

# SCOTTSDALE MISS SOFTBALL

## COVID-19 / Safety Protocol

**All Safety Measures are listed below. Participants and spectators must adhere to all requirements. Subject to change as necessary.**

**Scottsdale Miss Softball (SMS) will start up play** September 2020, pending State guidelines and recommendations. **The COVID-19 Protocol listed will provide our league the safest possible playing conditions. It is very important that all in attendance follow these protocols established by SMS, everyone is responsible for their immediate space. Use mask as directed for coaches, players, umpires, and fans. All teams must have hand sanitizer on hand for players and coaches; all parents must have mask and use as directed per league protocol.**

"Waiver of Liability" All coaches, parents of players, umpires, event staff must sign and date the SMS Waiver of Liability **in order to participate or attend games and practices this season. Head Coaches of each** team will receive via email the "SMS Waiver of Liability" document (See attached). All coaches and parents must sign, and date Waiver of Liability then return to the head coach. Head Coach is to collect signed Waiver forms and turn in to the Division Coordinator prior to the first practice of the season. Again, it is the Head Coach's responsibility to turn in the signed and dated Waivers. If these are not turned in, your team cannot participate with practices nor games until this is done.

### Playing field for Players, Coaches, Umpires:

**Mask for Players** on the field will be optional. When close-distancing in the dugout, a mask will be required.

- **Mask for all Coaches** will be optional but must have around chin while on the field of play. In the event close distance occurs slide your mask over your face. When in dugout, wear a mask.
- **Mask for Umpires;** Base umpire mask is optional while on the field of play but must have around their chin, in the event close distance occurs slide mask over your face. Plate umpire must wear mask due to close distance with catcher. They may slip it down to get a drink of water between 1/2 inning.

**COVID Parent:** Each team will designate a COVID Parent who will be responsible for disinfecting the designated areas. The head coach has primary responsibility for this being done.

**Dugouts:** Each team is responsible for disinfecting its own dugout and/or bleachers, bench, etc. before your team enters the dugout for game play. Each team is responsible for supplying its own hand sanitizer and masks. We recommend using a spray bottle with alcohol and water 10:1 mixture and labeled "ALCOHOL/WATER 10:1". **SMS will schedule an time between games for teams to thoroughly clean/disinfect their dugout and bleachers for players ONLY before use.** Each team will have a designated adult, the COVID Parent, who marks the 6-foot distances outside the dugout and monitors the players' distancing.

**Dugouts** will have no more than three or four players per dugout depending on size of dugout. All players in and outside of dugout must maintain a 6-foot distance. Bleachers will be unavailable for spectator seating at games. Each team will be provided with laminated signs saying, "No seating in bleachers due to COVID-19." It will be the Head Coach's responsibility to see that the COVID Parent posts the signs before and collects them after each game. We suggest all players bring a chair or bucket to sit on when seated outside of the dugout.

**Social Distancing:** At practices and games, players and coaches must continue to strive to maintain 6-foot distancing.

- **NO huddles** on field during games nor practices, maintain 6-foot distance. **No huddles** in or near pitching circle nor in front of dugout.
- **Coach visit to pitcher:** Coach must be outside of circle, pitcher on rubber during time-out.

**Softballs** will be rotated and controlled by each team. Each team will utilize its own softballs while on defense, which will be sanitized between each 1/2 inning and with foul balls. Any softball that comes in from foul ball territory must be disinfected prior to use. Teams will use a mesh-type basket to be hung on the fence near the dugout and may hang spray bottles on the fence to sanitize softballs before put in play.

Any HR softball will come back into play and must be disinfected, no HR softball souvenirs during this pandemic time

- **After warm-up pitches,** catcher throws back to pitcher. No throws to 2nd base or around horn.
- **No sunflower seeds and no shelled peanuts allowed in park.**
- **Pitchers are not allowed to lick** nor spit on their fingers at anytime during the game. First time is a warning, thereafter it is an illegal pitch and automatic ball to the batter.
- **Coaches and Players should consider hand sanitizing frequently** after every half inning.
- **No handshakes,** no fist bumps, no hugs, (no skin contact) practice minimum distancing of 6'.
- **During home run,** players must stay in their dugout, cannot come on to field.
- **All personnel: If you are feeling sick, please stay home.**

Team designated warm up areas:

**Varies according to the facility.**

Parents designated seating areas:

**Per SMS League Protocol,** all parents/spectators are to sit along the side foul fence area or behind outfield fence or other designated area. ***They may not sit directly behind backstop area per SMS League Protocol. Fans may not congregate anywhere on the field.***

**All City bleachers are shut down.** Bleachers may be used by players only as extra players' seating area. Team must clean/disinfect the bleachers and dugouts before use of each game or practice.

- **Parents must bring** their own chairs, water, and food. *Please do not share with anyone outside of your immediate family.*
- **Mask are encouraged for parents** and family members but are mandatory when close distancing or per State, County or City mandate. ***Bring your own mask and hand sanitizer.***
- **If you feel sick, please stay home.**

## Umpires:

- Plate umpires have been informed to move back a little more than normal from catcher when getting into slot position. Plate umpires must wear a mask when near catcher in slot position.
- Base umpires have been informed to make calls at a safe distance of around 12 feet. Mask optional for base umpire but must have around neck in the event of close distance conversations.
- **Plate meeting:** One coach only per team and distance 6 feet please; turn in lineup and step back. Coach must wear mask during plate meeting. Plate meeting will be designated between plate and 3B on-deck circle, not at home plate.
- **In any coach discussions with umpire**, both must wear their mask and maintain distance of 6'.
- Coaches report substitutions at a distance of 6 feet or further at all times.
- **If you feel sick, please stay home and communicate with your UIC.**

## SMS monitoring

The SMS Board will appoint individuals to monitor all games to ensure that these guidelines are followed.

**If we are to have a successful season**, we must adhere to these Safety Measures to insure the safest possible playing conditions. Let's all practice consistent hand washing, hand sanitizing, social distancing, wearing masks, and be responsible in your immediate area.

Stay safe!

Scottsdale Miss Softball

**SMS WAIVER OF LIABILITY**

**ASSUMPTION OF RISK, RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY AGREEMENT**

**RELATING TO COVID-19 EXPOSURE, COVID-19 LIABILITY, AND COVID-19 RISKS**

The persons to whom this Agreement applies are, as follows:

\_\_\_\_\_ Parent or Legal Guardian Name:

Minor Participant Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Or Coach Name: \_\_\_\_\_

IN CONSIDERATION for myself and/or my children listed above being permitted to utilize the services, utilize the facilities and/or participate in the programs of Scottsdale Miss Softball, Inc. (the "Organization"), including, but not limited to, observation or use of facilities or equipment, or participation in or acting as a spectator during any program affiliated with the Organization, the undersigned, on behalf of himself or herself and such participating children and any personal representatives, heirs, and next of kin (hereinafter referred to as "the undersigned") hereby acknowledges, agrees and represents that he or she has inspected and carefully considered such premises, equipment, and facilities and has considered the Organization's programs and that the undersigned finds and accepts same as being safe and reasonably suited for the use or participation by the undersigned and such participating children.

In addition, the undersigned acknowledges that novel coronavirus ("COVID-19") infections have been confirmed throughout the United States, including several cases in the undersigned's own State and locality. In accordance with the most recent guidance and recommendations issued by the World Health Organization (WHO), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), undersigned's own State's Department of Health (DOH) for slowing the transmission of COVID-19, the undersigned hereby agrees, represents, and warrants that neither the undersigned nor such participating children shall visit or utilize the facilities, services, and/or programs of the Organization (other than any exclusively online services and programs) within 14 days after (i) returning from highly impacted areas subject to a CDC Level 3 Travel Health Notice, (ii) exposure to any person returning from areas subject to a CDC Level 3 Travel Health Notice, or (iii) exposure to any person who has a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19. The CDC Travel Health Network is continuously updating this list and the undersigned agrees that they are aware of this list and the countries listed. The undersigned agrees to check on a daily basis the CDC Travel Health Notices list (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html>) prior to participating in or utilizing the facilities, services, and programs of the Organization. The undersigned hereby agrees, represents, and warrants that neither the undersigned nor such participating children shall participate in, visit or utilize the facilities, services, and/or programs of the Organization if he or she (i) experiences symptoms of COVID-19, including, without limitation, fever, cough, loss of sense of taste or smell, or shortness of breath, or (ii) has a suspected or diagnosed/confirmed case of COVID-19. The undersigned agrees to notify the Organization immediately if he or she believes that any of the foregoing access/use restrictions may apply.

The Organization has taken certain steps to implement certain recommended guidance and recommendations issued by public health agencies for slowing the transmission of COVID-19, including, without limitation, the access/use restrictions set forth above. The undersigned acknowledges and agrees that the Organization may revise its procedures at any time based on updated recommended guidance and recommendations issued by public health agencies and further agrees to comply with the Organization's revised procedures prior to utilizing the facilities, services, and/or prior to participating in the programs of the Organization. The undersigned further acknowledges and agrees that, due to the nature of the facilities, services, and programs offered by the Organization, social distancing of 6 feet per person among children and their fellow participants or others is not always possible. The undersigned fully understands and appreciates both the known and potential dangers of participating in the programs and/or utilizing the facilities and services of the Organization and acknowledges that use thereof by the undersigned and/or such participating children may, despite the Organization's reasonable efforts to mitigate such dangers, result in exposure to COVID-19, which could result in quarantine requirements, serious illness, disability, and/or death.

IN FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF BEING PERMITTED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ORGANIZATION'S PROGRAMS, THE UNDERSIGNED HEREBY AGREES TO THE FOLLOWING:

THE UNDERSIGNED, ON HIS OR HER BEHALF AND ON BEHALF OF SUCH PARTICIPATING CHILDREN, HEREBY RELEASES, WAIVES, DISCHARGES AND COVENANTS NOT TO SUE the Organization or its national governing body organization, or any of their respective directors, officers, employees, volunteers and agents, or any of the fellow participants or their family members or guests from all liability to the undersigned or such participating children and all personal representatives, assigns, heirs, and next of kin of the undersigned or such participating children for any loss or damage, and any claim or demands on account of any property damage or any injury to, or an illness or the death of, the undersigned or such participating children (or any person who may contract COVID-19, directly or indirectly, from the undersigned or such participating children) *whether caused by the negligence, active or passive, of the Organization or otherwise while the undersigned or such participating children are in, upon, or about the premises or any facilities or using any equipment of or participating in any program of or affiliated with the Organization.* To the extent such statute applies, the undersigned also expressly and knowingly waives all rights under California Civil Code Section 1542, which provides: "A general release does not extend to claims that the creditor or releasing party does not know or suspect to exist in his or her favor at the time of executing the release and that, if known by him or her, would have materially affected his or her settlement with the debtor or released party."

THE UNDERSIGNED HEREBY AGREES TO HOLD HARMLESS the Organization or its national governing body organization, or any of their respective directors, officers, employees, volunteers and agents, *whether caused by the Organization's negligence, active or passive, or otherwise* while the undersigned or any participating child is participating in any program of the Organization or in, upon, or about the premises or any facilities or equipment affiliated with the Organization. The undersigned understands and agrees that the Organization is not required to provide insurance to cover the undersigned or such participating children in the event they suffer illness, injury, death, property loss, theft or damage of any sort upon, or about the premises or any facilities or equipment therein or

while participating in any program affiliated with the Organization.

The undersigned agrees and acknowledges that use of the Organization facilities and services, and participation in the Organization programs, may involve inherent danger and risk, including, without limitation, the risk of physical illness or injury, death or property damage. THE UNDERSIGNED HEREBY ASSUMES FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR, AND RISK OF ILLNESS, BODILY INJURY, DEATH OR PROPERTY DAMAGE to the undersigned or such participating children due to negligence, active or passive, or otherwise while in, about or upon the premises of the Organization and/or while using the premises or any facilities or equipment thereon and/or while participating in or observing any program affiliated with the Organization. The undersigned acknowledges that any illness or injuries that the undersigned or such participating children contract or sustain may be compounded by negligent first aid or emergency response of the releases and waive any claim in respect thereof.

THE UNDERSIGNED further expressly agrees that the foregoing ASSUMPTION OF RISK, RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY, is intended to be as broad and inclusive as is permitted by the laws of the State in which the undersigned resides or participates and that if any portion thereof is held invalid, it is agreed that the balance shall, notwithstanding, continue in full legal force and effect.

I HAVE CAREFULLY READ AND VOLUNTARILY SIGN THIS ASSUMPTION OF RISK, RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY, AND FURTHER AGREE THAT NO ORAL REPRESENTATIONS, STATEMENTS OR INDUCEMENT APART FROM THE FOREGOING WRITTEN AGREEMENT HAVE BEEN MADE. I AM AWARE THAT BY AGREEING TO THIS AGREEMENT I AM GIVING UP VALUABLE LEGAL RIGHTS, INCLUDING THE RIGHT TO RECOVER DAMAGES FROM THE ORGANIZATION IN CASE OF ILLNESS, INJURY, DEATH OR PROPERTY LOSS OR DAMAGE, INCLUDING, FOR THE AVOIDANCE OF DOUBT AND WITHOUT LIMITATION, EXPOSURE TO COVID-19 AT ANY ORGANIZATION FACILITY OR DURING PARTICIPATION IN ANY PROGRAM AND ANY ILLNESS, INJURY OR DEATH RESULTING THEREFROM. I UNDERSTAND THAT THIS DOCUMENT IS A PROMISE NOT TO SUE AND A RELEASE OF ALL CLAIMS. IF SIGNING ON BEHALF OF MINOR: I ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT THIS AGREEMENT IS MADE ON BEHALF OF MY MINOR CHILD(REN) AND/OR LEGAL WARDS AND I REPRESENT AND WARRANT TO THE ORGANIZATION THAT I HAVE FULL AUTHORITY TO SIGN THIS AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF SUCH MINOR(S)

I have read and understand the terms of this Assumption of Risk, Release and Waiver of Liability Agreement and agree to its terms.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Emergency Contact Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Emergency Contact Number