



## COVID-19 Baseball Safety Guidelines

### Players

Last updated: 29 July 2020

**Do you have symptoms?**

**Have you had Exposure?**

**If you answered yes, then follow government guidelines and avoid attending event.**

- Helmets, gloves, batting gloves, bat donuts, cleats, catchers or umpires mask, uniform, bats, caps, baseball and elbow guards are the most at-risk pieces of baseball equipment subject to the spread of Covid-19. All equipment needs to be sanitised promptly before after use.
- Adults 70 years and older and people of any age who have severe underlying medical conditions are strongly encouraged not to attend events at this time.
- Walk to the event when possible.
- If you take public transportation, follow transport guidelines, e.g., wear a mask.
- Persons from different households should not use carpool unless necessary, as per current government guidelines.
- Bring personal hand sanitiser, protective facial masks, and antibacterial wipes to events for personal use.
- Arrive at the field with as much of your uniform on as possible to avoid changing rooms.
- No use of changing room, clubhouse, other facilities allowed.
- Practise government social distancing guidelines.
- Bring your water and do not share. Avoid shaking hands, hugs, bumps, celebrating or touching.
- Players should register who has used the facilities and their contact details for a rolling 21-day period. The mentioned should apply to anyone taking part in the game, in playing, umpiring, managing or coaching capacity, and anyone who accesses a clubhouse. BBF members are required to register with them separately for insurance purposes.
- Minimise and if at all possible avoid conferences with others, players, coaches or managers before, during and after the game.
- Batting practises, and pre-game warmups will be limited in time, and teams need to adhere to government social distancing guidelines.
- Limiting capacity at the venue for the safety of all and following local and government guidelines. For example, 14 players, coaches, and managers on playing field per side and up an additional two officials for a maximum of 30 persons in a game.
- Home and away team may only use their baseballs and minimise sharing.
- All your equipment needs to be sanitised before, after the game and during if it is in contact with others. Moreover, do not share equipment.
- Home and away team may only use their baseballs and minimise sharing.
- Only players and coaches allowed in dugouts.
- Teams must wait until the prior team is entirely off the field before entering the field.
- Conferences (pitchers or with coaches) on the field must follow government social distancing guidelines.
- Avoid throwing around the baseball after a strikeout. For example, it should be thrown back to the catcher immediately after a strikeout.
- The player should place any equipment (elbow guards) which the player wishes to discard during a game on the boundary's edge.
- Any foul ball should be sanitised before being re-introduced in a game.
- Bats should be collected from the knob handle after use and sanitised promptly before being used.
- Keep your equipment stored to the side until use.
- No rosin bags for the pitcher may be used in a game.
- Limit the number of baseballs used before (warm-ups), and during a game.
- Avoid shouting or raising your voices at events. Refrain from spitting, eating (food, sunflowers, chewing gum) or rinsing out your mouth.
- Avoid going into clubhouses or confined areas.
- Dugouts could be expanded outside of the fence, with the safety of the players and coaches in mind and not in foul territory when necessary.
- Only players and coaches allowed in dugouts.
- Rosters of up to 25 players on a team, however, e.g., only up to a combination of 14 players, coaches and manager combined on one side for a game. Use baseballs which have only be sanitised.
- Batting gloves should be sanitised.
- The catcher is encouraged to use a protective face mask underneath their catcher's mask (but it is not mandatory) and to clean their equipment in between innings.
- Teams are restricted to be on the field at one time. At the end of the game dispose of rubbish promptly, collect your equipment, and exit the dugout area. Further, wash or sanitise your hands promptly.
- No pre-game or post game celebrations or award ceremonies on or off the fields.
- No eye glare may be used (to avoid players touching their face).
- Avoid setting up additional equipment to practise to the side e.g., Batting Tees, netting, elastic bands to stretch. No sweat bands.
- Avoid making use of arm sleeves unless required. Elbow and ankle guards must not be shared and sanitised after each use.
- Uniforms should be promptly taken off when returning home and washed.
- Baseball cleats should be sanitised before and after use.
- Follow venues entry and exit and parking arrangements to venues that ensures social distancing can be maintained.
- Follow venues appropriate signage to facilitate social distancing at all points throughout the facility and car park.
- Follow venues traffic flow systems where possible and appropriate.