**Homerun Adult Slow Pitch league**

**Social Distance Policies**

Teams are responsible to relay all Homerun Policies to their team and fan base. Teams and or team’s family members who do not follow rules will put teams in risk of being removed from the league or tournament and no refund
**WE CANNOT STRESS ENOUGH YOUR COMPLETE COOPERATION WILL BE REQUIRED TO NOT ONLY TO BE BACK ON THE FIELD BUT TO REMAIN THERE FOR THE REST OF THE SEASON.**

**MASKS WILL BE MANDATORY FOR ALL ENTERING PARK**

**SOCIAL DISTANCE 6 FEET**

**1 SPECTATOR PER PLAYER ALLOWED**

1. There will be a “no-contact, no-handshake policy” to be observed at all Homerun events and business interaction until further notice. This includes all physical contact and extends to customary game-related activities, such umpire-coach introductions, and post-game handshakes between members of opposing teams. Instead, staff, players and coaches should verbally “good game,” without shaking hands, high-fiving, or fist-bumping.
2. Players will be expected to maintain social distancing before and after the game – and during the game when possible.
3. Teams should bring their own hand sanitizer to use throughout the events.
4. Spectators will be required to maintain social distancing (6 Feet) during all league games. All parents/fans will spread out strictly adhering to areas for them. No pop-up tents other than one’s teams use to extend the dugout space will be permitted. Individual chairs with covered umbrellas will be allowed.
5. Each field will be marked off to show 6 feet distances for all to follow. Bleachers will be closed for social distancing. Spectators should bring their own chairs for use. No pop-up tents will be allowed to help minimize gathers. Picnic tables will be closed or distance 10 feet apart.
6. League, teams will have a limit of 2 family members per Uniformed players, no friends. Rosters of no more than 12 players and 1 coach allowed in the dugout area

**Bathrooms, Food, Merchandise**

**Will the bathrooms be open, and will food be available? Can we bring our own food and drinks?**

1. Our Concession stand food service will be open. As always, it will be sanitized each day. The area by the concession stand will be marked off with 6’ distance markers to stand in line and roped off
2. Teams cannot bring grilling and or picnic food into the park. Individual non-alcohol drinks can be. tailgating, or team picnic will NOT be permitted.
3. No communal water coolers will be permitted
4. No seeds, gum or any food that encourages spitting will be permitted.
5. All customers required to wear mask in concession area roped off. No mask no service.
6. All concession employees will wear mask and or shield inside concession stand
7. Shield Guard will be installed at Ordering window
8. Concession building will be entered only by concession employees. No other employees or other park attendees will be allowed. All deliveries will be dropped off outside the door for concession employees only to bring in.
9. Concession will be sanitized and wiped down inside and outside throughout the day and at the end of the day
10. All condiments will be included with food being served. (Ketchup, Mustard, Utensils)
11. All orders wrapped to go. All draft beers covered with lids
12. Beer trailer for Senior tournament only will be set up with social distance signs and distance from concession to help social distance during the tournament
13. Bathrooms will be sanitized and wiped down throughout the tournaments and stocked with filled soap dispensers and paper towels. 6 feet social distance lines will be marked outside both men and women bathrooms. No more than 2 people will be allowed at one time in the bathrooms. Masks or cloth face covering are required to enter the bathrooms. As we always do, our restrooms will be maintained for cleanliness, monitored constantly, and disinfected daily.

**Park Employees**

1. All park employee’s Field workers, tournament personal, and concession workers mandatory to wear masks and gloves supplied by Homerun Softball while working in and around park
2. Employees will wipe down dugouts, bathrooms, gate, concession outdoor areas and other high-volume areas throughout the day
3. Between games employees who will be maintaining the fields, will sanitize the team bench time permitted.
4. All equipment at the park used before and after will be wiped down
5. Hours each week will be texted to Ronald Baum for payroll purpose

**League pre-season check in**

One coach will be required to confirm the following.

1. Team and team fans have agreed to all league rules including all new social distancing for all the safety of all attending leagues (This will also be done by email before schedules are released)
2. All proper paperwork has been handed in.
3. Teams and fans unable to follow all social distance safety rules will be removed from leagues with no refund if policies are unable to be followed.
4. All rules will be emailed out to teams before tournaments
5. All rosters and paperwork will be emailed back to league director before the start of season.
6. There should be no exchange of any league information. All paperwork will be posted on website and email to all teams. All tournament fees paid online

**League scheduling**

League schedule will be emailed out to all teams and posted on the Homerun website. Teams will be assigned a time to come to the park. Do not arrive before your time. Warmups will be at their fields before their first game, so teams and spectators are not spread out through the park. We will not have any batting cages set up. During warm up teams need to maintain social distance. Warmup for teams will consist of throwing only to warmup arms. All other pregame warmup should be done off site if needed.

**Game policies**

1. Home Umpires are required to wear either a masks or face shields. Field umpires are highly suggested to wear masks or face shield but not mandatory. These will be worn during league games to protect officials who have multiple contacts with managers and players.
2. It will be required for catchers and optional for batters to wear a covering over their nose and mouth in the batter’s box area
3. Adult players are encouraged to wear masks while on the field of play
4. Adult players need to wear masks when in the dugouts during the game. Players will need to maintain social distance while in dugouts which will be extended in the back and near the dugouts.
5. Mandatory for all coaches in the dugout or field to wear a mask
6. The on-deck batter or a player assigned by the offensive team will wear gloves and be responsible for picking up the bat after it is used.
7. We will NOT be supplying community water jugs (water fountains) for obvious reasons until the pandemic is over.  Players will need to supply their own individual water (No team water jugs) and should have their names on their bottles and keep in their bags when not drinking from.
8. No Team gathering before or during games on the field. All social distancing required when coaches need to make pitching changes
9. Coaches are not allowed on the field of play, just coaches box. Any questions regarding a play, coaches will need to ask for time and have the umpire come to them and maintain a social distance
10. Adult Slow pitch league games home umpires will stand 6 feet behind the catcher.
11. All games will have time limits to help keep games moving and cause any issues with amount of people coming and going at the park
12. Teams need to follow personal distancing recommendations of being 6 feet apart and away from the field of play or any buildings after the games
13. Batting cages will not be set up at the park for the 2020 season to help with gathers of players and coaches and for off hours use at park
14. All league scores from all events will be emailed to ronald@homerunsbbb.com All league updates and changes will be posted on the website

**How long will these restrictions last?**

1. It is unknown for how long we will need to enforce these highly restrictive measures.
2. Once games begin and we understand any issues we find during actual play, we can begin to evaluate any amendments.
3. However, we cannot predict how the government will continue to restrict us. It is unrealistic and perhaps also unwise to think in a matter of weeks we can go from maximum restrictions to pre-pandemic behavior.

**How will the site restrictions be enforced and what happens if people do not comply?**

1. For everyone’s safety all must understand we will have a ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY.
2. Coaches must ensure their team adhere to the 1 person per player rule and on-field social distance rules. We prefer to not have to resort to a wristband system for entering the park so please monitor and take responsibility for your team and spectators.
3. Umpires will manage both the game and the social distance and safety rules on the field. However, we need the coaches to be an equally important part of the safety team.
4. Umpires will warn coaches if a team is not abiding by the social distance restrictions. Teams will have a maximum of 2 warnings. If a third infraction of social distance rules occurs, the game will end and be recorded as a forfeit.
5. Spectators are required to follow all policies from tournament staff regarding social distance and park policies. Spectators who refuse to follow commands from staff will be ejected from the park. If they refuse ejection, the police will be called.
6. If anyone, players, or spectators are feeling sick, have a cold, coughing etc., STAY HOME!

**Game Play and Rules Modifications**

**Will the rules of the game be any different this summer?**

1. The play adaptations are mainly in terms of social distance. We have tried to preserve the game as we know it as much as possible. These are the on-field protocols all will need to follow.
2. On the field and around the field, we will follow strict social distancing. Slow pitch is a non-contact sport and is ideally suited for such a thing since the players are so far apart for nearly the entire time.
3. Umpires, and the league director/or night supervisor will manage both the game and the social distance and safety rules on the field. However, we need the coaches to be an equally important part of the safety team.
4. Umpires will warn coaches if a team is not abiding by the social distance restrictions. Teams will have a maximum of 2 warnings. If a third infraction of social distance rules occurs, the game will end and be recorded as a forfeit.
5. Teams are required to completely clean out the dugouts and leave nothing behind that others must touch to clean or discard.
6. The catcher and hitter are the players in closest proximity. Yet they are not at the same eye level and the catcher is typically 3 feet below and 4 to 5 feet behind the hitter. We suggest the catcher wear a face mask and for the hitter as well while up to bat only. However, if the mask impedes the player’s ability to perform and breathe naturally, they will be permitted to remove the mask.
7. The home plate umpire will be in a new position to call balls and strikes. The umpire will be 6 feet behind the catcher
8. There will be no shaking of hands, high fives, fist bumps or even elbow bumps. At the game’s conclusion teams will just exit the field.
9. There will be no players at the home plate meeting prior to the game and social distance will be maintained by the two managers and umpires.
10. Lineup cards will be optional and only exchanged between scorekeepers. If one team does not wish to exchange physical lineup cards that will be permitted. If you can exchange lineups via text that will be ideal. No physical lineup cards will be given to the umpire. We ask teams use the honor system and any lineup card disputes will need to be resolved between scorekeepers before game continues. Time will continue to run
11. Mound visits will be limited to the pitcher, catcher, and manager at a proper social distance.
12. No team huddles, pre, during or post game meetings will be permitted.
13. No seeds, gum or any food that encourages spitting will be permitted.
14. No sharing of equipment will be permitted.
15. New game balls are used at the start of each game. Used game balls will be sanitized after each game.

**How do we manage the dugouts and social distancing?**

1. Our dugouts are all made from chain link fence and the air flow is very good. It is not an enclosed space. We will expand all dugouts down the 1st and 3rd baseline for teams to spread out. We will have the areas rope off for team personal only. No parents, family members or friends should be in the dugout area. We will limit the number of players in the main dugout at any one time. For players on defense usually the whole team is on the field with one or two players and the coaches on the bench. Coaches and umpires will keep watch to maintain strict social distancing. No more than 3 people maintaining 6’ social distances are allowed in the main dugout at one time.
2. For the team on offense the 4 players in the batting order due up that inning will be in the dugout. The 2 coaches will be at the 1st and 3rd base coaching positions.
3. The remaining players will be outside the dugout in a marked area from the end of the dugout down the baseline.
4. Players will need to bring chairs if they want to have seating in this area and teams can place pop-up tents to cover the players seated in the uncovered dugout area.