these activities are important for the children we serve. **We also believe and trust that our coaches, players and parents/fans will not attend if sick and will abide by CDC Guidelines and will also abide by the additional safety protocol and social distancing recommendations as set forth in this document.**

TCRYBA has been working diligently with the Town of Trophy Club and the City of Roanoke Parks and Rec Departments to do everything possible to provide a SAFE RETURN for Fall baseball and your cooperation is paramount to the success of this season.

Best regards,

Brandon Hennig

President, Trophy Club Roanoke Youth Baseball Association