

WV Patriot Baseball (WVPB) Tournaments

COVID-19 RETURN TO PLAY “BEST PRACTICES”(ALL SITES)

- 1.) Spectators need to plan ahead and bring their own seating and maintain “social distancing” of 6 feet between families up and down the fence line from the dugout to the foul pole or only around the outfield fence(will vary by site. No one will be permitted behind the backstops as these areas are potential choke points of human traffic and to maintain strict social distancing they will be off limits. If using a tent, please restrict the tent to family members only and space such tents a minimum of 6 feet apart.
- 2.) To ensure that we stay below the maximum crowd size of 100 per field, only 2 individuals per player will be permitted in the park. Keeping numbers low initially will be paramount. No other spectators will be allowed.
- 3.) Scorecards will be eliminated to minimize contact. Each team shall text the score and pitching innings per player to the tournament director at 304-669-1979. Any discrepancies will be addressed by the Tournament Director.
- 4.) Players will keep bat bags outside of the dugouts.
- 5.) There will be one change to the time limit of games to help comply with COVID-19 best practices and recommended CDC guidelines and allow for a short time delay between games. If an inning ends and there is 10 minutes or less left in the time limit, the game will be over. (this will apply to all games except Championship game)
Ex.) If home team is winning and has got the visiting team out and there are 10 minutes or less left in the time limit, the game is over. If home team is winning and batting with 10 minutes or less left, the game is over and will be called at that point. If the home team is losing, and the inning started with more than 10 minutes, home team will be able to finish the at bat. **THIS IS NOT A DROP DEAD TIME RULE**
- 6.) All tournaments shall use a “Team Gate Fee” to eliminate the person-to-person transactions at the gate. This is safer for all parties involved. The “Team Gate Fee” is \$60 per team. This replaces the \$3 per day per spectator fee.
- 7.) After each game in lieu of handshakes, each team shall line up on their respective baseline and tip their cap to the opposing team minimizing player contact.
- 8.) No coaches or players allowed on the playing surface while staff is preparing field.
- 9.) Fields 1 and 4 at the Bridgeport Rec Complex have live web cams available for viewing at www.connect-bridgeport.com or www.wvpatriotbaseball.com
- 10.) Once a team has completed play they must leave the park. There will be no lingering to watch or scout teams. (No team meetings will be allowed after games on field)
- 11.) Players should plan ahead and bring their own personal drinks. No communal water coolers will be permitted.
- 12.) The Managers meeting at home plate shall be limited to 2 team managers(one from each team) and 2 umpires(Social Distancing to apply). No assistant coaches or players at the plate meeting.
- 13.) Line up cards should not be used. Lineups to be shared electronically through game changes or text, etc.
- 14.) Teams on offense will have only 1 coach and the current 4 players in the batting order in the dugout. All other players must be outside the dugout socially distanced. Players should bring chairs for sitting outside the dugout or will use the bleachers where applicable.
- 15.) Mound visits by the catcher or manager only (Not Both) will be permitted and all must remain socially distanced.
- 16.) Game Balls: 8u-the Offensive Team shall supply the game balls. 9u and up-the Defensive Team shall provide the baseballs.
- 17.) All open space will be utilized for warmup areas so teams can spread out far and wide. Staging areas will be marked at each facility as available. Teams will wait until previous team leaves the facility before entering.
- 18.) Dugout personnel shall consist of essential team personnel ONLY. No bat boys, no scorekeepers, etc. Just Players and Coaches.
- 19.) Parents should supply their players with antibacterial wipes and hand sanitizer for disinfecting for cleaning of hands between innings.
- 20.) Please refrain from sharing equipment. If sharing is necessary, equipment should be cleaned between uses.
- 21.) Players may wear any Personal Protection Equipment deemed necessary by their parents as long as such items do not compromise the safety of any and all participants in the game.
- 22.) Upon arriving at a dugout prior to a game, teams are to wipe down (clean) hard surfaces such as benches, bat racks, etc.
- 23.) Teams are required to thoroughly clean their dugout of all trash and other items after each game, and wipe down (clean) hard surfaces such as benches, bat racks, etc.
- 24.) Sunflower seeds, gum and other items that require spitting shall be prohibited.
- 25.) Coaches/Parents/Fans Screening – coaches shall monitor their teams and request that ALL PARENTS/FANS self-monitor pursuant to CDC guidelines. We encourage you to bring your own hand sanitizer, disinfectants, etc. Though not required, all players, coaches and spectators are encouraged to wear PPE including face coverings.
- 26.) Tournament staff/Umpires will be monitored pursuant to CDC guidelines.
- 27.) We understand this is a serious illness to some. With this said, we request those with chronic disease or those who are immune-compromised, please stay home and not attend our events at least until your doctor tells you you’re safe.

28.) Any person who is experiencing symptoms of sickness will be prohibited from attending the event/venue of play.

Please use common sense!

29.) Finally, anyone who doesn't feel safe has the right to stay home.