



OHSBL & AHSBL **Requirements for Safe Return to Play**

Ohio Hot Stove Baseball League and the Alliance Hot Stove Baseball League support the Responsible Restart Ohio initiative regarding baseball, softball and batting cages and require all participants to adhere to all mandatory behaviors and recommended best practices as prescribed by Governor Mike Dewine and the Ohio Department of Health. (Please refer to pages that accompany this document for explicit details – current as of 5/22/20)

In addition to the governor's guidelines, we will impose the following requirements:

Arrival to venue and paperwork:

Each host location is responsible to alert their local health department - along with any other official offices with jurisdiction over the venue - of the events being held. In Alliance, this includes the office of the Mayor and the Director of the Parks Department. This notice will include the rosters of both teams, players and coaches, [all participants] to include names, addresses, and phone numbers for the purposes of contact tracing, should it become necessary.

An accurate attendance record for all coaches, players, and officials must be kept for every event, to include games and practices.

Use of a clip board for each team to post their line up or transmission via electronic device is required. This will eliminate hand to hand contact of the paperwork and payment.

The score keeper should record the start and end time in the official score book.

Spectators:

There will be no spectators allowed at team practices. Parents, guardians, siblings, etc., will be expected to maintain social distancing and avoid the field of play.

At games, Managers, Coaches, and League Officials will remind spectators of the six-foot social distancing requirement as has been made mandatory by the governor and state health department.

For the sake of maintaining safe social distances, provided *bleachers are off limits!* Spectators will be expected to bring their own seating and to practice social distancing at all times. There will be no contact with fences or dugouts as spectators will be expected to remain distanced from the field of play and participants at all times.

Violation of any of these expectations could result in the ban of spectators from games.



Managers/coaches:

Each team manager will have sanitizing solutions or soap and water available for players, and no personal equipment is to be shared. Bats may be sanitized between use, but social distancing must be maintained during this process

Managers and coaches will be responsible for making certain that players maintain social distancing at all times when not directly involved in the game/on the field of play.

Athletes:

No touch rule will be discussed at ground rules as a reminder that this is mandatory for athletes and coaches.

There will be no seeds or gum allowed and no spitting. This applies to all participants – players, coaches and officials.

Players must maintain social distancing at all times when not directly involved in the game/on the field of play.

Umpires/officials:

The umpire(s) will be responsible for keeping spectators from the backstop area, either totally or using 6-foot social distancing. Only rostered coaches, manager or scorekeeper be allowed behind the backstop, meaning everyone in this area must have a background check and be shown on the roster. At Butler Rodman Park, this will preclude anyone other than aforementioned personnel, players, and officials from entering the fenced in areas. If an official from OHSBL or AHSBL is present, they will assist in these efforts.

Umpire pay will be distributed via a “no touch” method, avoiding any unnecessary contact or exchanges.

Equipment will not be checked in the dugout. Ask and confirm compliance of equipment regulations at ground rules while maintaining a social distance of 6 feet. Umpires will visually inspect equipment, only. If an umpire sees illegal equipment while a player is at bat or on the field, they can have it removed at that time.

OHSBL and AHSBL recognize that we must remain responsive to changes in policy and recommendations as imposed by government officials and will make adjustments as needed.

Should you have questions, please contact OHSBL, www.ohsbl.com, or Alliance Hot Stove Baseball at alliancehotstove@gmail.com or via call or text to 330-539-BALL(2255).