

# Major League Softball Reopening Guidelines



	MANDATORY	RECOMMENDED PRACTICES
<b>ARRIVAL TO FIELD</b>	<p><b>ALL</b> participants, spectators, and officials <b>MUST</b> adhere to six (6) foot physical distancing while at the field.</p> <p>ALL participants, spectators, and officials <b>MUST</b> conduct <b>DAILY</b> symptom assessments (self-evaluations). Anyone experiencing ANY symptoms <b>MUST STAY HOME.*</b></p> <p><b>NO</b> coolers or shared drinking stations will be allowed.</p> <p>Team managers/representatives <b>MUST</b> share these requirements with their players and spectators, and ensure that they are being followed at all times.</p> <p>Participants waiting to play the next game should maintain a six (6) foot social distance from the field and dugout/bleachers area. If this cannot be done, participants should remain away from the playing field.</p> <p>Once players have arrived at the field, they <b>MUST</b> wear a mask. Masks <b>MUST</b> be worn as teams are entering and exiting the dugouts/designated player areas.</p>	<p>Participants are strongly recommended to travel to the park alone or with a member of their immediate household.</p> <p>Officials should clean/sanitize equipment before and/or after the shift.</p> <p>Participants should not arrive early to "congregate" in parking lots or other open areas.</p> <p>Warming up should be limited to a necessary time and be done alone or in small groups.</p> <p>Face coverings are strongly recommended when arriving and leaving the park.</p>

	MANDATORY	RECOMMENDED PRACTICES
<b>PARTICIPANTS</b>	<p><b>MUST</b> adhere to six (6) foot social distancing practices when not on the field of play.</p> <p><b>ALL</b> participants <b>MUST</b> conduct <b>DAILY</b> symptom assessments (self-evaluations). Anyone experiencing <b>ANY</b> symptoms <b>MUST STAY HOME</b>.*</p> <p>Participants <b>MUST</b> wear <b>FACE COVERINGS</b> when not actively participating in the field of play.</p> <p><b>MUST NOT</b> share water or belongings. Personal items should only be used by the individual owner including, but not limited to bats, hats, gloves, water bottles, and other on- and off-field gear.</p> <p>No touch rule - players should refrain from high fives, handshake lines, and other physical contact with teammates, opposing players, coaches, umpires, and fans.</p> <p><b>NO</b> spitting or eating seeds, gum, tobacco, or other similar products.</p> <p><b>ALL</b> participants should refrain from interaction with officials. Any communication that is necessary should be conducted by the team manager/representative.</p> <p>Participants who are <b>NOT</b> currently actively participating may use the bleachers as an extension of the dugout. This includes equipment and personal items.</p> <p><b>NO</b> smoking or vaping within proximity to the playing field (<b>MUST</b> be at least 20 feet from field and maintain social distancing). Any city ordinance <b>WILL</b> supercede this requirement.</p>	<p>Hand washing or sanitizing are strongly recommended for participants during games.</p> <p>Whenever possible, equipment and personal items should have proper separation and not be shared. If equipment must be shared, proper sanitization should be administered between users.</p>

	Participants should remain six (6) feet away from the umpire at all times to allow the umpire to safely move around the fields to make calls.	
	<b>MANDATORY</b>	<b>RECOMMENDED PRACTICES</b>
<b>MANAGERS/ TEAM REPRESENTATIVES</b>	<p><b>MUST</b> adhere to six (6) foot social distancing practices. This includes in and around the bleachers, dugouts, and spaces where contractors may be working.</p> <p><b>ALL</b> managers <b>MUST</b> conduct <b>DAILY</b> symptom assessments (self-evaluations). Anyone experiencing <b>ANY</b> symptoms <b>MUST STAY HOME</b>.*</p> <p>Participants will be the <b>ONLY</b> people allowed in the dugout or designated player areas (such as the bleachers or area in close proximity to dugout).</p> <p>Team Manager will be the <b>ONLY</b> person who may interact with officials, or will designate a person who will be the only one to interact with officials.</p> <p>Team manager or designated team representative <b>MUST</b> wear a face covering when interacting with officials.</p> <p>Team managers/representatives <b>MUST</b> share these requirements with their players and spectators, and ensure that they are being followed at all times.</p>	<p>Strongly recommended to wear face coverings at all times.</p> <p>Hand washing and sanitizing is strongly recommended if contact is made with any surface, equipment, or personal items related to a participant.</p>
	<b>MANDATORY</b>	<b>RECOMMENDED PRACTICES</b>
<b>SPECTATORS (IF ALLOWED)</b>	<p><b>MUST</b> adhere to six (6) foot social distancing practices. This includes in and around the bleachers, dugouts, and spaces where contractors may be working.</p> <p><b>ALL</b> spectators <b>MUST</b> conduct <b>DAILY</b> symptom assessments (self-evaluations). Anyone experiencing <b>ANY</b> symptoms <b>MUST STAY HOME</b>.*</p>	<p>Strongly recommended to wear face coverings at all times.</p> <p>Hand washing and sanitizing is strongly recommended if contact is made with any surface, equipment, or personal items related to a participant.</p>

	<p><b>ALL</b> specators should refrain from interaction with officials. Any communication that is necessary should be conducted by the team manager/representative.</p> <p><b>NO</b> coolers or shared drinking stations will be allowed.</p> <p><b>NO</b> smoking or vaping within proximity to the playing field (<b>MUST</b> be at least 20 feet from field and maintain social distancing). Any city ordinance <b>WILL</b> supercede this requirement.</p> <p><b>MUST</b> not enter player areas (on the field or areas being used as the bench or dugout - this may expand beyond the designated areas layed out by the facility).</p>	
	<b>MANDATORY</b>	<b>RECOMMENDED PRACTICES</b>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>OFFICIALS (SCOREKEEPERS, UMPIRES, LEAGUE DIRECTORS)</b></p>	<p><b>MUST</b> adhere to six (6) foot social distancing when interacting with participants and other officials.</p> <p><b>ALL</b> officials <b>MUST</b> conduct <b>DAILY</b> symptom assessments (self-evaluations). Anyone experiencing <b>ANY</b> symptoms <b>MUST STAY HOME.*</b></p> <p>Scorekeepers and League Directors <b>MUST</b> wear face coverings at all times.</p> <p><b>NO</b> smoking or vaping within proximity to the playing field (<b>MUST</b> be at least 20 feet from field and maintain social distancing). Any city ordinance <b>WILL</b> supercede this requirement.</p> <p>Contact with team managers/representatives will be kept to a minimum - only before and after game interactions as necessary.</p>	<p>Umpires should allow adequate distance from the catcher and batter while still able to perform their duty.</p> <p>Hand washing and sanitizing is strongly recommended if contact is made with any surface, equipment, or personal items related to a participant.</p>

	MANDATORY	RECOMMENDED PRACTICES
<b>GAME PLAY</b>	<p>Participants who are on the field and actively playing (fielders, batter, on-deck batter, and baserunners) will not have to wear a face covering.</p> <p>Base coaches <b>MUST</b> wear a face covering and maintain a six (6) foot physical distance from baserunners at all times.</p> <p>Participants who are on the field <b>MUST</b> adhere to six (6) foot physical distancing unless the ball is in play.</p> <p>Umpires should remain six (6) feet away from participants at all times to allow them to safely play the game.</p>	<p>Hand washing or sanitizing are strongly recommended for participants during games.</p>
	MANDATORY	RECOMMENDED PRACTICES
<b>LEAVING THE FIELD</b>	<p>Participants should gather their belongings and leave the field as soon as the game has ended as to allow the next team to come into the area. Masks <b>MUST</b> be worn as teams are exiting and entering the dugouts/designated players areas.</p> <p>Officials should adhere to social distancing practices when interacting with participants, spectators, park patrons, and other officials when off the field.</p> <p>Team managers/representatives <b>MUST</b> share these requirements with their players and spectators, and ensure that they are being followed at all times.</p>	<p>Participants should leave the park alone or with the same people they arrived with.</p> <p>Participants should avoid "congregating" in parking lots or other open areas after games.</p> <p>Officials should clean/sanitize equipment before and/or after the shift.</p> <p>Face coverings are strongly recommended when arriving and leaving the park.</p>

	MANDATORY	RECOMMENDED PRACTICES
<b>CONFIRMED CASES</b>	<p>MLS will maintain a complete list of managers, participants, and officials present at each event to include the date, beginning and ending time of games/shift, plus name address, and phone contact be made available upon request.</p> <p>Individuals who are infected should immediately isolate and seek medical care should symptoms arise.</p> <p>Contact local authorities about suspected cases or exposure.</p>	<p>Work with local authorities to indentify potentially infected or exposed individuals to hel pfacilitate effective contact tracing/notifications.</p> <p>Once testing is readily available, test all suspected infections or exposures.</p> <p>Following testing, contact local health department to initiate apporpriate care and tracing.</p>

*\* - Per the CDC, symptoms include COUGH, SHORTNESS OF BREATH OR DIFFICULTY BREATHING, FEVER, CHILLS, MUSCLE PAIN, SORE THROAT, and NEW LOSS OF TASTE OR SMELL.*