



COVID-19 Field Rental Guidelines

The following field rental guidelines for returning to play are designed to help keep participants, families and our community safe.

Part One: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Guidelines & Screening:

- Updated COVID-19 guidance from the CDC can be found at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>.
- Be vigilant in preventing the spread of the COVID-19 virus by following CDC guidelines.
- Stay home if you are experiencing signs or symptoms of COVID-19, or if you have been exposed to someone who has had signs or symptoms of COVID-19. The CDC maintains a list of COVID-19 symptoms at the link above.
- Players, coaches, spectators and staff should check their own temperature prior to arriving at any WCR&P field. If your temperature is 100.4 degrees or higher, you are not allowed to participate in an activity on a WCR&P field for a minimum of 14 days.
- Field users are responsible for screening all players, coaches and spectators each day.
- Facility staff will be screened each day by WCR&P.
- Tournament staff should be screened each day by the field user.
- If you are immunocompromised, the best way to prevent COVID-19 is to avoid being exposed to the virus. WCR&P strongly urges you to evaluate the risk of participating in any activity on our fields.

Part Two: Facility / Field Rules

PPE / Masks

- On the Field of Play: Participants, officials and umpires have the option to wear a mask / face covering at their discretion, unless the mask creates a safety concern for themselves or for other participants.
- Off the Field of Play: Participants, officials, staff and spectators are not required to wear masks / face coverings as long as they maintain social distancing of at least six feet. Masks should be worn in high-traffic areas like concessions and restrooms where social distancing is more challenging.

Cleaning / Disinfecting

- Players, coaches, administrators, etc. should not share water, towels or other personal or playing equipment (bats, gloves, etc.).
- Centralized hydration stations are not permitted on WCR&P fields.
- Field entry and exit gates will remain open to minimize touch points.
- Restrooms are open to the public and sanitized regularly. Practice proper hand hygiene after use.

Social Distancing

- Anyone entering WCR&P fields, including participants, spectators, umpires and staff, are expected to follow social distancing guidelines from the CDC.
- Congregating is not permitted. Groupings should be limited to single-family units.
- Maintain six-foot spacing when walking to and from the field.
- High-traffic areas (restrooms, concession stands, etc.) will be marked to indicate six-foot spacing.

- No handshakes, high fives, fist bumps or group celebrations before, during or after activity.

Spectators

- The number of spectators should be limited based on gathering size restrictions in the current phase of recovery. Gathering size restrictions will be enforced for each field.
- Spectators are encouraged to stay at home and utilize Live Barn livestreaming from the Henry S. Parker Athletic Complex.
- Spectators should arrive no earlier than the scheduled game time.
- Spectators may watch from behind home plate, down foul lines and beyond outfield fence. Spacing in spectator areas will be marked according to social distancing guidelines. Bleachers are closed and spectators should bring their own chairs.
- Once games are over, spectators should return to their cars. Teams should eliminate post-game meetings.

Dugouts

- Dugouts will be extended and marked with flags and spray paint.
- Restrictions on bench / dugout areas should be suspended to allow participants to appropriately distance themselves.
- Spectators are not permitted in bench / dugout areas.

Warm Ups / Warm Up Areas

- For youth events, outfields will be split into two sides at center field. One team will be able to warm up in left field and the other in right field. Teams may utilize space between temporary outfield fence permanent outfield fence on their designated side of the field.
- Teams should not interact with one another during warm ups and should stay in their group.
- Players should arrive no earlier than the scheduled warm up.

Practice

- A maximum of 10 persons allowed per half baseball / softball field (e.g., eight players and two coaches; nine players and one coach). Baseball / softball fields can be divided by outfield and infield.
- Each player should be assigned a “station” for their equipment (bag, water bottle, etc.) and breaks. These assigned spaces should be six feet apart.

Communication

- Field users **must** communicate the new field rental guidelines to players, coaches and spectators prior to field usage (via virtual meeting or email).
- All other field use rules apply.
- Field users must submit a plan on how they will adhere to these COVID-19 Field Rental Guidelines. This plan must be approved by the field rental coordinator prior to the first activity.
- To minimize physical communication during activity, field users should use digital communication where possible.

Part 3: Team Recommendations

- Parents / guardians should bring their own player(s) to the activity instead of carpooling.
- Players and coaches should practice proper hand hygiene (handwashing or hand sanitizer) before and after participation.
- Each player should utilize their own equipment, which should be disinfected before and after each activity, as well as during activities when possible.
- Players should label their equipment.
- Field users should provide arrival times for team warm ups.
- Players and coaches should report to the field dressed and ready to participate.

- Field users should have sanitizing options available for players and coaches. This may include, but is not limited to:
 - Hand sanitizer
 - Disinfectant wipes
- Upon returning home, players and coaches should remove and launder clothes and shower.

Please Note:

Failure to abide by Wicomico County Recreation & Parks COVID-19 Field Rental Guidelines may result in forfeiture of current and future permits.