

## Avon Lake Parks and Recreation Coach COVID Guide

NEW GUIDELINES <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/static/responsible/Baseball-Softball.pdf>

Please see the information below in regards to the guidelines mandated throughout this season. We are excited to provide a season for the community and will be working directly with the coaches to give the best possible experience for the athletes. As we approach the start date we will be working with our staff to provide guidance on player management in the dugout, handling of equipment, and other best practices that will be sent out to all coaches prior to June 15<sup>th</sup>.

### PRACTICE/GAME

- Players and Coaches must not attend if they are exhibiting any symptoms of COVID 19.
- Players will have designated area to place their bags and equipment 6 feet apart. This will also be a player, coach, and staff area only. This includes the bleachers. Bleachers will be used for the team to properly distance when they're outside the field of play.
- A team parent or additional coach must be in the dugout area to enforce distancing with the players. There will be social distancing cues in the player only area. Hand sanitizer will be available.
- Line ups must be texted or emailed to your opponent. There will not be an exchange of line up cards with the umpire or opposing team.
- Players, coaches, umpires and spectators are strongly encouraged to wear facemasks.
- Spectators are encouraged to limit the amount of attendees and are responsible for social distancing when leaving parks and watching competition.
- Equipment should not be shared. Any equipment that is shared will be sanitized in between uses by the player or with the assistance of the adult in the dugout.
- No touch rule: players and coaches must refrain from high fives, handshake lines, or any physical contact. This also includes pre and post-game huddles. They are no longer permitted without the distancing rules being followed.
- Each team will receive their own game balls to use while on defense.
- No spitting, eating seeds, gym, other similar products.

### EQUIPMENT

- We will hand out team equipment bags, but are asking for players to provide their own equipment. If that is not possible, we will hand out additional helmets in each bag that players can borrow for the season. We will address this prior to hand out.
- Catcher Equipment: If possible- use one catcher per game. If there is a position change that equipment must be sanitized by the dugout assistant and player. We will provide

the sanitation supplies necessary to clean equipment. We will also have additional sets of equipment at the field for situations where sanitizing isn't possible. We will exchange equipment sets and our staff will sanitize and store in the closet.

- Shared bats must be wiped down between uses.
- The defensive team is responsible for the retrieval of all foul balls.

### **UMPIRES**

- Umpires will officiate from behind the pitcher and may be a one man crew. The older divisions are more likely to have a second umpire. We will also use our younger umpires this season when needed.
- Umpires are not responsible for enforcing social distancing. Coaches are responsible for their own teams, but umpires and our staff have the authority to warn teams/end games if regulations are being disregarded by players, coaches or spectators.
- Home plate meetings will occur at a proper 6 foot distance between the umpire and each coach.
- Umpires will not hold the game balls. That will be the responsibility of each defensive team.

### **SPORTSMANSHIP**

- There is a ZERO tolerance policy for arguing ANY call made by an umpire.
- Any coach or player ejected from a game are subject to a minimum two game suspension and a maximum remainder of the season.
- All coaches, players, and spectator are expected to abide by these guidelines as they are required in order for our league to operate.