

Quincy Youth Baseball, Inc – COVID-19 Policy & Procedures

July 1st 2020

Background:

The Quincy Youth Baseball, Inc Board of Directors met in the month of May to discuss bringing baseball and softball to the fields of Quincy in Summer 2020 under the Commonwealth of MA Phase II & Phase III Re-Opening plans. The goal is to help create some normalcy for the youth of our City. The Board voted unanimously to move forward with baseball programs for children aged 9-12 years old. The following rules were voted unanimously by The Board. Any willful neglect for, or disregard of, these rules by any Player, Coach, Parent, or Spectator will result in the immediate expulsion from the league by The Board. Player Safety has always been the priority for Quincy Youth Baseball, Inc. The Board needs and expects 100% cooperation from ALL involved to ensure Player Safety is maintained during this unprecedented season. Let work together to make it fun and safe for the players and coaches. Thank You & Play Ball !!!

Player Participation:

Players/Families are participating in the baseball program practices and games voluntarily.

Players must be fully registered and paid to be covered under the league insurance coverage through our national charter program, Babe Ruth League, Inc. If these conditions are not met, the player will not receive a uniform and will not be allowed to participate in games and practices until all paperwork and payments are in “good order”.

Parents/Guardians **MUST COMPLETE** a Babe Ruth League, Inc / Quincy Youth Baseball, Inc – Amateur Athletic Waiver and Release of Liability form prior to their player receiving a uniform. These forms will be collected by each team’s Head Coach. Uniforms will not be issued to any player whose paperwork is not in “good order”.

Players, Coaches, and Volunteers MUST show no signs or symptoms of COVID-19. If any Player, Coach, or Volunteer shows signs of COVID-19 they need to seek medical treatment immediately and notify the League as such via email @ QuincyBaseballSoftball@gmail.com. If there is a positive case of COVID-19 determined to be directly affiliated with any Player, Coach, or Volunteer immediate action will be taken by The League, up to and including the cancellation of the season.

If any direct household member of a Player, Coach or Volunteer tests positive for COVID-19, that Player, Coach or Volunteer must self-quarantine for at least 14 days before returning to any activity. Please notify the league immediately via email @ QuincyBaseballSoftball@gmail.com if this scenario arises.

Scheduling Games:

To reduce crowding at the Quarry Hills Baseball complex, no more than 2 games will be played at any given time at Quarry Hills.

Fields B and C will be the only 2 fields to house games as they are on opposite corners of the complex and have lights. Cal Minors games will have a strict 1hr 45min cutoff for any new inning to start.

Teams will not be allowed to hold formal practices on Fields A & D when games are in progress.

If evening games (5:30-6:00pm) are underway and night games (8:00pm) are scheduled, the teams arriving for the night games will report as follows:

- Teams Scheduled for Field C - 8pm games will report to Field A
- Teams Scheduled for Field B - 8pm games will report to Field D
- HOME team reports to 3rd base side - AWAY team reports to 1st base side
- Masks and Social Distancing are Mandatory during this time

Enhanced Safety Measures:

NOT ALLOWED – Gum, Seeds, Spitting, Team Drinks, Team Snacks, Hi-Fives, Group Celebrations.

Personal equipment such as helmets, bats, gloves, catchers' gear, etc... **MUST NOT** be shared.

Players are **Strongly Encouraged** to have their own helmet (\$20-\$25) no face cage required.

Players are also encouraged to have their own bat. "USA" stamped bats are required for play.

Players are also encouraged to have their own batting gloves – especially if using a team bat.

Team Helmets and Bats are available from the league. Coaches will clean before/after games.

Team catching gear is also available – each team has at least 2 sets available for alternate usage.

Coaches received hand sanitizer, disposable masks, and sanitary wipes from the League for usage during the game as needed.

Players **will not** shake hands after the game – instead they will line the base paths for a tip of the cap as a sign of good sportsmanship.

Face Coverings/Masks:

All Players, Coaches, Parents, Spectators are **REQUIRED** to wear face coverings/masks while inside the Quarry Hills Complex. (See the 2020 Quarry Hills Field Map COVID-19 for reference)

Neck Gaiters were purchased for all players and will be distributed with uniforms. These **MUST** be worn to the field for games and practices. Players should have a spare mask in their bag. Coaches were also given a supply of disposable masks to use as needed.

During practices, the players must wear their mask/face covering and coaches must keep the players socially distanced when possible and working in groups no larger than 10 if less than 25 feet apart. If the players individually are more than 10 feet apart from each other, then the neck gaiters can be slid down off the face area until social distance is no longer possible.

During games, the players **MUST** wear their mask/face covering as follows:

- In The Dugout at all times
- In the Infield on Defense (except Pitcher)
- While at Bat, While On Base, While in the On Deck Circle
- Outfielders do not need to cover their face while in the field

Field Modifications:

The Quarry Hills Complex will be altered to accommodate the COVID-19 guidance from the Commonwealth of MA and the Babe Ruth League. The following changes will be implemented:

Dugouts will be opened up to allow for social distancing by removing portions of the chain link fences. Crowd control barriers will be used to extend the dugouts on all fields. Dugouts are for Players and Coaches ONLY.

Parents, Siblings, and other Spectators are discouraged from gathering near the dugouts or behind home plate.

Social Distancing protocols **MUST** be followed inside the complex. 6ft minimum distance is required.

Masks/Face Coverings are **MANDATORY** for Parents, Siblings, and Spectators while inside the complex.

Bleachers on all Fields are **CLOSED** to Parents and Spectators. Bleachers will become an extension of the dugout for Players and Coaches ONLY. Parents and Spectators should bring lawn chairs as needed.

The Viewing Areas for games on Fields B & C are as follows:

Field B: Down the Right Field Line beyond the bleachers.
Over the Outfield Fence in Right and Center Fields near the soccer fields

Field C: Down the Left Field Line beyond the extended dugout
Over the Outfield Fence in Left, Center, and into Right Field.

Porta-Potties will be available near the main entrance of the complex. The Mens Room at Quarry Hills Complex bathroom facilities are **LIMITED** to Player and Coach use only. Male Parents and Spectators are expected to use the available porta-potties as needed. The Ladies Room at Quarry Hills will remain available for all female Players, Coaches, Parents, and Spectators.