



Deerfield Youth Baseball & Softball Return to Play Guidelines

General

- Please follow all local and state guidelines for facilities and events.
- Groups of 50 participants (coaches, umpires, players) or less per event. Spectators will be permitted but must follow guidelines herein.
- Any person who is experiencing symptoms of Covid-19 (cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, fever of 100.4 degrees or above, chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, or other CDC-identified symptoms) will be prohibited from participating in DYBA events. Players' parents or guardians shall check their own child for symptoms, and not bring their child to any event if they have any Covid-19 symptoms, including but not limited to those listed above. DYBA families and players should follow CDC travel guidance to protect themselves and others.

Teams

- Teams are prohibited from handshakes/high fives. No handshakes between teams after games.
- The use of sunflower seeds, gum and anything else that is spit from a mouth to the ground is prohibited. This goes for coaches, players and spectators.
- Directors and coaches should be understanding of the potential increase in the amount of time required between events and should attempt to minimize overlap and traffic flow.
- Both the home team and visiting team will supply game balls. Each team will use its game balls while on defense and will use its time on offense to clean and disinfect any used baseballs which will be brought back into the game when that team goes back on defense. Deerfield teams will be prepared to provide visitors with game balls should a visiting team not have any.
- All teams need to pick up all garbage and other items around the dugout area after each game.
- If there must be a line for a restroom, a distance of six feet apart shall be in effect at all times.
- No out of state play.
- Social distance is encouraged where possible during practice time.

Athletes/Coaches

- Teams should spread out as much as possible. Dugouts will be off limits at Deerfield fields for players. Players can spread out down their respective foul areas as needed (and as long as player safety is not compromised) to aid with social distancing. Only

coaches are allowed in dugout. 6ft of social distance should be maintained by players/coaches when they are on the sidelines/not directly participating in the game.

- We ask that all players keep their bats and gear in their own respective bags. Additionally, we ask that no players share equipment. If shared equipment is necessary, it must be sanitized before use.
- Players will be allowed to wear personal protective items, such as masks and gloves, as long as these items do not compromise the safety of any and all participants.
- No team huddles on the field during the game.
- Players should bring their own hand sanitizer (none will be provided).
- Players must bring their own water bottles or coolers and must have their names on it. No team water coolers or other shared items will be allowed.

Pre-Game Meeting

- One coach is allowed from each team and must properly social distance.
- Each team's scorekeeper/coach should exchange line up cards electronically (text/email).

Fans

- All bleachers will be off limits to spectators. Spectators are required to bring their own seating to the event and will need to practice social distancing. Spectators must stay behind the extended fence line in the outfield. No spectators are allowed in the area deemed for player use. Spectators should also maintain social distancing of six feet between families and spread out around the field and in the common areas. Tents and awnings will not be allowed, however personal umbrellas are allowed.
- Spectators are welcome to wear personal protective items but not required to do so if 6ft of social distance can be maintained
- Fans will be required to exercise and abide by all social distancing guidelines at all times when on site.
- Fans should bring their own chairs and be seated along the foul lines, and in the outfield beyond any fencing or outfield boundaries. Families can sit together but all others must observe the 6-foot guideline or wear a mask.
- Spectators should not be interacting with players near the dugout (even if they are family members). If a player requires something from a parent or fan, they should walk over to the spectator.

Post-Game

- Each team will line up along their respective foul line, then acknowledge the opposing team with a tip of the cap/round of applause then immediately clean and vacate dugout.
- All post-game meetings should be held outside of the field area as to provide time for the teams for the next game to enter (social distancing guidelines should be followed).

Umpires

- One umpire will be used and will call the game from behind the pitching mound. They will have the option of wearing personal protective items as well.