



SHOREVIEW
AREA YOUTH
BASEBALL

SHOREVIEW AREA YOUTH BASEBALL (SAYB)

COVID-19 Guidelines

Shoreview Area Youth Baseball (SAYB) is committed to providing a safe, healthy season for its volunteers, coaches, and players. In that regard, SAYB has developed the following COVID-19 Guidelines. The goal is to mitigate the potential for transmission of COVID-19. This requires full cooperation among our coaches, parents, and players.

Purpose: This document outlines SAYB’s approach to its 2021 baseball season. These guidelines follow and support the guidelines published by the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH)—as well as guidance from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). SAYB reserves the right to modify this document as appropriate based on MDH and CDC guidance.

Host Facility Guidelines: Teams must adhere to all host facility guidelines.

Spectator Expectations: During games, SAYB may limit parents and spectators to separate seating away from the backstop or dugout. Spectators will not be allowed around the area of the backstop or dugouts, as that area will be treated as an extension of the dugout to enable players and coaches to spread out as described below. Only players, up to three coaches per team, and the umpire(s) are allowed on the field of play. Spectators are only permitted to view the game from the outfield—meaning along the foul lines starting at 1st/3rd base extending to the outfield and in the outfield area. Then-existing social distancing guidelines per MDH and CDC will apply and SAYB may modify this as appropriate based on MDH and CDC guidance.

Dugout: Following a practice or game, departing teams will clean their dugout of all trash and other items and will take reasonable efforts to wipe down all hard surfaces (benches, bat racks, etc.).

The dugout may be extended from behind the dugout to the backstop for both teams. This would be to allow rostered players and up to three coaches per team to practice social distancing throughout the game while their team is up to bat.

Game Protocol: At the pregame meeting and throughout the game, coaches and umpires will not shake hands or have any physical contact with each other.

At the conclusion of the game, players will be asked to forego the sportsmanship line at the end of the game. Instead we are asking for each team to promote sportsmanship, such as by lining up on their respective foul line and “tipping their cap” as a salute to the other team.

Equipment: It is recommended that players and coaches carry hand sanitizer to be used before, during and after the games, as appropriate.

Players should provide their own gloves, bats, batting gloves, helmets, water bottle, and catcher’s gear (if applicable). Parents should take reasonable efforts to sanitize these items before each practice.

Players should refrain from sharing equipment with other players and coaches. If players happen to share equipment, they should do their best to clean it before use and to use hand sanitizer after use.

Coaches may provide catcher’s gear to be used during practice. Coaches will take reasonable efforts to sanitize the gear before each practice and after each use.

All coaches and players must carry a face mask with them in the event one is needed (i.e., where social distancing is not achievable).

Umpires: Umpires may choose to officiate the game from behind the pitcher’s mound, while practicing social distancing with all fielders. This will limit the number of people around home plate and will still allow the umpire to call the game and see the whole field.

Hygiene, Monitoring, and Stay-Home Expectations: MDH and CDC guidelines shall be followed by parents, coaches, and players regarding monitoring and staying home in cases of COVID-19. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Practice good hygiene always.
- Monitor symptoms of COVID-19, including fever, cough, or other symptoms.
- Player on team tests positive AND was at practice or a game with his team - 10 DAYS OFF for the entire team.
- Player on team learns of COVID positive close contact exposure outside of practice or a game AND THEN comes to practice or a game with no symptoms or positive test:
 - That player is off for 10 DAYS, or 7 days with a negative test (per Minnesota State guidelines).
 - Coach alerts team - players are free to monitor symptoms and continue practicing or isolate - depending on how each family chooses to treat the situation. If the player does test positive - then the team is off for 10 days from the date of exposure.

SAYB reserves the right to modify this as appropriate based on MDH and CDC guidance.

More information can be found at:

- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/youth-sports.html>
- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/steps-when-sick.html>