



# **COVID-19 Guidelines and Best Practices**

## Overview

This plan is designed to create a safe environment for players, coaches, umpires, volunteers, spectators and others participating in and attending Saratoga-Wilton Youth Baseball (SWYB) activities at East Side Rec and Gavin Park. The guidelines in this plan will follow the requirements and recommendations of Reopening New York Sports and Recreation Guidelines, which can be found [here](#). These guidelines are subject to change based on current guidelines by the relevant authorities. Stay Safe! Stay Positive! Work Together! #StrongerTogether #SWYBStrong

## Universal Guidelines

- If you or a member of your household have tested positive for COVID-19 you must immediately notify the SWYB Board at [board@swyb.org](mailto:board@swyb.org).
- If you or a member of your household becomes sick or begins experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, you must stay home.
- Practice social distancing (minimum 6 feet distance) at all times when not around your immediate family or other household members.
- When not able to socially distance, you must wear a cloth facemask or face covering that covers your mouth and nose.
- Frequently wash your hands or use hand sanitizer.
- No spitting, eating sunflower seeds or chewing gum on premises.
- Adhere to hygiene and sanitation requirements from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Department of Health (DOH).
- Game times will be staggered to avoid unnecessary overlap of players and spectators between games.
- Food and beverages will not be sold at Gavin Park. There will be a food truck at most, but not all, of the games at East Side Rec. Parents are encouraged to bring their own food and beverages for themselves and their player.
- In accordance with Babe Ruth, Inc. directives, all players must sign COVID-19 waivers.
- If you have any concerns about these guidelines or whether they are being followed, immediately the Board Member on Duty or e-mail the SWYB Board at [board@swyb.org](mailto:board@swyb.org).

## Coach/Volunteer Guidelines

- Encourage players and spectators to arrive no earlier than 15 minutes before the start of the game. Additional time will be provided to warm up prior to the game.
- Encourage players and spectators to leave the site immediately after the conclusion of the game.
- Avoid using shared equipment, including bats, gloves, helmets, catcher's equipment, water bottles etc. When that is not possible, such as in the case of catcher's equipment, equipment should be sanitized. Sanitizer will be provided by SWYB at each field. If no sanitizer is present, contact the Board Member on Duty.

- Coaches will be required to use a cloth facemask or face covering when not able to socially distance.
- Coaches should encourage players to socially distance when not engaged in the sport of baseball and whenever possible.

### **Player Guidelines**

- Players will not be required to wear masks or face coverings when engaged in the sport of baseball.
- Players should maintain social distance when possible.
- There will be no handshakes after the conclusion of the game, and players are discouraged from any celebrations during a game that violates social distancing guidelines. These include handshakes, high fives, fist/elbow bumps, chest bumps, group celebrations etc.

### **Parent/Spectator Guidelines**

- If there is a game or practice prior to your game or practice, families and spectators are encouraged to stay in their vehicles or at recommended social distance until the start of their game play.
- No more than two spectators per player will be allowed. This guideline does not apply to children residing in the same household as a parent or guardian spectator.
- Spectators should bring their own chairs as bleachers will not be available for spectator use.
- At East Side Rec, seating for spectators is significantly limited due to construction. Spectators are encouraged to use the area behind the outfield fences for watching games.
- Parents are encouraged to provide their player with hand sanitizer that can be used before, during and after games and practices.

### **Game Operations and Umpire Guidance**

- Home plate meetings with coaches and umpires will be socially distanced, and should involve no more than one coach per team, and game umpires.
- Umpires will be placed behind the pitcher's mound to call balls and strikes, but will not be required to wear masks.
- Games and practices will be scheduled, as much as possible, to provide additional time in between games and practices to reduce the number of people at each park.

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Print Name:

Print Player Name: