

Return to Play Guidelines for GSL Tournaments

Prepared by:

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1. STAFF REQUIREMENTS:

1.1 Personal Protection Equipment

- a. Require all employees, officials, coaches, and spectators to wear PPE, especially gloves and face-masks
- b. Encouraged but not required for all players to wear face masks

1.2 All staff will be required to have their temperature taken prior to working the event each day.

1.3 Staff meetings will be held virtually prior the event.

1.4 All interactions with staff will occur digitally whenever possible.

2. EVENT PROCEDURES:

2.1 All events will follow local and state health guidelines.

2.2 Prior to all events, an email will be sent to all teams, managers, coaches, players/parents, event staff outlining event protocols, procedures and expectations of how to best stay safe. The email will encourage everyone to practice social distancing and remind people that anybody who is experiencing symptoms of sickness will be prohibited from attending our event. We will also make it clear that there are no interpretations of our rules and guidelines other than what is directly posted.

2.3 Notices on measures that apply to attendees will be posted at all entrances

2.4 Owner or appropriate official should use all means of communication currently in practice, such as social media, email, and website notices to share measures with parents and players

2.5 We will never put the integrity of the event above the importance of our communities' health.

2.6 All participants will be required to have their temperature taken with a temp gun upon entering the facility.

2.7 Upon entering the facility all participants will need to go wash their hands immediately while practicing social distancing,

2.8 We will be proactive in creating social distancing at all times.

2.9 We anticipate each facility providing their own food, drink and restrooms protocols prior to each event.

2.10 Viability of concession stand per local health department regulations

2.11 Cones set up to designate entrance and exit pathways to incoming and outgoing players and families to maintain social distance regulations.

2.12 We will work with facilities and their guidelines to increase the frequency of the cleaning/sanitization of all high traffic areas.

3. EVENT FORMATING AND SCHEDULING:

- 3.1 Games will be scheduled to limit the amount of different teams in a given facility over a set period of time.
 - a. Teams will play back to back games with the other teams scheduled during the two game blocks of time
- 3.2 Only one team will switch dugouts between games.
- 3.3 There will be an adequate amount of time between games to ensure proper cleaning of shared spaces.
- 3.4 We will shorten game times and add time between games so teams and tournament directors can make sure the following is completed:
 - a. All equipment will be wiped down
 - b. Teams are to limit the use of team-shared equipment
 - c. All garbage will be picked up and removed from the dugout
 - d. All players have exited the field prior to another team entering.

4. TEAMS WILL BE REQUIRED TO PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING:

- Printed copy of these guidelines posted in the dugout and handed out to parents
- Liability waiver for each participant
- Hand sanitizer
- Disinfectant wipes
- Their own supply of game balls

5. WHO WILL BE ALLOWED AT THE PARK:

- 5.1 All participants will be required to have their temperature taken upon entering the facility.
 - a. Temperature guns will be used by GSL Staff and anybody showing signs of a temperature will not be permitted to enter the facility.
- 5.2 As we enter phase 4 – we anticipate only allowing for 3 coaches/admin and the players of each team to attend the event.
- 5.3 Coaches/admin will be encouraged to live stream the games and keep game changer for parents to view and follow along.
- 5.4 In the event we are able to accommodate more people we will encourage only one (1) parent to attend the event and for sibling to stay home when possible.
- 5.5 GSL will not allow any vendors or third parties to work the event
- 5.6 This includes merchandise sales
- 5.7 Photographers
- 5.8 Food vendors

6. PRE/POST-GAME ROUTINES AND PROCESSES:

- 6.1 Teams will not be permitted to enter the facility more than 30 minutes prior to their scheduled event.

- 6.2 No team will enter a field until all players from the previous game have exited and completed all cleaning requirements.
- 6.3 Coaches/admin will be required to wipe down all surfaces prior to their team entering the field.
- 6.4 Coaches/admin will be responsible to ensure all players/coaches wash or sanitize their hands
- 6.5 Social distancing will be practiced during all warm ups
- 6.6 All pre-game meetings between coaches and umpires will be covered virtually via zoom the night prior to the event. In the zoom meeting we will cover the following:
- 6.7 Rules
- 6.8 Tournament expectations
- 6.9 Processes/protocols for following state and local guidelines
- 6.10 Home and away will be determined by tournament director
- 6.11 Post-Game, all Coaches/admin will be required to wipe down all surfaces once their team exits the field.
- 6.12 Coaches/admin will be required to text in their scores/game reports within 90 minutes of their games
- 6.13 Umpires/staff will not keep hard copies of scores and reports.
- 6.14 No postgame handshakes.
- 6.15 No postgame meetings for teams.

7. GUIDELINES FOR GAMEPLAY:

- 7.1 Each game will only have one umpire.
 - a. The umpire will call the game from at least six feet behind the pitcher's mound
 - b. The umpire will be required to wear facemask and gloves
- 7.2 Each team will provide their own baseballs for when their team is in the field. Teams will not share baseballs when on defense.
- 7.3 After the last out the team will bring their baseball into the dugout
- 7.4 All teams in the field will replace foul balls
- 7.5 Only the team in the field will chase foul balls
- 7.6 There will be no sunflower seeds or gum allowed for players, coaches, umpires or any fans.
- 7.7 All players will be required to provide their own, clearly marked water or Gatorade bottles
- 7.8 Players will not be allowed to share equipment, including but not limited to:
 - 7.8.1 Gloves
 - 7.8.2 Bats
 - 7.8.3 Batting gloves
 - 7.8.4 Helmets
 - 7.8.5 All equipment will stay in the player's bag unless currently being used
- 7.8 There will never be more than 3 players/coaches in the dugout at a given time
- 7.9 Players will be encouraged to refrain from celebrations that infringe on social distancing restrictions.
- 7.10 No mound visits
- 7.11 No arguing calls – coaches will be immediately ejected

8. PARENT/FAN POLICY IF PERMITTED BY PARKS AND FACILITIES

8.1 Fans who choose to stay for games will be required to adhere to the following guidelines:

- 8.1.1 No sitting in the bleachers or bleacher area - that area is designated for players
- 8.1.2 Fan area will be down the foul line fences (beyond the bases) and behind outfield fence
- 8.1.3 Required to bring their own chairs or stand 6 feet apart - practice social distancing guidelines
- 8.1.4 Exception for those that live in the same household

9. PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

9.1 All players who participate in GSL Tournaments events will be required to sign liability waivers that will include verbiage surrounding COVID-19

9.2 All parents who wish to attend games will also be asked to sign a waiver and code of conduct, agreeing to adhere to the parent/fan policy above

All of our guidelines are our minimum requirements for teams to participate in our events. If a facility requires different guidelines, we will adjust ours accordingly.

Once the government's plan to move into Phase 4 has been announced, we will revisit all our guidelines to assure they meet any and all requirements.

