



PTGSA Rules and Guidelines 2021

Mandatory

Arrival to Venue

- **All participants, spectators, and employees must adhere to six-foot physical distancing while at the facility/course.**
- Must conduct daily symptom assessments by coaches and players (self-evaluation). Anyone experiencing symptoms must stay home.*
- No team water coolers or shared drinking stations.
- Compliant game balls must be designated to each team for use while that team is playing defense.
- These requirements must be shared prior to the event with all players, coaches, spectators, officials, and employees prior to their arrival at the venue.

Recommended Best Practices

- Digital check-in and registration for all events.
- Lineups should be entered online or by spoken word and recorded by officials/umpires without exchanging any physical documents with coaches or players.
- Athletes are strongly recommended to travel to the venue alone or with a member of their immediate household.

Practice/Games

• **Coaches and players must adhere to physical six-foot distancing except when the ball is in play.**

- Face coverings will be required outdoors when social distancing of 6 feet cannot be maintained including the dugouts. The PTGSA will follow the guidelines from the CDC, Pennsylvania, and localities. Please note that these policies could become more restrictive pending the pandemic. Parents/Guardians are responsible for educating their athletes and complying with our policies.
- Must conduct daily symptom assessments by coaches and players (self-evaluation). Anyone experiencing symptoms must stay home.
- No team water coolers or shared drinking stations.

- Face coverings are recommended for any spectators.
- For each practice session, it is recommended that coaches divide players into groups and establish rotating shifts when possible.
- Athletes should bring individual water containers.
- Virtual meetings should be considered when possible.
- Athletes are strongly recommended to travel to the venue alone or with a member(s) of their immediate household, if possible. Face coverings are strongly recommended for individuals traveling to and from the venue.
- Whenever possible, equipment and personal items should have proper separation and should not be shared. If equipment must be shared, proper sanitation should be administered between users.

Athletes

- **Must adhere to six-foot social distancing practices off the field of play.**
- Face coverings will be required outdoors when social distancing of 6 ft cannot be maintained including the dugouts.
- Must conduct daily symptom assessments by coaches and players (self-evaluation). Anyone experiencing symptoms must stay home. *
- Coaches have the right to screen, or temperature check players as needed.
- Must not share water or equipment. Belongings should be used only by the individual owner or operator including, but not limited to water bottles, gloves, bats, hats, and other on- and off-field gear. No spitting or eating seeds, gum, other similar products.
- No touch rule — players should refrain from high fives, handshake lines, and other physical contact.

- Hand washing or hand sanitizing, in the absence of soap and water, are strongly recommended for athletes during the games.
- Whenever possible, equipment and personal items should have proper separation and should not be shared. If equipment must be shared, proper sanitation should be administered between users.

Mandatory

Recommended Best Practices

Spectators

- **Must adhere to six-foot social distancing practices. This includes in and around bleachers for anyone not in the same family.**
- Must conduct daily symptom assessments (self-evaluation). Anyone experiencing symptoms must stay home. *
- Must not enter player areas (behind batting cages, on the field of play or bench areas).
- Must keep six feet or more distance.

- Hand washing or hand sanitizing, in the absence of soap and water, is recommended strongly during the games.

Coaches

- **Must adhere to six-foot social distancing practices.**
- Must wear face coverings outdoors when social distancing of 6 feet cannot be maintained including dugouts.
- Must conduct daily symptom assessments (self-evaluation). Anyone experiencing symptoms must stay home.
- No spitting or eating seeds, gum, or other similar products.
- No touch rule — coaches should refrain from high fives, handshake lines, and other physical contact with teammates, opposing players, coaches, umpires, and fans.
- Must communicate all prevention measures.

- Coaches should ensure the players are adhering to social distancing in dugouts and other seating areas.
- Whenever possible, equipment and personal items should have proper separation and should not be shared. If equipment must be shared, proper sanitation should be administered between users.

Umpires/ Officials

- **Must adhere to six-foot social distancing practices when interacting with players, coaches, and spectators off the field of play.**
- Must wear face coverings
- Must conduct daily symptom assessments (self-evaluation). Anyone experiencing symptoms must stay home.
- Must avoid exchanging documents or equipment with players, coaches, or spectators.

- Digital check-in and registration for all events.
- Umpires calling balls and strikes should allow adequate distance behind the catcher while still able to perform their duty.

Leaving the Venue

- Individuals should not congregate in common areas or parking lot following the event or practice
- Umpires should adhere to social distancing practices when interacting with players, coaches, and spectators off the field of play.
- Individuals should not exchange items.

- Team meetings should occur virtually or over the phone rather than in a team huddle.
- Athletes are strongly recommended to travel to the venue alone or with a member(s) of their immediate household, if possible. Face coverings are strongly recommended for individuals traveling to and from the venue.
- Team meals should only occur in compliance with the guidelines issued for restaurants in the state of Ohio.

Confirmed Cases

- Immediately isolate and seek medical care for any individual who develops symptoms.
- Contact the coach and local health district about suspected cases or exposure.
- Organizer must maintain a complete list of coaches, players, and employees present at each event to include the date, beginning and ending time of the event, plus name, address, and phone contact to be made available upon request from local health dept.

- Work with local health department to identify potentially infected or exposed individuals to help facilitate effective contact tracing/ notifications.
- Once testing is readily available, test all suspected infections or exposures.
- Following testing, contact local health department to initiate appropriate care and