



### **West Valley Slammers Return to Play Protocol and Guidelines (Practice)**

The West Valley Slammers (WVS) board of directors is eager to return to playing softball. We are dedicated to the safety of our players and their families. These guidelines reflect our commitment to player/family safety and the current orders put in place by the Santa Clara County Department of Public Health. This is not a typical Slammers fall season and is subject to further modifications based on health conditions and/or county order changes.

NOTE: These guidelines may be challenging to implement for many children under 10 years of age. Coaches for these players must consider how to utilize practice slots in a way that allows for adherence to protocols.

1. The league safety officer is the point of contact for implementation of the enforcement of these protocols. If the league safety officer position is vacant, the members of the Executive Board of Directors will fulfill this role collectively.
2. In the event of an outbreak of the virus, the league safety officer will coordinate with local health officials and any pertinent organizations regarding any team activity and will follow guidelines regarding notification requirements.
3. The league safety officer, in cooperation with the board of directors and input from the coaches, will maintain a list of no more than four (4) coaches and two (2) female parents and/or guardians to act as team manager and chaperones. This group is defined as "Personnel".
4. Players registered for the 2020 fall season will be divided appropriately to Personnel, no more than 12 players per group. This group of players and personnel is defined as an "Approved Team."
5. The use of WVS practice fields will be limited to Approved Teams.
6. Only one Approved Team is allowed to occupy the assigned field during the practice slot, outlined below. The Approved Team may not enter the field until their time slot begins and must be off the field by the end of their time slot.
7. Player and Personnel may not participate in any other sports program activity simultaneously. Player and Personnel must have a two week break after participating in any other kind of recreational activity/sport before participating in the WVS program. Players may not participate in any in person activity associated with WVS for two weeks after participating in a sports program, childcare program, or other recreational activity. Similarly, Personnel may not move from one program to another more often than every three

weeks. Personnel may not participate in any in person activity associated with WVS for two weeks if they are working at, supervising, or volunteering at a sports or other recreation program.

8. Practice times for Approved Teams are determined by the league scheduler with guidance from the Chief Player Agent and will be communicated via the WVS website and through email. Only Approved Teams who have reserved time on the field may participate in practice. Priority is given to Approved Teams who have completed all of their paperwork and by other criteria established by the league safety officer and the board of directors.
9. The list of individuals for each Approved Team will be sent to all board members as well as the coaches and managers of all other Approved Teams.
10. The league safety officer will instruct all Personnel on proper protocols (social distancing protocols) and have written acknowledgement of understanding by Personnel before any practice may start.
11. Only individuals from Approved Teams will be permitted on site at the practice areas. During all WVS practices, playing fields have been reserved for use in accordance with our agreements with the Cambrian School District. All other individuals on the fields (not affiliated with WVS) should be asked to leave.
12. A copy of these protocols will be given to each member of Approved Teams in practice prior to participation. Players and their parent(s) and/or guardian(s) will be required to sign a waiver acknowledging the associated risks, a release of liability, and a form acknowledging receipt of these protocols and guidelines. These signed waiver and acknowledgement forms will be returned to the league safety officer.
13. The league safety officer is responsible for monitoring updates by Santa Clara County and will contact players, including parent and guardian, and Personnel of any changes to this set protocol.
14. Team managers are required to keep an attendance log of players and Personnel present at practice and to submit the log to the league safety officer after each practice. (Alternatively, an online record can be kept and shared with the league safety officer). The record must include the date, beginning and ending time of the practice, players names, address, and phone contact. The league will cooperate with the local health district to facilitate contact tracing, and will furnish this list to health officials or the school district upon request.
15. All participants must be free from any symptoms that could be associated with COVID-19 (i.e. fever, sore throat, cough, sneezing, body aches, loss of smell, difficulty breathing or fatigue). The manager or head coach will check with each player and all Personnel before each practice starts to ensure that no one has any symptoms. Players and Personnel may not attend the program if they have COVID-19 symptoms and must go home immediately if they develop any COVID-19 symptoms during a practice session. Parents or caregivers are encouraged to seek COVID-19 testing for the player. Personnel may direct the player's parent or guardian to Santa Clara County's "If You Think You Are Sick" webpage for further instructions.
16. All Personnel are required to wear masks at all times during practice.

17. Players are encouraged to wear masks when possible. Players are required to wear masks when not directly participating in physical activity.
18. Parents or guardians must drop off participants and pick them up. Parents or guardians that need to stay for the duration of the practice must remain well out of the field of play and practice social distancing while waiting.
19. Carpooling is not allowed except for members of the same household that are living together.
20. Players may not wait at or around the fields if outside of their designated practice time. Drop off and pick up must be in a timely manner.
21. Upon arrival, players and Personnel must check in with the team manager or designated Personnel for application of hand sanitizer, of at least 60% alcohol-based. Masks need to be worn by players and Personnel at this time and social distancing maintained during this process.
22. Players and Personnel will also apply hand sanitizer, of at least 60% alcohol-based, immediately after the practice is over. Teams will supply their own hand sanitizer.
23. While fields are in use, gates and locks must be in an open position and allow for touchless entry. This includes all entry gates and equipment boxes by the field. Gates and locks must be wiped down with alcohol-based wipes by the first team to arrive and again at the end of practice by the last team to leave practice as a precaution.
24. No socializing or congregating in the parking lot before, during, or after practices.
25. Players and Personnel must minimize contact. No handshakes, fist or elbow bumps, or hugging. It is recommended to keep a six-foot distance between participants except as strictly necessary to carry out a task associated with the practice.
26. Players equipment bags and equipment are placed six feet apart in spaces designated by the coaches or manager.
27. The use of dugouts is prohibited.
28. Players must have their own personal equipment. This includes, but is not limited to gloves, helmets, bats, batting gloves, face masks, and face coverings. Personal softballs are not allowed for use during practice.
29. Catchers must have their own equipment to play the position of catcher. Personnel may assume the position of catcher for infield and outfield drills. They must maintain six feet distancing from the person putting the ball in play and they must wear a face covering. If no players have catcher's equipment, Personnel may also catch bullpen sessions.
30. No baserunners will be used in live action drills.
31. Cones are to be placed six feet apart and used during drills to designate individual player areas to maintain social distancing requirements.
32. Each player must bring their own water bottle. No sharing is allowed.
33. Drinking fountains will be off limits.
34. Unless absolutely necessary, no food of any kind is allowed. Under no circumstances are gum or seeds permitted.
35. The Snack Shack will be closed until further notice.

36. Handles of any equipment used to maintain the field condition (including but not limited to brushes, drags, brooms, diggers, golf carts, etc) must be properly wiped down after each use.
37. Any locks or handles within the field that are touched must be properly wiped down after each use.
38. Use of the bathrooms is discouraged and will remain locked. Under emergency circumstances, they may be used. Personnel is responsible for wiping down according to protocols established by the CDC and health experts immediately following use. Individuals using the bathrooms must immediately sanitize their hands with at least 60% alcohol-based hand sanitizer after use.
39. Trash cans will not be available on the field. Any trash generated by a player or Personnel MUST be taken by that individual when leaving the field.
40. Bases must be sanitized using approved disinfectant wipes before and after each practice.
41. Teams must have their own softballs. Softballs are not allowed to be shared from other groups.
42. Batting cages are closed until further notice.
43. Contact the local health district AND the league safety officer about suspected cases and exposure to COVID-19.
44. Any individual who develops symptoms of COVID-19 after leaving the field should immediately isolate and seek medical attention.
45. The Cambrian School District (or any other host for practice fields) may have alternative guidelines that may be enforced and supersede this protocol and guideline at the discretion of the WVS board of directors.
46. Personnel from each Approved Team is responsible for providing the following supplies at each practice:
  - a. Disinfectant wipes (for use in wiping down gates and locks, handles, balls, bathrooms, other surfaces commonly used.)
  - b. Gallon ziplock bags (or similar bag) for collection and disposal of wipes or first aid trash.
  - c. Alcohol-based hand sanitizer, 60% or greater
  - d. Softballs
  - e. First Aid Kit
  - f. Medical gloves
  - g. Instant freeze ice packs
  - h. Additional disposable facemasks
  - i. In addition to their own face covering (to be worn at all times), each member of the Personnel group must come equipped with eye protection (sunglasses are sufficient) in the event that social distancing protocols must be broken (e.g. in case of injury).