



## COVID-19 Safety Guidelines

The safety guidelines listed below are additional measures that the GBESYB (Green Bay East Side Youth Baseball) organization will be taking before, during, and after a youth baseball game. All other key prevention strategies by the CDC and Wisconsin Department of Health will be strictly followed, in order to promote safe and healthy social distancing.

### PHASED APPROACH FOR RETURN TO PLAY

#### PHASE I

Groups of 10 will need to follow appropriate physical distancing. Baseball is an outdoor sport with our participants occupying natural positions that are greater than social distancing standards. This will allow for youth baseball and softball teams to start practicing. Teams are encouraged to practice in small group settings that allow players to properly social distance from one another. GBESYB will provide hand sanitizer and sanitizing wipes for players and coaches. All equipment should be sanitized throughout the duration of practice. Players should have a designated area for personal equipment such as bat bags, gloves, batting gloves, helmets, etc.

#### PHASE II

The cap on the number of people at gatherings rises to 50, which would be enough for games to resume. Vulnerable populations should continue to follow stay home guidance. *We ask all players, parents, coaches and umpires before each game or practice to do a self-health evaluation.* This will allow for baseball teams to begin conducting games.

#### PHASE III

There are no limits on group sizes. The sports go back to normal participation and operation. Vulnerable populations can resume public interactions, but should practice physical distancing, and continue to take precautionary measures.

**Entering or Exiting Parks:**

1. All players, coaches, and umpires must enter and exit through their designated dugouts, while observing state guidelines for social distancing.
2. Extra time (15 minutes) will be allowed between the first and second game to maintain social distancing guidelines.

**Spectator Viewing:**

1. Parents or spectators will have separate seating away from the backstop or dugout. *Spectators will not be allowed around the area of the backstop or dugouts.*
2. Only two family members will be permitted to spectate the game in the designated area as described above. Social distancing guidelines must be followed.
3. Parents and spectators are only permitted to view the game from the outfield. This means the game may be viewed along the foul lines starting at or past 1st/3rd base and extending to the outfield and in the outfield area.
4. Parents and spectators are encouraged to wear masks at all times.
5. Bleachers will have a visible barrier such as tape, to indicate closure.
6. Only players, up to three coaches per team, and the umpire(s) are allowed on the field of play.
7. We ask all spectators to do their part to create a safe and enjoyable experience for everyone involved by following all guidelines. Spectators will be asked to observe and remind each other of the safety guidelines as needed.
8. Any and all spectator viewed not abiding by the above guidelines will be asked to leave the park.

**Dugout (Team Personnel):**

1. The dugout will be extended to behind the dugout to the backstop for both teams. This is to allow rostered players and up to three coaches per team to practice social distancing throughout the game while their team is up to bat. Hand and equipment sanitizing between innings is recommended.
2. Players will line up in their batting order behind the dugout/backstop with a social distance of 6 feet apart. Visual markings, measured at 6 feet will be placed on the ground for players to stand.
3. No more than 3-5 individuals are permitted in the dugout at any given time (this is dependent on the size of the dugout). These individuals (players, coaches or any combination) must maintain all social distancing guidelines throughout the game. All other team personnel must practice social distancing in the extended area of the dugout, as referenced above.
4. Assistant coaches should be provided with a designated standing area (6 feet from players) when coaching the bases.
5. All coaches and players are encouraged to wear masks at all times while not in the field of play.
6. After each game, teams must sanitize the dugouts and surrounding areas.
7. Coaches will be asked to observe and remind players, fans and umpires of the safety guidelines as needed.

**Game Protocol:**

1. At the pregame meeting and throughout the game, coaches and umpires will not be allowed to shake hands or have any physical contact with each other. All parties must maintain social distancing guidelines.
2. Any and all physical gestures of celebration are prohibited. All team personnel must always maintain social distancing guidelines.
3. At the conclusion of the game, players will be asked to forego the sportsmanship line at the end of the game. Instead we are asking for each team to line up on their respective foul line and “tip their cap” as a salute to the other team to promote sportsmanship.
4. If more than one game will be played on a field in the same day/night, there will be 15 minutes between games to give each teams time sanitize and vacate the dugout/field before the second game begins.
5. No post game team huddles will be allowed.
6. Designated areas will be assigned for teams to warm up before games begin.

**Equipment:**

1. The GBESYB organization will provide hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes to be used before, during and after the games, whenever appropriate, such as if/when you come into contact with the ball or any other players, coaches, or shared equipment (bases).
2. Refrain from sharing equipment in general. This includes but is not limited to bats, helmets, and catcher’s equipment.
3. Players are highly encouraged to leave bat bags and any unnecessary equipment in a parent/guardians vehicle. All necessary equipment should be walked in to prevent cross contamination.
4. It is suggested that each player has a designated area, away from other players, for their personal equipment.
5. Each team needs to provide their own baseballs for when they are in the field. Each team is responsible for switching out their baseballs each inning or sanitizing their baseballs/ as best as possible. Again, hand and equipment sanitizing between innings is required.
6. Each team should have a designated coach responsible for sanitizing each ball and all equipment used in order to prevent unnecessary cross contamination.
7. Spectators/fans/families are asked not to retrieving foul balls. The designated coach from each respective team will retrieve foul balls and sanitize before returning to the competition.
8. Face masks are recommended for everyone including spectators, coaches, and umpires.

**Umpires:**

1. Umpires will be asked to officiate the game from behind the pitcher's mound, while practicing social distancing with all fielders. This will limit the number of people around home plate and will still allow the umpire to call the game and see the whole field.
2. Umpires are encouraged to wear facemask at all times.
3. Umpires should not handle baseballs.
4. Umpires will be asked to observe and remind players, fans and coaches of the safety guidelines as needed.

**Food/Beverage/Hydration:**

1. All players, coaches, and umpires need to label their personal water bottles that are to be kept in their individual designated area.
2. All food such as sunflower seeds, gum and snacks will be eliminated from the dugouts and park.

**Concession Stand/Bathrooms:**

1. Concessions will be closed at this time. The GBESYB board along with the local park and rec departments will reevaluate the use of the concession stand as the season progresses. If concessions stands are to be used, they will be cleaned and sanitized before and after nightly use.
2. All volunteers will be asked to wear masks and gloves while in the concession stands.
3. Only two volunteers allowed in the concessions stand at any time. No players, coaches or umpires are allowed inside the concession stands.
4. Only prepackaged food such as, individual bags of chips, packaged candy, water, soda, Gatorade will be sold.
5. Bathrooms will be cleaned and sanitized before and after nightly use.

**If you have any symptoms at all:**

1. Stay home except to get medical care.
2. Contact appropriate health officials.
3. Separate yourself from other people.
4. Monitor your symptoms.
5. Contact the GBESYB to confirm case.
6. For more information please visit: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

I/We (parent name) \_\_\_\_\_ (parent name) \_\_\_\_\_  
agree to abide by the COVID 19 GUIDELINES that the Association has set forth. I/We will  
abide by all the rules and accept the enforcement and penalties of said rules.

All comments, questions or concerns can be sent to:

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