

## **MAC Safety Guidelines**

1. Upon arrival at the field, all players must sanitize their hands in the presence of their coach. Encourage all players to bring their own supply of sanitizer. If they forget or are unable to bring sanitizer, each coach should be supplied with some that can be made available to players.
2. Players should not wear batting gloves during the entirety of a game as cloth surfaces tend to collect bacteria more easily and cannot be cleaned at the field.
3. Recommend that players wear face coverings when not active on the field. Players who wish to wear masks on the field are allowed to but are not required. Coaches should not force or ask players to wear masks. It is up to each individual parent to decide for their child if they should wear a mask on and off the field. Understand that many people cannot wear masks for many different reasons.
4. At the conclusion of a game, instead of the traditional shaking hands, players will line up along the foul lines (at least 6 feet apart), say "good game" and a simple wave to the other team. We do not want our players to forget that sportsmanship is important.
5. There will be absolutely no eating in the dugouts this year by players or coaches. This includes candy, gum, and sunflower seeds.
6. Coaches should minimize any mound visits this year to avoid intentional close contact.
7. Batters, catchers, and umpires should be spaced out a little more than traditional positioning. Umpires may be positioned behind the pitcher.
8. As we get closer to Phase 3, and the start of games, we will reevaluate what the current guidance is for dugout usage. If dugouts are closed, then a section outside of the fence should be roped off for players.
9. Prior to the game, instead of a pregame conference between coaches and the umpire, the umpire will directly speak to each coach individually and ask if they have any questions on ground rules.
10. We are recommending that players minimize any handshaking/celebrations, including high fives, fist, elbow or chest bumps and team celebrations.
11. No child should be scolded or punished in any way for not following these guidelines. These are kids and they will be kids. Coaches should only gently remind players of these guidelines.
12. Spectators should maintain 6' social distancing during games and are recommended to wear masks. Bleachers may be closed at individual fields, so recommend that parents bring their own chairs.
13. Some fields may have limits on the number of spectators at a game, and these should be published before the season. At each game there should be allowance for 1 family member per player minimum.

## **Individual League Recommendations** *(each league needs to decide to use or modify these at their discretion)*

1. Before heading to the field, ask that all parents take their child's temperature and check for any other symptoms. If they are running a temperature of 100.0 or higher, ask that they do not bring them to field.
2. If a player is showing symptomatic signs during a practice, game or event, ask that the parents determine if the player should be taken out. Coaches are not medical professionals, and we cannot ask them to make medical decisions.
3. Shared catchers gear should be spray sanitized by an adult between players wearing the gear. Players who are more dedicated catchers, recommend that they get their own gear.
4. All personal equipment, including bats & helmets should not be allowed to be shared between players.
5. The dugouts should be closed during practices. When players arrive, have them setup their gear up along the fence at least 6 feet apart.
6. At the conclusion of a game during the team meeting, players should be asked to spread out, so they are at least 6 feet apart from each other around the coach.
7. Coaches should no longer be issued cash to be able to pay umpires. The league should handle paying all umpires directly.

8. Ask that all coaches at the Minors level and above use GameChanger. GameChanger is a free service that allows a coach to broadcast a game in a "GameCast" format live. This will help with those who are unable to attend games and want to cheer on their players.
9. Recommend that spectators try to watch the game from the outfield using social distancing when possible. To allow for space for those who may find it difficult to walk to the outfield (elderly, walkers, etc), ask that you limit the usage of the spectator areas around home plate to those who need it most.
10. Snack shacks should be open with the following precautions:
  - a. Installing plexiglass barriers at all serving windows.
  - b. Gloves provided to all volunteers working.
  - c. There should always be 2 people working in a snack shack, one to handle money, and one to handle food.
  - d. Recommend that everyone pay with credit cards or contactless payments instead of cash when possible.
  - e. Masks should be provided for all volunteers working in snack shacks.