



Purpose

This document is intended to clarify the specific guidelines and requirements for participation in, use of, and attendance at RYBSA events and facilities.

Scope

This document applies to all players and participants at RYBSA-events and facilities (both Martin and Peck street). This includes:

- Rec season players
- Teams renting or attendee events at any RYBSA facilities
- Parents and other non-player attendees on-site for RYBSA events
- Coaches
- Umpires
- Any other people including service providers or contractors on the premises of RYBSA sites.

This remains in effect until it is revised or announced to be discontinued. Facility closures noted by league community or other such board-sanctioned announcements may supersede this as appropriate

Updates

These guidelines may change to meet the evolving needs for the safety of our RYBSA community and to maintain alignment to state and local law. Please note the Version at the top of each page and check www.rybsaonline.com to ensure you are aware of an following the latest guidelines.

General Guidelines

- Follow local & state health guidelines at all times. Participating and/or visiting to RYBSA facilities and events is subject to compliance with these and all state and local guidelines. Anyone observed violating may be asked by board members to leave event and facility.
- All players and coaches must submit signed COVID-19 waivers prior to participating in any league activities.
- All non-vaccinated spectators are required to wear a face covering while at the facility when unable to maintain 6 foot distancing from other spectators.
- Scheduling of games and practices may be adjusted to meet guidelines and reduce number of people at the complex.
- RYBSA will have a point of contact for any person wishing to advise the league of guidelines not being followed. Any concerns regarding compliance with guidelines should first be raised with the team coach and then escalated to division VP, who will bring to board as needed.
- Cleaning supplies, including hand sanitizer will be available to every team and each team will encourage hand washing and utilization of hand sanitizer throughout the game or practice. Coaches and players are to wash or sanitize hands both before and after game/practice/event.
- We ask that all players and those attending activities at the complexes self-certify that they are in good health prior to arriving at the fields. Any player, coach or umpire that has exhibited symptoms consistent with COVID19 in the last 14 days, should not attend games or practices. Spectators that are not feeling well are asked to stay home. Current list of symptoms is available here:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>
- All coaches will be updated on these procedures and Division-specific procedures.



RYBSA COVID-19 Return to Play Guidelines Version: May 19, 2021a

- Proper signage will be displayed throughout the complex on guidelines provided by local and state health official
- Cleaning and disinfection of the high touch and heavy transit areas will be done frequently. RYBSA will also have a complete deep sanitization done in the bathrooms at least weekly. Cleaning protocols will align to CDC and/or State guidelines.
- Bleachers are being used for additional player spacing as needed, the designated viewing area for spectators is the area outside the foul lines and chain link fence on each field.
- Spacing for players will be comprised of the dugout, bleachers and other surrounding areas as needed and directed by the team coach, unless otherwise specified in division-specific guidelines.
- Parents are asked to keep track of those family members that attend the games for contact logging purposes.
- Players are asked to arrive no earlier than 15 minutes prior to the game and practice for routine recreation events. Players should stay off the scheduled field or space until vacated by the previous group.
- Once game or practice is over RYBSA asks that no player or families hang around the complex. All spectators, parents and players will be expected to leave within 15 minutes after the conclusion of the event or earlier to help facilitate the next group to start their activity.
- Coaches will guide players in moving on and off the field or specific areas as needed at the start, end, or during the event. Specific divisions may have more specific processes to provide additional structure for those age groups.

Game Play, Practices, and Coach/Player Guidelines

- NO handshaking/celebrations: Players and coaches should refrain from handshakes, high fives, fist/elbow bumps, chest bumps, group celebrations, etc.
- The “designated player area” is bleacher, dugout and area immediately around the bleachers.
- Players should not share any of their personal playing equipment (IE: bats, gloves, fielder’s mask, catcher’s gear, helmets, water bottles, etc.) Accommodations may be made for coaches to handle sterilization of any team gear that may be shared (ie: catchers gear)
- All players should wear face coverings in the following situations:
 - In any situation at the facility (non game/practice play) where 6 foot social distancing cannot be maintained
 - Coaches should remind players to maintain social distancing during team huddles or visits to the pitchers mound.
 - When leaving the field of play to enter dugout or designated seating area. Masks will remain on until player takes the field.
- Umpires and coaches will be required to wear face coverings when unable to maintain 6 foot social distancing.
- Parents should be advised to have back up supplies in the player’s equipment bag for use when needed and their own marked or labeled water bottle or sport drink. No team or dugout coolers are permitted
- Pregame conferences will be limited to 1 coach per team and 1 umpire. Social distancing of 6’ will be followed



RYBSA COVID-19 Return to Play Guidelines Version: May 19, 2021a

- Pre-practice and pre-game warmups will be at coaches discretion only. If the coach elects to do warmups, they will bring players into a warm up area in an orderly fashion and lead warmups themselves while maintaining distancing. No non-coach led warmups are allowed.
- The use of sunflower seeds is NOT permitted by players, coaches, umpires or spectators
- Division and age group guidelines will be handed out by Division VP's as needed to parents and coaches. Coaches will have discretion to ensure players are following guidelines. IE: If a player is struggling to comply, they may need to sit out or with their family for a while.
- A head coach may delegate a volunteer to serve as "Distancing lead" for a specific practices or games. This is an optional step to help the coach and team but not mandatory (coach's discretion).
 - This will be a volunteer (parent, assistant coach etc) who will help players and participants abide by the distance and guidelines for that event.
 - That individual would be familiar with the guidelines and provide reminding and redirection to the players to make sure they are followed.
 - The coach may work with parents to have someone take this as a recurring role with others stepping in when that person is not present

Division-Specific Guidelines

Baseball Majors/AAA | Softball Sophomores

Softball Freshman & AA Baseball

- Arrival and Game Start
 - Upon arriving at the field, families should confirm that the intended field has been vacated by players and families from earlier games before approaching the field.
 - Players will enter the "designated player area" in a manner that maintains social distancing while wearing masks.
 - The "designated player area" is bleacher, dugout and area immediately around the bleachers.
- When a team is batting:
 - Players not on base or in the on-deck-box are to remain seated in the dug out or "designated player area" with masks on which includes the dugout.
- When a team is fielding:
 - Players who are not in the fielding lineup during a designated inning of play shall remain in the "dugout" wearing their masks
- Catchers:
 - Coaches will be issued 2 sets of catchers gear per team and may elect to use up to 2 different players to catch per game or practice thus avoiding the sharing of equipment. More catchers may be used if additional helmets are available and/or intra-game disinfection is performed.
 - At the end of each game or practice coaches shall sanitize the catchers gear using cleaning products provided by the league



RYBSA COVID-19 Return to Play Guidelines

Version: May 19, 2021a

Softball Futures Teeball, Baseball A

- Arrival and Game Start
 - Upon arriving at the field, families should confirm that the intended field has been vacated by players and families from earlier games before approaching the field.
 - Upon approaching the field, players will wait with their family in designated areas outside the fenced field area.
 - This area will serve as a staging point for the players throughout the game to change gear, wait, and hydrate between and during innings. We recommend limiting the staging area to as few people as possible
 - When a team is batting:
 - Players not on base or in the on-deck-box are to remain seated in the dug out or “designated player area” with masks on which includes the dugout.
 - When a team is fielding:
 - The coach may mark or indicate specific areas for fielders to stay within.
 - A catcher will not be used in teeball, futures, or A divisions.
-

2021 Revision Notes

4/5/21 – First Release aligned to latest guidance