

COVID-19 PROTOCOLS

IPSWICH TRAVEL SOFTBALL

2021

PLAYERS & TEAMS

- ★ Players are **REQUIRED** to wear a mask at all times.
- ★ Players are **REQUIRED** to bring their own water bottles properly labeled.
- ★ When not on the field players must follow the 6 feet of social distancing.
 - Players are asked to bring their own chair to set up socially distant from other players.
 - Players are not allowed to sit on the benches or in the dugouts.
 - Coaches may use the benches for coaching needs such as to put hand sanitizer, equipment and score books.
- ★ Players are strongly encouraged to have their own labeled helmets and bats
- ★ There is minimal shared equipment that will need to be sanitized between uses.
- ★ Catcher's equipment will be provided by the coach at each game they will have at least two sets of gear so that no two players share during a game. The coach will disinfect the gear after each game for use at the next game.
- ★ Players should bring their own hand sanitizer/we will have some league provided as well.
- ★ Pre and post game handshakes are prohibited.
 - Teams should line up respectfully on their foul lines and wave.
- ★ Players having a meeting at the pitcher's mound should remain outside the circle to maintain social distancing.
- ★ Teams should not enter a dugout or bench area until others who may have been using it before them have left.

COACHES

- ★ All coaches and volunteers are **REQUIRED** to wear a mask at all times.
- ★ If a coach visits the pitcher's mound all players should stay outside the pitching circle.
- ★ Prior to the game one coach from each team may meet at home plate to exchange lineups and go over game play rules with the umpire.
- ★ Coaches must supply extra softballs. Each team must provide their own softballs for their defensive innings.
- ★ Coaches must keep accurate attendance records for contact tracing purposes should someone come down with the virus.

SPECTATORS

- ★ All spectators are **REQUIRED** to wear a mask at all times.
- ★ Spectators from different families need to follow 6 ft of social distancing.
- ★ All spectators should bring their own chair (we discourage the use of the bleachers)

ITS has the right to ask any player, coach, volunteer and/or spectator to leave the premise of not adhering to ITS COVID-19 protocols.

- ★ Spectators should have their own hand sanitizer and should use it upon arrival and departure of the field.
- ★ Parents should limit the number of family members who attend each softball game.
- ★ Parents should provide their athlete with plenty of water or sports drinks and make sure they are clearly labeled with their name.

GAME & PRACTICE RULES

- ★ Base coaches must stay 6 ft from a runner they wish to talk to during or after suspension of play.
- ★ No more than 2 players and the pitcher are allowed at a mound conference with a coach. Players must maintain social distance at these mound visits.
- ★ Players are not allowed to leave the dugout or bench area to congratulate players when scoring or after a homerun.
- ★ Off field meetings between players and coaches need to maintain a 6 ft distance to the greatest extent possible

IF A PLAYER BECOMES SYMPTOMATIC

If a player becomes symptomatic, Ipswich Travel Softball will follow the protocols:

- ★ Immediately isolate the player from others to minimize exposure.
- ★ Contact the player's parents and send them home as soon as possible if they are not present at the field already.

IF A COACH BECOMES SYMPTOMATIC

If a coach or volunteer becomes symptomatic, Ipswich Travel Softball will follow the protocols:

- ★ The coach must cease their coaching duties immediately and leave the field.
- ★ Coaches must regularly self-monitor during the day to screen for new symptoms.
- ★ If new symptoms are detected among a coach, they should not report to the next scheduled practice or game until cleared by a physician and the local Board of Health.

IF THERE IS A SUSPECTED OR CONFIRMED CASE OF COVID-19 ON THE TEAM

If any coach, volunteer or player is diagnosed with COVID-19, Ipswich Travel Softball will:

- ★ Inform all necessary parties, including the Board of Health in both towns, if a game was played.
- ★ The players team will not be allowed to practice or play games from that point forward until we receive clearance from both of the towns Board of Health.

GUIDELINES FOR KEEPING YOUR PLAYER HOME

When in doubt, keep them home!

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A player should **NOT** attend practices or games if they:

- ★ Fever of 100.0 or above in the last 24 hours. Participants must be fever free for at least 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication prior to returning to practice or games
- ★ Vomiting more than once in the last 24 hours
- ★ Diarrhea more than once in the last 24 hours
- ★ Chills with other symptoms of illness
- ★ Sore throat that has been present for more than 24 hours
- ★ Strep Throat- participants may return to the softball diamond after 24 hours of antibiotic treatment, if they are well enough to participate
- ★ Any eye inflammation accompanied by discharge may possibly be conjunctivitis. Participants with conjunctivitis may return to the playing field after 24 hours of antibiotic treatment, if they are well enough to participate
- ★ Bad cold, with runny nose or productive cough that has kept the child awake at night and/or will interfere with the child's performance on the field
- ★ A communicable disease such as the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), chicken pox, scabies, impetigo, pertussis, ringworm and other diseases. Each of these diseases has state requirements for returning to an organized program such as softball which should be discussed with the child's doctor
 - In the past 14 days if the participant has had close contact with a person know to be infected with the novel Coronavirus they should remain at home for 14 days after the last known day of exposure
- ★ If your child becomes ill at softball and the coaches feel it is appropriate for the child to be sent home they will contact the parent or guardians for immediate pickup.
- ★ **PLAYERS WHO ARE ABSENT FROM PLAY DUE TO SYMPTOMS THAT COULD BE RELATED TO COVID-19 MUST OBTAIN A DOCTOR'S NOTE STATING THEY DO NOT HAVE COVID BEFORE THEY WILL BE ALLOWED BACK ON THE FIELD.**

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