



# COVID-19 Safety Action Plan Game & Practices

Last Updated: 2/23/2021

## Table of Contents

Introduction & Goals	3
SMYSA Guidelines	4
Practice & Game Structure	6
Facility Guidelines	7
Batting Cage Guidelines	10
SMYSA Contacts	11
Participant COVID-19 Survey	Exhibit "A"

## **Introduction & Goals**

### **Introduction**

San Mateo Youth Softball Association (SMYSA) is concerned about the psychological and physical aspects of the shelter-in-place orders on children, which have now surpassed almost a year in duration. We are eager to offer a community activity, in a safe environment, for our members in any way possible. In addition, there is widespread support from our members to get back on the field in a safe manner.

Thus, SMYSA desires to hold a modified Spring 2021 Season for our members that have registered for our 2021 Spring Softball Rec Season. The following is an outline of the safety measures to be employed by SMYSA Softball when we are using the field(s). These guidelines will follow and be modified to align with the City of San Mateo requirements, San Mateo County Health Orders and State guidelines allow us on an ongoing basis.

### **Goals**

The goal of these guidelines is to make sure San Mateo Youth Softball provides comprehensive, understood and thought out safety protocols that will afford our members a fun and productive social and physical activity while keeping our members and the community safe.

## **SMYSA Guidelines**

### **League Expectations**

- All members (players and volunteers) follow all expectations and protocols set forth by SMYSA, the city, State and the county
- Create oversight for clear safety guidelines for all members based on the most up to date orders from the city, State and county
- Communicate safety guidelines to all members and post it on the SMYSA website
- Educate volunteers, players and parents on safety guidelines
- Provide adequate field space for practices & games adhering to all current social distancing requirements
- Safety and disinfecting: provide hand sanitizer stations, disinfecting wipes/cleaners for softballs and equipment
- Coordinate with the city to provide appropriate waste receptacles at fields providing regular field cleaning; leftover water bottles, clothes and equipment will not be stored and will be thrown away

### **Participant “player” Expectations**

- If a participant has a temperature exceeding 100.4, they are asked to stay home. This will include our staff using a touchless thermometer at start of each practice & game session to verify current body temperature. They should also not come to the camp if they are known to have been recently exposed to someone with COVID-19.
- Wash hands before and after camp sessions
- Bring own hand sanitizers and sanitize your hands before and after the training. League shall also supply hand sanitizers for use
- No sharing of water/drinks or equipment (other than softballs)
- No greetings, high-fives, handshake, hugs or group celebrations during the practices / games
- Place your own bag, water bottle and equipment at least six feet apart from other participants. League will provide marked space along fence lines to use. Dugouts will be closed
- Respect and follow all Staff guidelines and social distancing
- Participants shall wear a face covering as required by Public Health Orders or requested by the governing bodies.
- Follow all safety guidelines (enter/exit plans, no huddles, etc.)

**Parent/Guardian Expectations**

- Proactively monitor their own and all household member's health status. If anyone is not feeling well in the household or has a temperature exceeding 100.4, they should reconsider attending the practice/game session.
- Provide COVID-19 questionnaire to be completed before start of first participation. See exhibit "A" for form
- Notify your coach/volunteer staff or a SMYSA board member immediately if your child becomes sick for any reason
- Supply your child with individual hand sanitizer, face covering and water bottles
- Remind your child to follow SMYSA protocols before they come to a session
- Ensure your child has plenty of water with their name on the water bottle
- Follow all safety guidelines (enter/exit protocols, etc.) developed by SMYSA and approved by City of San Mateo
- Adhere to social distancing requirements during drop off and pick up of child. If leaving your car for drop off/pick up, parent(s) should wear a face covering
- All spectators / family members shall adhere to social distancing and face coverings rules. Only same "household" shall be allowed to sit or stand together anywhere on field, bleachers, etc.

**Volunteer Expectation**

- Follow all return to play protocol Established by: Governing bodies, Health authorities, the City of San Mateo & SMYSA
- Remind participants to wash hands before and after training, practices, and games
- Create and implement lesson plans that encourage safe physical distance
- No huddles, high fives, handshakes, etc. Create a new way to greet each other and celebrate
- Bring hand sanitizer (SMYSA to supply with equipment). Each participant shall bring their own hand sanitizer
- Wipe down and sanitize all gear/equipment after each session
- Wipe down and sanitize restrooms after each session including restocking restroom supplies
- Volunteer staff shall wear a face covering as required by County or State Public Health authorities

## **Practice & Game Structure**

The following is an outline of the structure of SMYSA intends on holding starting in early March '21, including anticipated participation, and can be used to estimate SMYSA's expected request for field and cage usage. Preferred times to hold practice & game sessions are 5:00p – 8:30p on weekdays and 8:30a to 7:00p on weekends.

Below is the approximate schedules for the different age groups. Keep in mind that the season will be a moving target and it is likely that some games or practices will be moved or cancelled based on the city, county, state or league environment. Note: We will not be refunding or rescheduling any cancelled games.

### **6u (T-Ball), born in 2014-2015:**

- 1 practice a week
- plan for 5-8 games

### **8u (Minis), born in 2012-2013:**

- 1-2 practices a week
- plan for 6-10 games

### **10u (Minors), born in 2010-2011:**

- 1-3 practices a week
- plan for 7-12 games

### **12u/14u (Majors) born in 2006-2009:**

- 1-3 practices a week
- 7-12 games

### **Timeline:**

- Registration will be open through March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021
- Start practices Beginning of March
- Regular Season games start in mid to late March
- End of season will be in early to middle of May

### **COVID rules:**

- In purple tier = practice only, no games. No refunds if games are cancelled
- In red tier = games will be allowed with strict adherence to Covid safety protocols

**Rainout games will likely be cancelled games**

## **Facility Guidelines**

### **All Facilities: Beresford Park – Chanteloup Fields 1/2/3 & Batting Cage**

#### **Water Fountains**

- Drinking fountains, and use thereof, will be under City control and will not be used by SMYSA participants & volunteers
- Participants shall bring their own clearly marked water bottles

#### **Bathrooms**

- SMYSA will utilize public bathrooms at the Beresford Park next to Field #1 (only unlocked during our practice/game times)
- Disinfecting wipes & hand sanitizer will also be provided by SMYSA to each volunteer leader and will be available to all participants.
- Restrooms will be sanitized (toilets/sinks/paper towel dispenser/common touch points) by staff volunteers at the conclusion of each day use of the field or batting cage.
- Limit of two people at one time to be allowed to use.

#### **Ingress & Egress**

- Fields 1/2/3 & Batting Cage - In the event that multiple fields are utilized at the same time, SMYSA will stagger start and end times by a minimum of 15 minutes so that “pods” are not arriving or departing at the same time.
- Parents shall use parking lot off Alameda de las Pulgas and Parkside Way for drop off and pickup practicing social distancing.

#### **Dugouts**

- Dugouts will remain closed as social distancing cannot be maintained.

**Note:** In lieu of using dugouts, players shall have a protected area behind fence line to use as their place for equipment and bench when not on field. This will be marked for distancing and SMYSA Staff will sanitize areas in use in between practices & games by wiping down benches and other high touch areas with disinfecting wipes/sprays.

- Also ensure to practice social distancing between players & others when in use.

## General

- Complex/COVID-19 recommendations / signage are posted throughout all facilities & fields.
- SMYSA Staff and participants, coaches, volunteers will be instructed that if they are exhibiting symptoms of possible exposure to COVID-19, such as fever, that they should not come to events until such time as the participant has been tested and/or cleared.
- League insurance as per city requirements shall be in effect
- Follow all city, county & state guidelines as imposed.
- Follow USA Softball Association guidelines as imposed.

## Snack bar & food concessions (*Limited sales will be allowed*)

### CLEANING AND SANITIZING PROTOCOLS:

- Workers to wear protective gloves while working and cleaning
- Service stations, counters, handrails, tray and hard surfaces to be sanitized at least once per hour
- POS terminals to be assigned to a single server where possible and sanitized between each user and before and after each shift. If multiple servers are assigned to a POS terminal, servers will sanitize their hands before and after each use
- Condiments to be served in single use containers
- Check presenters, pens and all other reusable guest contact items will be either sanitized after each use or single use
- Disposable plates and flatware will be utilized to decrease contact with contaminated items
- Plexi-glass Barriers installed at Counter / Cashier Station
- Food preparation station to be sanitized at least once per hour
- Snack Bar to be deep cleaned and sanitized at least once per day
- All items being prepared to be transferred to other workers using contactless methods

### CASH HANDLING PROTOCOLS:

- Cash is accepted at the snack bar.
- In lieu of use of cash, credit card service will be available & promoted.



- Workers are encouraged to wear gloves to handle cash, if gloves are not worn, worker shall wash and sanitize hands after touching cash.

GUEST REMINDERS/REQUIREMENTS:

- SMYSA staff & volunteers will monitor physical distancing at entries, waiting areas and queues (in addition to signage).
- Food consumption shall only be permitted within their own household.
- Snack bar will be staffed to allow for appropriate distancing between workers.
- All condiments will be in self-contained packaging upon request
- All straws to be wrapped
- All food and beverage items to be placed on the table, counter or other surface instead of being handed directly to a guest
- All items sold will be prepackaged. No food preparation will be allowed (per city requirement)

## **Batting Cage Guidelines**

- Time slots (1 hours each) for use of the batting cage at Chanteloup will be established with a minimum of 15 minutes between slots to ensure a team has completely vacated the area prior to the next team's arrival.
- Batting Cage will be monitored by at least one trained staff member at all times when in use by SMYSA.
- No more than one (1) team of participants shall be present at any given time.
- Cage shall be divided into 2 sections and a maximum of 2 people (1 staff and 1 participant) shall be allowed in each section at any given time
- Staff and participants will be encouraged to social distance and to wear a face mask while outside of the cage waiting.
- Only designated staff and participants will be allowed within the fenced batting cage area.

## **SMYSA Contacts & Resources**

Please direct any inquiries regarding this Plan to the following SMYSA Contacts:

Vince DeFriese

President

San Mateo Youth Softball Association

650-222-8503

[vincent@artichokejoes.com](mailto:vincent@artichokejoes.com)

Deke Shelton

Vice President

San Mateo Youth Softball Association

415-215-2975

[deker22@gmail.com](mailto:deker22@gmail.com)

### **Resources**

- [Centers for Disease Control: Considerations for Youth Sports](#)
- [San Mateo County Health Orders](#)