



## **COVID-19 PROTOCOLS**

**The top priority of EBISA will always be the safety and well-being of the players. While putting safety first, EBISA recognizes the importance of returning children to sports and outdoor activities, including baseball and softball. We are committed to doing this in a controlled manner that focuses on the safety the players, coaches, and families. If you do not feel comfortable having your child play organized baseball or softball this season, EBISA respects and supports that decision, and we hope to see your player back in one of our programs as soon as possible.**

**If you do choose to play this season, EBISA expects and appreciates your cooperation with these protocols, as well as your patience, flexibility, and support during these unprecedented times. Either way, we look forward to seeing you all at the ballpark soon.**

**Section 01**

**Practice**

# 01 Practice

# General Practice Protocols

- Coaches and players must adhere to physical six-foot distancing except when the ball is in play.
- Coaches must wear face coverings at all times.
- Athletes must wear face coverings at all times while not actively participating in the field of play (outdoors).
- We do not anticipate any indoor activities, but athletes must wear face coverings at all times if there is a practice in an indoor venue.
- All players and coaches must complete a daily symptom assessment (a self-evaluation). **If you are feeling sick, no matter what your symptoms are, you must stay home.**
- No sharing water bottles or sports drinks. Team water coolers are not permitted.
- All personal equipment should be properly separated from other players' equipment while at practice. Players are not permitted to share equipment. This includes bats, helmets, catcher's gear, and gloves.
- Parents, guardians, and other family members or spectators are not allowed to attend practice.
- Groups of 10 (or a higher amount once deemed safe by state/local government) or fewer, including coaches, will be permitted to practice at a time on one space. Small groups are allowed to rotate between different spaces so long as they can maintain social distance with other small groups.
- Players and Coaches must abide by any additional rules that each practice facility or field has mandated.
- Coaches will sanitize team baseballs, softballs and other team equipment after or between each practice session.
- Players and coaches should wash their hands with soap for at least 20 seconds or utilize hand sanitizer after or between each practice session.

**Section 2**

# **Games & Tournaments**

### MANDATORY **PLAYER** PROTOCOLS

- Must adhere to six foot social distancing in the dugout and off the field of play
- Must maintain social distance while in the dugout. If social distance of six feet cannot be maintained, players are permitted to be behind the dugout, in the stands, or down the foul line so long as they are safely out of harm's way. Coaches will assist in directing players where they can safely sit or stand.
- Must wear face coverings at all times when not actively participating in the field of play.
- Players and parents must complete a daily symptom assessment (self-evaluation). Players must stay home if experiencing any symptoms.
- Must not share water or equipment.
- No chewing gum, seeds, or spitting
- No touch rule – No high-fives, handshake lines, and other physical contact with teammates, opposing teams, coaches, umpires, and spectators.
- Players should wash their hands or utilize hand sanitizer after and/or during games.
- Players and parents should sanitize personal equipment after each game.
- Players may be asked to leave the field or game by coach, or game or tournament organizers, if player protocols are not followed, or if they visibly seem ill i.e. persistent cough.

### Mandatory COACHES (Including UMPIRES) Protocols

- Must adhere to six foot social distancing at all times.
- Must maintain social distance while in the dugout. If social distance of six feet cannot be maintained, players are permitted to be behind the dugout, in the stands or down the foul line so long as they are safely out of harm's way. Coaches will assist in directing players where they can safely sit or stand.
- Must wear face coverings at all times
- Daily symptom assessments must be completed by Coaches (self-evaluation). Coaches must stay home if experiencing any symptoms.
- No chewing gum, seeds, or spitting.
- Coaches are to sanitize personal equipment after each game.
- Coaches should hold virtual meetings when possible.
- No touch rule – No high-fives, handshake lines, and other physical contact with teammates, opposing teams, coaches, umpires, spectators.
- Coaches are to sanitize baseballs, softballs or other team equipment (tees, bow-nets, etc.) after each game.
- Coaches must ensure that players are following COVID-19 protocols and prevention measures.
- Coaches are allowed to ask players and/or spectators who are not abiding by the protocols listed by EBSA or tournament organizers to leave the field or game.
- **If a team is not following EBSA co-vid protocols they will be given a warning by the Umpire. If the team continues to ignore protocols, the Umpire will end the game and the offending team will be forced to forfeit.**

## SPECTATOR PROTOCOLS

- **EBSA expects all adults to set an example of safety, and expects all spectators to follow these protocols and to educate their children and family members about them before games.**
- **Must adhere to six foot social-distancing guidelines.**
- **Face coverings are required for all spectators.**
- **Spectators are encouraged to bring own chairs or seating.**
- **Must abide by each tournament organizer's specific rules regarding social distance and spectators.**
- **Daily symptom assessments must be completed by spectators (self-evaluation). Spectators must stay home if experiencing any symptoms.**
- **Must maintain social distance of at least six feet from other spectators of other households.**
- **No chewing gum, seeds, or spitting.**
- **No touch rule – No high-fives, and other physical contact with other spectators, players, or coaches.**
- **Spectators should not congregate in common areas or parking lots during or following games.**
- **Spectators may be asked to leave the field or game by coach, or the game or tournament organizers if spectator protocols are not followed.**
- **Parents, guardians, or spectators that have any issues or problems with the safety protocols, or the manner of enforcement should direct those concerns to the EBSA Board so that they can be reviewed and addressed.**
- **Gatherings can be up to 50 spectators. Please be thoughtful and consider limiting the number of spectators per player at a game.**
- **Please do not approach the dugout/designated player areas and/or stand or sit behind the backstop.**
- **Spectators are to find a seat down the foul line or beyond the outfield fence. If down the foul line, allow significant distance (more than 6 feet) from the players, if applicable.**

## **Section 3**

# **Confirmed COVID-19 Case(s)**

The safety of EBSA's players, coaches, families, and community is our top priority. In the unfortunate circumstance a player, coach, umpire or family member is diagnosed with COVID-19, we kindly ask those affected to follow the listed protocols below.

- Current guidelines require any team that has been exposed either directly (due to a player/coach/umpire/parent on that team testing positive) or indirectly (due to the team having a team that later found that they had direct exposure) to COVID to “quarantine” (postpone all practices/games) for 14 days from the last exposure.  
ADDITION: If a team has been “indirectly” exposed, they can choose, after 3 days from the date of last exposure, to have their players & coaches tested. If ALL tests come back negative and no player or coach is experiencing any COVID related symptoms, that team can notify the league to discuss and request approval to resume league play. That team will be required to notify the coaches of teams they are scheduled to play in advance and make them aware of the situation. It will be up to the discretion of the “non-exposed” team whether they play or not. The notification requirement period will apply for 14 days from the date they receive league approval to resume play.
- Immediately isolate and seek medical care for any individual who develops symptoms.
- Any confirmed case will not be able to return to baseball or softball activities until they are cleared by local health department. We also ask you contact either your coach or the EBSA Board to assist in contacting and notifying those players or families who may have been exposed.
- Those who have had contact with any confirmed COVID-19 case should stay home and self-isolate. We also ask you contact either your coach or the EBSA Board to assist in contacting those who may have been exposed.

- Contact local health departments about suspected cases or exposure. Local health departments will have the resources and will assist in any treatment or testing information that is required.
- Confirmed cases should work with local health department to identify potentially infected and/ or exposed individuals.
- EBSA along with tournament / game organizers may be asked to maintain a complete list of coaches, players, and employees present at each practice and game along with contact information for contact-tracing purposes.