



## Cloverdale Minor Softball Association COVID-19 Return to Play

REVISED September 5, 2020

The Cloverdale Minor Softball Association (CMSA) is a non-profit association under the [Society Act](#) of British Columbia. We are an all-volunteer group dedicated to providing quality Softball to the youth of the Cloverdale area in [Surrey](#), British Columbia. The CMSA is the largest association for youth Softball in the city. With boys and girls participating in all age groups; from Learn-to-Play to Senior Ladies, our Softball association is a vibrant part of the community. As a member association of [Softball BC](#), the CMSA emphasizes participation and fun. Our focus is on fair play and a positive approach to teaching the fundamental skills of the game. Our association motto says it all, “**It’s for the Kids!**”

### Return to Play REVISED September 5, 2020

To enable player members and their families to return to the ballpark in a safe and compliant manner, the CMSA executive voted unanimously to adopt the [Softball BC - Back to Bases Guidelines](#) (published June 10, 2020 and revised June 15, 2020. Further revision to the guidelines for sanctioning July 3, 2020 and again August 24, 2020. viaSport illness policy updated August 24, 2020) agreeing to implement the protocols as laid out within those guidelines and used in conjunction with the following government and sports sector requirements:

- Guidelines from WorkSafeBC, BC Ministry of Health and Fraser Health Authority
- [City of Surrey](#)
- [BC Recreation and Parks Association](#)
- [viaSport Return to Sport Guidelines for BC](#)

Considering the potential timing of season start and structure to a modified season the CMSA executive conducted a membership polling of intent with respect to summer ball and with many questions as to the resumption of play, including games and tournaments. Based on the responses received, the difficult decision was reached to cancel our LTP U6, U8 and all C Division seasons.

Based on the overwhelmingly positive feedback from our Fury A and B teams, the CMSA has proceeded under the Softball BC Graduated Return to Play plan which have progressed with Softball BC’s sanction of Cloverdale Minor Softball through INNINGS 1-3 as of July 9, 2020.

On August 24, 2020, Softball BC updated the [Softball BC - Back to Bases Guidelines](#) to allow for progression to INNING 4, which includes competition within cohort groups.



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### Participation

While the vast majority of Fury A and B coaches and players have confirmed they are eager to return to the field for this modified season and adhere to the return to play protocols set forth, participation is entirely the choice of each individual and their family. The COVID-19 situation has proven to be very fluid with changing guidelines and timing and that is something we should expect to continue for the foreseeable future. It is important that should any coach, volunteer, umpire, player, or family have reservations about participation or adhering to the guidelines and protocols set forth that they feel supported to make the best decision for their own personal situation.

### Requirements

There are several steps required for each LSO (Local Sports Organization) to be sanctioned for play by Softball BC and numerous requirements of each team, volunteer, player, and family with CMSA that come with that. Each participant must complete the provided Softball BC waiver, declaration and consent forms and teams must receive confirmation from CMSA that the team is registered with Softball BC before engaging in softball training or activities.

Each team will be responsible for assigning three new roles to for each event. The three roles are Attendance Tracker/Screeener, Distance Monitor and Sanitizing Champion and must be assigned for each softball event held.

*Attendance Tracker/Screeener* – must ask the designated screening questions as well as record the name and phone number of all participants and others attending any softball activity. This individual will also be required to send a copy of the **attendance tracker** to the CMSA executive after each event. Failure to do so will result in immediate loss of all privileges for the remainder of the season. Teams should be maintaining their attendance logbook for the balance of the 2020 season and our CMSA attendance coordinator will maintain record for all association members.

Each attendee must be asked these questions:

1. Are you experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19 (fever, dry cough, chest or respiratory pain?)
2. Has any member of your household exhibited any symptoms of COVID-19 within the last 14 days?
3. Have you or any other member of your household arrived from outside Canada in the past 14 days?

*Distance Monitor* – The person assigned by each team to monitor the physical distancing of the players, coaches, and spectators on and off the field.

*Sanitizing Champion* – The person assigned by a team to be responsible for sanitation of the facility and equipment during a given softball activity.



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Every Fury coach has received an updated [Emergency Action Plan](#) template and should complete or update their existing team plan prior to commencing on field activity.

### 2020 Season REVISED September 5, 2020

As of June 23, 2020, CMSA was officially sanctioned by Softball BC and rosters were completed with signed waivers and declaration forms received by our registrar. The City of Surrey began issuing park permits, which CMSA now has in place through August 31, 2020. As an association we began the training and development component of our 2020 season as of June 27. Practice times were assigned to each of our Cloverdale Fury teams and allocated upon our official start date and signaled our entry into **INNING 1** of return to play.

While Cloverdale Minor Softball is permitted to add U6-U8 development as the association has been sanctioned for **INNING 2**, CMSA will not be structuring play for these age groups or C Divisions for the 2020 season. Privately run clinics are being held in Surrey for those players interested in small group camps running through the summer and will require adherence to guidelines set forth in that environment.

On July 9, 2020, CMSA was approved by both Softball BC and the City of Surrey to move to **INNING 3** of the return to play protocol which includes the return to scrimmage and exhibition games within the Cloverdale Minor Softball Association. CMSA games will be held between similar age and classification teams where possible, which will feature teams across the A and B classifications and an age division up or down depending on the schedule as agreed to by the CMSA executive and coaches. All Fury teams have agreed to return to play in the month of July and were permitted to do so effective July 13, 2020.

Effective July 20, 2020 CMSA proceeded with the addition of umpires to our exhibition games played within the association. Not all games will be covered, by the Cloverdale UICs are making every effort to ensure a smooth transition and with the intent of covering as many games as possible.

All viaSport, Softball BC and CMSA Return to Play guidelines shall continue to be followed and aligned to **INNING 3** of the Return to Play plan. There should continue to be frequent sanitizing and cleaning of equipment and teams should be working to limit attendance/spectators to ensure we are keeping numbers well below capacity during these early stages as outlined in the guidelines from the various governing bodies and direction from our CMSA executive.

CMSA focused games were held for several weeks following return to play guidelines and continued without a material change in direction from the various governing bodies. As of August 10, 2020, CMSA subsequently advanced to games played within District 7 (Cloverdale, Surrey, Fleetwood, South



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Surrey – Whiterock and Renegades) as restrictions were loosened to allow for play with Surrey-based teams.

As of September 5, 2020, CMSA is awaiting final confirmation of our move to INNING 4, which will include cohort based competitive games to be played with official sanction from Softball BC. A cohort is a group of participants who primarily interact with each other within the sport environment over an extended period. Establishing cohorts will limit the number of people (<100) that individuals will have contact with, reducing the risk of transmission and ensuring quicker contact tracing by health authorities if an outbreak occurs. Teams may play competitive games within their established cohort ONLY and must still follow the return to play guidelines in place. Any teams wishing to change cohort must isolate from softball activities for 14 days AND be approved by Softball BC before moving into a new cohort.

COHORT 1	COHORT 2	COHORT 3
Cloverdale Fury 2010 Langley Xtreme 2010 Tri City Titans 2010 North Langley 2010	Cloverdale Fury 2008A Whiterock Renegades 2008A Surrey Storm 2008A FV Fusion 2008A	Cloverdale Fury 2008B Coquitlam Classics 2008B Abbotsford Outlaws 2008B SSWR Thunder 2008B Tri City Titans 2008B Langley Xtreme 2008B
COHORT 4	COHORT 5	COHORT 6
Cloverdale Fury 2009B Whiterock Renegades 2009A FV Fusion 2009A Tri City Titans 2009A Ridge Meadows Pride 2009A	Cloverdale Fury 2007B Po Co Ravens 2007B Langley Xtreme 2007B Fleetwood Force 2007B Ridge Meadows Rage 2007B	Cloverdale Fury 2006B Delta Inferno 2006B Surrey Storm 2006B SSWR Thunder 2006B Fleetwood Force 2006B Langley Xtreme 2006B
COHORT 7	COHORT 8	COHORT 9
Cloverdale Fury 2006A Surrey Storm 2006A FV Fusion 2006A Whiterock Renegades 2006A Ridge Meadows Pride 2006A Victoria Devils 2006A	Cloverdale Fury 2005B SSWR Thunder 2005B Surrey Storm 2005B Coquitlam Classics 2005B Ridge Meadows Rage 2005B	Cloverdale Fury 2004B Coquitlam Classics 2004B Surrey Storm 2004B Abbotsford Outlaws 2004B

**Celebration of Softball** events will be hosted by Softball BC September 18-20, 2020 at various locations in BC and these will signify the close of the 2020 Softball season. Teams will need to be in an approved cohort to participate in these events and are encouraged to register directly with Softball BC. The PSO



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is working hard to ensure all guidelines and necessary approvals are in place to ensure a safe, fun, and competitive environment is provided as a celebration of sport in the province.

The move to **INNING 5** would include playing within our BC Summer Games Zone and ultimately tournaments and Provincial championships in **INNING 5**

### Phases



### Scheduling REVISED September 5, 2020

The City of Surrey has released park permits to Cloverdale through August 31. CMSA will provide a field allocation for each team through July 31 from the outset of our return to play and the City of Surrey has approved our permits, effective immediately, as follows:

Monday to Thursday 5:00PM to 10:00PM – Diamonds 2,3,4,5  
Saturday and Sunday 8:00AM to 8:00PM – Diamonds 2,3,4,5

Teams will be allocated a time slot that is to include setup, warm up, training, teardown and end of session cleaning and sanitization. Each team will be responsible for sanitizing their diamond before departure and within the time slot provided. Buffer will be scheduled between teams, allowing for proper cleaning to occur while limiting the number of people on the diamond(s) at any given time.

Example: Team 1 on Diamond 2 5:00PM to 7:00PM and Team 2 on Diamond 2 7:15 to 9:15PM

**As of September 1, 2020, CMSA has additional permits from the City of Surrey to support ongoing games and practices with variable availability due to other user groups accessing Cloverdale Athletic Park.**

Special requests may be submitted to CMSA executive for confirmation and approval, but for the initial phase it is expected that all times leverage the times they are provided or if absolutely necessary a



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switch with another team is coordinated with the executive so there is always an accurate record of which teams should be on a particular diamond at any given time.

As CMSA moved to **INNING 3**, games have been permitted to be scheduled with approval from the CMSA executive starting Monday July 13, 2020. These games will remain within the time slots scheduled for teams in **INNING 1** and at the discretion of and coordination by the respective coaches of each team. As an example, if Cloverdale Fury 2008B were to schedule a game with 2009B the game would occur within either team's scheduled time slot OR using an additional time slot booked through our CMSA scheduler.

All games should be communicated to the [cloverdaleuic@gmail.com](mailto:cloverdaleuic@gmail.com) to ensure it will be recorded and an officiating crew can be assigned. This is not a guarantee that umpires will be available, but effort will be made to cover as many games as possible under the circumstances and pending umpire availability.

**From August 10 through September 3, 2020 Cloverdale Fury teams have been able to participate in a fully sanctioned in-District 7 schedule of games between teams within the City of Surrey. As we move to cohort games approved by Softball BC it will be the responsibility of the individual team hosting games at Cloverdale Athletic Park to ensure prior approval and confirmation is received from the park scheduler and that both the home and visiting teams are adhering to our CMSA guidelines.**

**At the close of the 2020 season as of September 2020, CMSA will begin hosting tryouts for the 2021 season upon official sanctioning by Softball BC. The intended dates of these tryouts will be as follows (subject to change and pending approval):**

Age/Division	Dates
U12A U12B	Monday 9/21 Wednesday 9/23
U14A U14B	Monday 9/21 Wednesday 9/23
U16A U16B	Tuesday 9/22 Thursday 9/24
U19B	Monday 9/21 Wednesday 9/23

**All CMSA tryouts will follow the INNING 4 STRETCH Return to Play Guidelines from Softball BC.**

### **INNING 4 Game Play REVISED September 5, 2020**

In the interest of ensuring a smooth transition from training and development to modified games/exhibitions within CMSA starting July 13, 2020 CMSA is instituting the following rule modifications in addition to the [Softball BC - Back to Bases Guidelines \(p17-19\)](#):



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- There will continue to be a MAX 1 family member per player permitted to limit the traffic and attendance screening/tracking challenges that may occur as we move to games and an increase in the number of people at any one diamond
- BOTH Home and Away teams will be responsible for attendance tracking/screening and distance monitoring of their respective groups
- **Home team to set up the diamond and communicate entry/exit points to visitors, as well as any other protocols being observed at that park**
- **Visiting team will be directed to spectator and participant areas which have been adequately marked off and identified for spectator seating, or participant equipment storage**
  - Until further notice, dugouts and bleachers will remain CLOSED – players should be lined up along the fence line, physically distanced, with a screen/bownet for safety
- **Cohorts are being established as above under 2020 Season details**
- **Where possible, a minimum of two umpires should be used for games to assist in physical distancing.**
- **Participants are to follow all Inning 3 protocols**
- **When members of the cohort gather together for games or activities, gatherings may not exceed 50 people per facility (ball diamond), less in an indoor facility, depending on the size**
- Defensive teams will be responsible for their own game balls and frequent sanitization of those game balls during regular course of play
- Pitching and base distances shall be mutually agreed upon by the coaches from both teams prior to arrival at park for diamond set up. As some teams will be more than capable of playing at longer distances, some may not so this will be at the discretion of the teams participating in any given game. This distance could align to the older division, the younger division or somewhere in between if agreed upon. Example U19 team playing U14 team could agree to have both teams pitch from 40' whereas U16 team playing U14 team could also agree to pitch from 40'
- Effective July 20, 2020 umpires will now be scheduled pending availability and at the discretion of the Cloverdale UIC
- **All CMSA game times will be no new inning after 90 minutes unless otherwise noted or previously arranged with the Cloverdale UIC**
- **Should any team scheduled to play games wish to maintain our INNING 1 modified rules of NO STEALING and COMMITMENT LINE rules with a scheduled umpire they may do so in agreement with the opposing coach. Examples where this will continue to be of benefit are teams playing out of their classification or age division where player size, base distance and ball in use are not consistent between the teams. The application of these rules is intended to support transition and allow for our teams to play as many teams within CMSA as is appropriate and keeping the introduction of games FUN.**



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These CMSA specific guidelines will remain in place until further notice as we ease back into gameplay during our **INNING 3** phased approach to Return to Play. CMSA executive will monitor and modify as we progress and will continue to work with Softball BC and the City of Surrey towards progression to play within District 7.

### Umpires REVISED September 5, 2020

As of July 20, our members in Blue have been working games and our UICs have been kept informed on the Softball BC rule adjustments in play once games commence. Umpires should continue to do their best to arrive at the park fully dressed for games and arrive promptly for game start. The umpire sanitation protocols will be shared with the crew and a separate meeting to ensure compliance will be held prior to the start of games. Defensive teams will be responsible for their own game balls and umpires will be required to regularly sanitize during breaks between innings. Umpires behind the plate will be required to wear masks, but they will have the option to call the game from 6' behind the pitcher.

**Umpires are permitted to cross cohorts to officiate games, and do not have to be counted in a cohort. Virus contagion masks are mandatory for umpires while on the field of play.**

### Spectators and Family

As we move through the phases of return to play it is important that we manage our numbers below capacity and continue to see progress. As such we will be asking that we keep to **2 family members at the park maximum, including the player until further notice** This will keep us well below the threshold of 50 people during the training phase and ensure we are able to better manage numbers, attendance tracking and sanitation at the outset. Adjustments may be made as we move into subsequent phases and games should the respective governing bodies amend the guidelines.

### Facilities

#### *Cloverdale Athletic Park:*

1. Washrooms
  - City of Surrey manages all park washrooms
  - All members using CMSA allocated parks must follow the guidelines set forth by the City of Surrey and adhere to all posted signs in and around the washrooms
  - Maintain physical distancing and ensure the use of hand sanitizer upon exiting
2. Umpire Locker Room





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- It is recommended that umpires come dressed for games, to limit the use of the Umpire Change Room.
  - All umpires must use hand sanitizer before entering and upon leaving the Umpire Change Room.
  - It is recommended that Umpires do not share equipment; if equipment must be shared, Umpires are required to disinfect equipment and let dry prior to wearing.
  - Where possible, disinfect changing areas after using the Umpire Change Room.
  - Physical distancing should remain in place
3. Batting Cage
- Until further notice the batting cage is CLOSED and CMSA executives ONLY will have access to the building and must follow the indoor facility guidelines and protocols included in Softball BC's Back to Bases: Softball BC's Return to Play Guidelines and Protocol
  - No food or beverage is to be permitted
  - Physical distancing should remain in place
4. Equipment and C-Can
- CMSA executives and contractors ONLY will have access to the building and must follow the indoor facility guidelines and protocols included in Softball BC's Back to Bases: Softball BC's Return to Play Guidelines and Protocol
  - Coaches and designated volunteers ONLY will have access to the C-Can for return and sanitization of equipment
  - No food or beverage is to be permitted
  - Physical distancing should remain in place

### *Coverall:*

1. Indoor Training and Practice Scheduling
  - a. CMSA will follow the indoor facility guidelines and protocols included in Softball BC's Back to Bases: Softball BC's Return to Play Guidelines and Protocol
  - b. Please contact CMSA executive for any booking requests and site tour
2. Washrooms
  - a. Public washrooms will not be available for use during Coverall access

### **Medical and Outbreak**

CMSA executives and members will follow all First Aid and Outbreak plan guidelines and protocols included in Softball BC's Back to Bases: Softball BC's Return to Play Guidelines and Protocols.

### **Illness Policy (REVISED September 5, 2020)**



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In this policy, “Team member” includes any employee, volunteer, participant, or parent/spectator.

1. Inform an individual in a position of authority (coach, team manager, program coordinator) immediately if, you feel any symptoms of COVID-19 such as fever, chills, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat and painful swallowing, stuffy or runny nose, loss of sense of smell, headache, muscle aches, fatigue, loss of appetite, nausea or diarrhea.

See BCCDC website for a full list of symptoms:

<http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseasesconditions/covid-19/about-covid-19/symptoms>

### 2. Assessment

a. Team members must review the self-assessment signage located throughout the facility each morning before their shift/practice/activity to attest that they are not feeling any of the COVID 19 symptoms.

b. If Team Members are unsure please have them use the BC COVID-19 self-assessment tool <https://bc.thrive.health/covid19/en>

c. Managers/coaches may visually monitor team members to assess any early warning signs as to the status of their health and to touch base on how they are regarding their personal safety throughout the workday/practice/activity.

### 3. If a Team Member is feeling sick with COVID-19 symptoms

a. They should remain at home and contact Health Link BC at 8-1-1.

b. If they feel sick and /or are showing symptoms while within the sport environment, they should be sent home immediately and contact 8-1-1 for further guidance.

c. No Team Member may participate in a practice/activity if they are symptomatic.

### 4. If a Team Member tests positive for COVID-19

a. Follow the direction of health officials.

### 5. Quarantine or Self-Isolate if:

**a. You have travelled outside of Canada within the last 14 days.**



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- b. You have come into close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19.
- c. You have been advised to do so by health officials.

### KNOW YOUR ROLE

#### Coach Role:

- Clear communication on arrival, start, and end times to participants
- Ensure all required positions are filled (Attendance Tracker, Sanitizing Champion, Distancing Monitor, etc.)
- Must have on hand at all times: First Aid, PPE, Emergency Action Plan (EAP), Cleaning and Sanitizing supplies, etc.
- Ensure players and attendees are in compliance with all guidelines and protocols
- Maintain physical distance when instructing players
- Ensure all members exit the facility on time and promptly once clean-up is complete

#### Player Role:

- Make sure your gear and items have been cleaned and sanitized prior to coming to the park
- Bring a chair for your own space – we will not be utilizing the dugouts
- Make sure to have your own masks and sanitizer in your bag
- Arrive at the field fully dressed (including cleats)
- Check-in with attendance tracker
- Once checked in, go immediately to, and set up your personal area
- No high fives, handshakes, shared selfies, snaps, etc.
- After each use return all gear to your space and put away
- Exit the facility immediately after practice is over

#### Parent/Spectator Role:

- We all have a responsibility to help with and adhere to the guidelines
- Respect those who are in the roles of managing guidelines
- Avoid your player having to do anything other than practice at the facility
- If parent must attend practice, they must follow RTP guidelines and protocols (check in, physical distancing, etc.)
- Regardless of your personal opinions, thoughts, feelings, etc. as it relates to COVID-19, adherence to all RTP guidelines is a requirement and failure to do so will result in disciplinary action up to and including suspension of privileges