



SPA 2020 Coronavirus Rules and Procedures

May 20, 2020

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Manager's Meeting

- Until it is safe to gather in groups of more than 10, SPA will host manager meetings where possible via electronic media. All information pertaining to a specific tournament will be sent to managers via email before the tournament begins. A copy of the Manager Notes will be available in paper copy.
- Managers will receive updated rosters via email with the Manager Instructions that will include new Waiver Statements that each player must sign **in addition to** rosters before playing.
- Managers must have all players that will be participating in the tournament sign the roster AND the new waiver statement and must submit **BOTH** prior to any tournament play.
- It is up to the manager to let the Director know if there are any changes at the field before the team begins play.
- The new Waiver statements that each player will need to sign before playing, will indicate that they understand softball is a game of risk and that there is always a risk in group activities of contracting viruses or other illnesses.

Player Check-in

- Until the pandemic subsides, we will change our player check-in to minimize groups and contact.
- For the remainder of this season, players will not check in individually at the tournament.
- Managers must have all players that will be participating in the tournament sign the previously provided team roster **AND** the new waiver statement. Managers must submit **BOTH** Roster and Waiver documents prior to any tournament play.
- Managers will fill in lineup cards with **first and last names** of all players present before each game and directors will use the lineup cards to verify player participation for that tournament.
- Managers will be responsible for letting directors know about any changes to the roster before their first game.
- Managers will receive any provided balls, a pencil and a Sharpie to use during the tournament to mark balls, fill in the lineup cards and sign the cards at the end of the game.

Umpires

- We will be using single umpires for all games to minimize exposure, and to help offset the increased costs of housing umpires in hotels alone. (Usually umpires share rooms). This will help keep entry fees in place.
- As a backup, Umpires will be provided with a form of disinfectant to wipe balls when necessary.
- We will be providing directors and umpires with either masks or face shields, and protective gloves. These will be worn during tournaments to protect umpires and officials who have multiple contacts with managers and players.
- Managers will fill in the lineup cards with **first and last names** of all players present, and lineups will not be accepted otherwise.

The Game

- There will be a “no-contact, no-handshake policy” to be observed at every level of the organization until further notice. This includes all physical contact and extends to customary game-related activities, such as umpire-coach introductions, and post-game handshakes between members of opposing teams. Instead, staff, players and coaches should communicate verbally, without shaking hands, high-fiving or fist-bumping.
- Players will be expected to maintain social distancing before and after the game – and during the game when possible.
- Managers will be responsible for keeping any sick players or players in quarantine out of and away from the tournament.
- Spectators will be required to maintain social distancing during the tournament.

- We will be providing directors and umpires with either masks or face shields, and protective gloves. These will be worn during tournaments to protect officials who have multiple contacts with managers and players.
- We encourage players to wear masks when in the dugouts and during the game. Protective masks will be allowed during all phases of the game.
- As supplies are available, we will be selling face masks, face shields, gaiters, etc. for players who want to buy them.
- As a backup, Umpires will be provided with a form of disinfectant to wipe balls when necessary.
- We will **NOT** be supplying community water jugs for obvious reasons until the pandemic is over. Players will need to supply their own individual water.
- Any gatherings of teams or players before or after games will need to follow personal distancing recommendations of being 6 feet apart.

Dug Out Area

- Keep 6 feet of distance in and out of dugout. Players will be required to separate and in most cases be in and out of the dugout on the outside of the field fences to maintain spacing.
- Players will NOT be allowed to spread out on the field of play because of the inherent danger of being hit by a foul ball.
- When one team leaves the dugout, the next team should wait away from the dugout entrance, until all players have exited, before they enter.
- The team leaving the dugout must police the dugout and get rid of all trash, especially empty drinking containers.
- Park personnel will be asked to periodically disinfect the dugouts.

Enforcement

- We will be enforcing these safety measures so that we can get back on the fields as soon as possible in the safest way for all of our players and officials. We will be ejecting any player or guest who refuses to follow these safety rules for the good of everyone else in the park.

Personal Hygiene

- Most important: Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Cover your mouth and nose – with a tissue, if possible – when coughing or sneezing, then properly discard the tissue in the trash.
- Avoid close contact with anyone else who is coughing or sneezing or who is otherwise sick. People who exhibit COVID-19 symptoms will be asked to leave the park.
- Wash your hands often, using soap and water for at least 20 seconds each time.
- If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.

Local Rules

- We recognize that local areas may require additional restrictions and/or rules. This document represents the MINIMUM requirements for all SPA Events.