



## **Minneapolis Youth Baseball Association**

Our goal is to play baseball with the safety of our players, coaches and families at the forefront of our programs. The Board of Directors has created the following plan to structure games that align with standards released by the Governor's office and recommendations put forth by the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH). Although these guidelines are intended to reduce the transmission of communicable diseases like COVID-19, each family assumes inherent risks by participating in group activities. To ensure we are providing a safe baseball experience for everyone, we need full compliance in following the guidelines listed below. Please be responsible and do your part to help us play. We all agree that baseball will look and feel different, but our hope is that our players can enjoy the social and emotional benefits of baseball in a safe way.

## **General COVID-19 Guidelines**

Coaches, players, family members or spectators who are sick or are experiencing any of the following symptoms or live with someone who is COVID-19 positive are not allowed to participate in MYBA-sponsored events. Symptoms include:

- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fever
- Chills
- Repeated shaking with chills
- Muscle pain
- Unexplained Headache
- Vomiting and/or Diarrhea
- Sore throat
- New loss of taste or smell



## Practice Guidelines

1. All participants must practice social distancing whenever possible, maintaining a six-foot distance from other participants.
2. Masks are required to be worn at all times. Masking at all times allows us to consider shortened quarantine times for teams that experience a COVID exposure. MDH guidance is for masks to be two layers of tightly woven fabric fitting snugly around the nose and mouth-single layer neck gaiters do not meet this guidance.
3. Dugouts should not be used during practices. Player items can be hung on fences or placed on the ground but must be spaced 6 feet apart.
4. Players and coaches must refrain from high fives, handshake line, and any other physical contact with one another.
5. Each player is responsible for their own helmet, glove, water bottle, and bat and sanitizer. Equipment may not be shared, with the exception of team-provided baseballs.
6. No food, sunflower seeds, gum, etc. will be allowed. No spitting.
7. As best you can, wash hands immediately before and after practice. If handwashing is not available, use hand sanitizer. (It is recommended that sanitizers contain at least 60% alcohol.)
8. Catchers gear may be shared and must be sanitized between uses. Coaches (or assigned parent volunteers) are required to sanitize catchers gear after each practice.
9. Spectators must maintain proper social distancing according to MDH guidelines. Spectators are encouraged to wear a mask.
10. Each team must keep an accurate record of practice participants including contact information. In the case of someone getting infected this document will be necessary for the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) to perform contact tracing.
11. In the event of an injury during practice, the coach of the injured player will attend to the player while wearing a mask.
12. **Players and Coaches are required to contact the MYBA COVID Committee [covid@mplsmillers.org](mailto:covid@mplsmillers.org) in the following situations:**
  - a. **If a player or coach tests positive for COVID-19.** MYBA is required to notify MDH at [health.sports.covid19@state.mn.us](mailto:health.sports.covid19@state.mn.us). MDH or local public health will work with MYBA to identify close contacts and do follow-up with teams. If a cluster of infections emerges within a team, MYBA, as directed by MDH, may suspend the activities of a team for two weeks.
  - b. **If a player or coach has been exposed to a positive COVID-19 case.** The COVID Committee will communicate with the person/family and determine the course of action based on exposure circumstances.
  - c. **If a player or coach is quarantining from any other activity.** This includes school and other sports or activities.
  - d. **If a player or coach has reason to believe a household member may be sick with COVID-19 and is in the process of getting tested.** The COVID Committee will communicate with the person/family and determine the course of action.

**Please note, MYBA cannot inform any families, players or coaches of that person's identity without their consent, unless directed by the Department of Health, or if said patient needs to produce medical records for any reason.**

We ask that each player, coach and family be diligent in following the guidelines listed above. If any member of the Millers community observes failure to adhere to the guidelines, it should be brought to the attention of the Board immediately. Please email [president@mplsmillers.org](mailto:president@mplsmillers.org) with concerns. Disciplinary action may be taken if deemed necessary.

The above guidelines are mandatory for Millers players, coaches and spectators during practices.