

COVID 19 SAFETY PLAN
RETURN TO SPORT (BASEBALL) GUIDELINES
for the
VANCOUVER MINOR BASEBALL ASSOCIATION

- updated June 28, 2020 -

PURPOSE

The Provincial Health Officer (PHO) and Vancouver Minor Baseball's (VMBA) direction is that the RTS Guidelines should cover three things:

1. Processes to open (play) safely;
2. Measure to keep people safe to prevent further outbreaks;
3. A plan in an event that a case or an outbreak should occur.

Step 1: Assess the risks at your facility.

Step 2: Protocols we have to reduce the risk in RED.

1. Identify areas where people gather?
Baseball diamonds and dugouts at Nanaimo Park, Vancouver
2. Identify situations and processes where individuals are close to one another or member of the public.
 - a.) At home plate between catcher and batter - but we will ensure that there will be adequate distance between these two persons.
 - b.) At any base between the fielder and the base runner - but we will ensure that there will be no base runner of any sorts.
 - c.) In the dugouts - but we will ensure that the dugouts are not being used.
3. Identify the equipment that may be shared by individuals.
 - a.) Baseballs – coaches or a volunteer will disinfect the baseballs with 72% alcohol (this will be provided to all coaches) before each session, as well as ask all individuals participating to disinfect hands before coming onto the playing field.
 - b.) Catchers equipment – coaches or a volunteer will disinfect all catchers gear with 72% alcohol before each session and ask that only one catcher use that equipment per practice.
4. Identify surfaces that people touch often.

There are no surfaces that people touch often on our diamond besides the dugouts, and we plan to not allow participants to use them (they will be roped off).

First Level Protection (elimination):
Measures in RED

Limit the number of people and ensure physical distance whenever possible.
We will allow up to a maximum of 50 or less participants.

Established maximum program numbers for our program that meets facility requirements.
As listed above, we are only allowing a maximum of 50 or less participants for each program of each division.

We have implemented measures to keep participants and others at least 2 metres apart, wherever possible.
We will be posting on fence around our facility, as well as having our volunteer coaches / managers consistently reminding our participants of the 2 metre minimum distancing.

Second Level Protection (engineering):
Not applicable to us, other than roping off our dugouts.

Third level protection (administrative): Rules and guidelines
Measures in RED

1. Identify Rules and Guidelines for how participants, coaches, volunteers and spectators conduct themselves.
 - a.) We will be emailing this COVID-19 Safety plan to all participants and their families (the spectators), coaches and volunteers.
 - b.) Coaches will verbally telling all participants (and their families), and volunteers of all rules and guidelines, such as disinfecting of baseballs, catchers equipment, of the closure of the dugouts, of cleaning of hands before doing entering or touching a ball (sanitizing gel or spray will be provided).
 - c.) We will have signage at various areas of our baseball diamonds.
 - d.) Coaches will verbally be

Fourth Level Protection:
Measures in RED

Using of masks
Due to the fact that we are only conducting all baseball skills sessions outdoors, we are leaving it up to the participants as to whether they choose to wear a mask, but we will be provided 3 to each coach.

Reduce the risk of surface transmission through effective cleaning and hygiene practices?

Nanaimo Park has only one bathroom and it cleaned and maintained by the Vancouver Parks board, but we will be posting signage with regards to proper handwashing. As well, we will have sanitizer at every diamond being used by our participants.

We have communicated good hygiene practices to participants, coaches, volunteers, etc.

We will be emailing all our participants our guidelines, as well as posting signage throughout Nanaimo Park.

We have implemented cleaning protocols for all common areas and surfaces. Non applicable because will not be using the dugouts.

Workers who are cleaning have adequate training and materials.

Coaches and/or volunteers will be giving the proper cleaning materials to disinfect all equipment being used and will be advised as to how to properly clean these products.

We have removed unnecessary tools and equipment to simplify the cleaning process.

We are asking all participants to bring their own bats to minimize the exposure and to simplify the cleaning process.

Provide information about your cleaning plan.

Coaches and/or volunteers will be responsible for all cleaning of baseballs and catchers equipment before the start of each session.

Step 3: Develop Policies

Develop the necessary policies to manage your sport.

Illness Policy in **RED**

Illness Policy (a more "detailed" one also attached)

- a.) Anyone who has had symptoms of COVID-19 in the last 10 days. Symptoms include fever, chills, new or worsening cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, and new muscle aches or headache.
- b.) Anyone directed by Public Health to self-isolate.
- c.) Anyone who has arrived from outside of Canada or who has had contact with a confirmed COVID-19 case must self isolate for 14 days and monitor for symptoms.

Our policy addresses participants, coaches, volunteers or spectators who may start to feel ill while participating. It includes the following;

- a.) please advise your coach, even with mild symptoms.

- b.) Sick participants will be asked to sanitize their hands immediately, provided with a mask, and isolated. The participant will be asked to leave the park immediately.
- c.) If the participant is severely ill (e.g. difficulty breathing, chest pain), 911 will be called immediately.
- d.) We will clean and disinfect all equipment.

Step 4: Develop Communication Plans

Measure in RED

Ensure that everyone participating in the sport activity knows how to keep themselves safe while participating.

All participants, coaches, volunteers and spectators will be receiving an email with this Safety plan attached. All coaches and/or volunteers will be verbally addresses all safety measures at all sessions.

Signage will be posted throughout the park with regards to the following;

- a.) Occupancy levels (maximum 50 participants).
- b.) Effective hygiene practices.
- c.) Those who are restricted from participating (including spectators, volunteers, coaches and players).

Coaches and volunteers will be advised on monitoring participants to ensure policies and procedures are being followed.

Step 5: Monitor and Update Plans as Necessary.

Measure in RED

If you identify a new area of concern, or if it seems like something isn't working, take steps to update your policies and procedures.

We will be checking in on a regular basis with all our coaches to ensure things are going as smoothly and as planned. We will also be checking to see if they are in need of any supplies with regards to disinfecting or sanitizing.

Step 6: Assess and Address Risks from Resuming Operations

Measure in RED

We have a training plan for new coaches, volunteers.

All coaches and volunteers have been made aware of these new safety measure and responsibilities via email and verbally.

We have identified a safe process for cleaning and removing things are have been out of use.

Baseballs and catchers equipment will be disinfected by our Equipment Manager prior to it being released to our coaches, but coaches and/or volunteers MUST disinfect it again at the beginning of every session.

We have a training plan around changes to our programming.

It has been decided no games will be played. All sessions will only be Skill Development.

Attached you will find the following;

1. A more "detailed" Illness Policy
2. Outbreak Plan
3. First Aid Plan