



West Linn Softball Association

Return to Play Guidelines

At WLSA we have always worked to provide a safe environment for teams, coaches, and spectators to play and enjoy fastpitch softball. The "Return to Play" Guidelines have been prepared based upon current guidelines from the CDC, as well as those specific to Oregon issued by the Governor and other authorities, to help teams return to the fields while also adhering to and observing the Social Distancing guidelines, rules and recommendations. There is a certain amount of assumed risk in playing softball; however, COVID-19 creates potential new risks. While guidelines are established and put into action, there will still be times when social distancing measures will not always be possible during the course of play. Inherent risks, which all participants need to acknowledge and assume, are unavoidable and while reasonable measures are being taken by WLSA Board of Directors and coaches, a liability waiver must be signed for all coaches and players who attend a practice, game or tournament.

In accordance with state guidelines, information will be requested and kept as needed for use in contact tracing. Every player and coach participating in the WLSA league must sign the waiver of liability specific to the risks of COVID-19. This is in addition to the standard waiver required for play.

General Health COVID-19 Return to Play Guidelines:

1. Players, coaches and spectators are strictly prohibited from attending or participating in any WLSA event (practices or games) if they have any COVID-19 like symptoms.
2. No one may attend or participate in a WLSA practice or game if they or anyone in their household have recently had an illness with fever or a new cough. They should remain home for at least 10 days after illness onset and until 24 hours after fever is gone, without the use of fever-reducing medicine, and COVID-19 symptoms (fever, cough, shortness of breath, and diarrhea) are improving.
3. Players, parents, coaches, spectators, participants, umpires and all staff must self-certify their health and absence of a fever prior to attending any practice or game.
4. ALL players, coaches, parents, spectators, participants, umpires, and staff are restricted from participation in a practice, game or tournament, or event if they have been exposed to someone with COVID-19 in the preceding 14 days.
5. You must not attend the field, or drop off a player, if you have a temperature over 100.4, are sick, or have any symptoms, or have had any combination of these within the prior 14 days. You must be fever free without the aid of fever-reducing medicines AND see improvement of other symptoms including any respiratory symptoms for 24 hours; AND at least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared.
6. IF a player, coach, or parent has tested positive for COVID19, with symptoms, prior to attending a WLSA event, they CANNOT return to the field with WLSA until:

full resolution of fever for at least 3 days (72 hours) without the aid of fever-reducing medicines; AND, improvement of all symptoms.

7. IF a player, coach, or parent has tested positive for COVID-19 while asymptomatic, they CANNOT return to the field with WLSA until: 10 full days have passed since the date of their first positive COVID-19 diagnostic test.
8. Should any player, coach, parents, spectator, participant, umpire, or staff member test positive for COVID-19 within 14 days of attending a WLSA event, they must notify their team coach and the WLSA Board President.
9. Current Oregon State Guidelines suggest high-risk populations should stay home: age 65 and older; chronic lung disease or moderate to severe asthma; serious heart conditions; immunocompromising conditions including cancer treatment, smoking, bone marrow or organ transplant, immune deficiencies, poorly controlled HIV or AIDS, or prolonged use of corticosteroids and other immune weakening medications; severe obesity (BMI 40 or higher); diabetes; chronic kidney disease or undergoing dialysis; liver disease; or other conditions or risk factors identified by the OHA, CDC or other licensed health professionals.
10. Wash and sanitize your hands frequently and properly.
11. As defined by the State of Oregon OHA 2288K: A 'face covering' means a cloth, polypropylene, paper or other face covering that covers the nose and the mouth; a 'mask' means a medical-grade mask; a 'face shield' means a clear plastic shield that covers the foreheads and extends below the chin.
 - a. The following are not face coverings because they allow droplets to be released: a covering that incorporates a valve that is designed to facilitate easy exhalation, mesh masks, lace masks or other coverings with openings, holes, visible gaps in the design or material, or vents.
12. Comply with all current social distancing measures including face mask/coverings, staying 6 feet apart from people not living in your home. Face mask/covering is required for every person age 2 years and older at all times. There are no exceptions.
13. Teams and anyone associated with the team, MUST LEAVE the field immediately if their game is not a doubleheader, this is a requirement to maintain the appropriate guest count based on government recommendations in our current risk levels (Maximum of 150 guests per facility).
14. All teams will adhere to occupancy guidelines as outlined by the Oregon Health Authority.
15. All teams will adhere to occupancy guidelines at the field or facility they are playing.

WLSA Face Mask/Covering Policy:

1. WLSA representatives are required to wear a face mask/covering at all times
2. Coaches, umpires and Spectators are required to wear a face mask/covering at all times during practices, scrimmages, games and tournaments.
3. Players are required to wear a face mask/covering at all times (during active play, in dugouts, walking to and from their cars, and during all practices)

Player Responsibilities:

1. Wear a face mask/covering at all times and have an extra available.

2. Must have a personally labeled water bottle, and not share with others.
3. NO TEAM COOLERS; NO sharing of snacks or water.
4. Are not allowed to share their gear with any player, any shared bats must be wiped down after use.
5. May not lick their fingers during play (pitchers/batters/etc).
6. Are advised not to touch their face.
7. Allowed to bring a bucket for use and seating as they must spread out 6 feet apart from other coaches and players down the line, into foul territory in lieu of a dugout.
8. Must maintain 6 feet social distance from coaches & teammates at times that they can.
9. Must sanitize all gear: helmet, bat, metal/plastic face mask before each game.
10. Recommended to have their own hand sanitizer & sanitizing wipes for use during the game.
11. Should not play, or enter the ballpark, if they have a temperature over 100.4, are sick, or are experiencing any symptoms. (Please see Health Guidelines above).

Coach Responsibilities:

1. Are responsible for self-certifying their own health, as well as the health of other coaches, and players.
 - a. Asking a player or the players' parent: Does the player have a fever? Have any flu-like or COVID related symptoms? Does anyone in the home have a current COVID diagnosis?
2. Must wear a face mask/covering at all times.
3. Are responsible for knowing and understanding current guidelines as well ensuring they have reviewed the most up-to-date information available.
4. Are responsible for ensuring adherence to WLSA's return to play guidelines
5. Sanitize any high traffic/touch area (such as a dugout) when the team is done with the field.
6. Required to adhere to current WLSA Coach Guidelines.
7. Required to share requirements and guidelines with parents and players to ensure adherence.
8. Must have passed the required Background Check.
9. Must have submitted concussion certification.
10. Understand that failure to adhere may result in termination of play.

Parent Responsibilities:

1. Ensure your child is healthy, and check your child's temperature before your game.
2. Do not send your player to training if your child feels sick.
3. We recommend equipment (bats, face shield, etc.) are sanitized before and after every game.
4. We recommend providing your child with personal sanitizing products.
5. Educate your child about proper behavior for social distancing.
6. Park in designated lots for games. Do not show up earlier than 10 minutes for practices.
7. All parents/guardians are asked to wait in their cars during practices, and potentially games (following all current occupancy guidelines at the time games begin), in order to keep our numbers down at each field. Every person outside of

their car counts toward the total number, and therefore we encourage each parent to stay inside their cars.

- a. For Tball and 8U, if parents attend practices as support (not spectators), they must wear a mask and remain socially distanced from others, and must not have more than one parent/guardian/guest per child.
 - b. For 10U and above, parents are not allowed in the field areas, including spectator locations, and should wait in their cars.
8. Avoid gathering in groups and staying after games to talk.

Our number one priority has been and will continue to be the health and safety of our players and their families. We want to stress to our families that there is no pressure to return until you are comfortable returning to the fields. We will work with any family concerned with "return to play" to ensure that their child has a softball home when they are comfortable returning to the field.

Current guidelines for games at Willamette Park and Hammerle Park in West Linn

1. Spectators are responsible for self-certifying their own health prior to attending any WLSA game or scrimmage.
2. 1 spectator per player is allowed, either in the spectator area or along the fences into the outfield (staying out of all 'in-play' areas)
3. All spectators, players, coaches and umpires must wear mask at all times
4. All spectators must remain socially distanced at all times, no gathering in groups with people outside of your home.