

MBSC COVID 19 Risk Management Guidelines *

(Note: references to staff means coaches, team specific staff, and general league staff members which may include directors/officers)

Manage

- **COVID Coordinator:** A COVID coordinator will be appointed to oversee the COVID risk management plan including development from appropriate resources, implementation, monitoring, updates/changes, communications, staff training, regulatory compliance, and answering player, parent, and staff questions about COVID concerns.
- **COVID Self-Reporting:** The COVID coordinator will be familiar with and comply with all regulatory requirements, privacy policies, and information sharing regulations as regards COVID-19 self reporting of symptoms or positive tests by players or staff as well as by related family members with whom they have had close contact.
- **Training:** All staff will be required to familiarize themselves with the CDC guidelines and recommendations in youth sports, New Jersey specific guidelines in youth sports, these MBSC risk management guidelines, and any applicable league guidelines regarding COVID-19 risk management.
- **Agreement to Abide by Guidelines:** By participating in MBSC events, all staff, players, parents and spectators agree to abide by these MBSC risk management guidelines.

Communications

- MBSC will disseminate information to all staff, players, parents, and spectators about the COVID risk and practices that should be undertaken to mitigate risks of COVID-19.
- A MBSC waiver specifically addressing the risks of COVID- 19 will be required to participate in practices. Parents with players with underlying conditions are required to disclose such conditions upon execution of the waiver. Parents with players with underlying conditions are encouraged to consider carefully all guidelines regarding the participation of player with an underlying condition.

Events: Games and Practices

- **Stay Home When Appropriate:** Players, staff, and spectators must stay home when they are showing symptoms of COVID-19, have a temperature over 100.4 Fahrenheit, have tested positive for COVID-19 and have yet to be cleared by doctor to resume activities, have had close contact with a person with COVID-19, or if any member of their household either has tested positive for COVID-19 or shows symptoms of COVID-19.

- **League Games:** Any MBSC team or staff participating in a league-sponsored game, such as USABL games, will abide by the COVID-19 risk management rules and guidelines of that league, in addition to the MBSC risk management guidelines where applicable.

Social Distancing

- All unvaccinated players, staff, and spectators are encouraged to practice social distancing of 6 ft. whenever possible, especially in common areas such as dugouts.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- Per guidance issued by the State of New Jersey on May 17, 2021, individuals generally are not required to wear masks at outdoor events.
- Unvaccinated coaches and staff should wear masks when six feet of social distancing is not possible. Unvaccinated players are encouraged to wear masks when possible.

When Someone Gets COVID-19 Or Has Close Contact/Out of State Travel

- **No attendance:** Staff and family members understand that a player should not attend any activities and that they should notify the COVID coordinator if they or any other staff member or player becomes sick with COVID-19 symptoms, tests positive, has had close contact with someone who has COVID-19 symptoms or has tested positive, or if any member of their household either has tested positive for COVID-19 or shows symptoms of COVID-19.
- **If COVID symptoms exhibited during practice:** If a player or staff member exhibits symptoms during an event, they should immediately be separated and sent home or to a healthcare facility depending on the severity of the symptoms. They should not be allowed to return to activity until they have met the CDC criteria to discontinue home isolation.
- **Player or Staff Has Close Contact:** Anyone with close contact with a person exhibiting symptoms should also be separated and sent home and should follow CDC guidelines for self-monitoring and procedures for community related exposures.
- **Interstate Travel:** Because the State of New Jersey has rescinded its Travel Advisory, MBSC does not impose any quarantine or testing requirements for players or coaches who travel out of state.
- **Notification:** Notify local health officials, staff, and family members immediately of any confirmed case of COVID-19 while complying with local state and privacy and confidentiality laws as well as with the Americans With Disabilities Act.

*These guidelines are based on recommendations from the following organizations:
New Jersey Department of Health Guidance for Sports Activities, March 18, 2021.

USABL (United States Amateur Baseball League; established 1986) and Baseball Coalition;
<https://www.usabl.com/njbaseballcoalition>

Sadler Sports and Recreation Insurance; <https://www.sadlersports.com/coronavirus-risk-management-in-sports/>

United States Specialty Sports Association; POST COVID-19 Return-to-Play Guidelines, Procedures and Recommendations; Updated 5/14/20

Little League Best Practices on Organizing, Playing, and Watching Little League Baseball and Softball During the Coronavirus Pandemic