



## **Midlakes Babe Ruth Baseball (MBRB), Inc. COVID-19 Plan for Return to Play (RTP)**

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**MBRB's COVID-19 Plan  
uses the guidance of:**

- CDC COVID-19 Considerations for Youth Sports
  - NYS Department of Health guidance for Sports and Recreation  
(<https://www.governor.ny.gov/sites/governor.ny.gov/files/atoms/files/SportsAndRecreationMasterGuidance.pdf>).
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**MBRB's COVID-19 Plan provides specific guidelines to the "Participants" of MBRB sanctioned activities which include MBRB's players, coaches, spectators, umpires, field managers, and other participants during MBRB events and games. Each Participant is required to sign an MBRB COVID-19 Waiver and Release of Liability and Voluntary Assumption of Risk. PLEASE NOTE THAT COACHES ARE VOLUNTEERS AND NOT CONSIDERED RESPONSIBLE PARTIES UNDER NEW YORK STATE LAW. UMPIRES ARE NOT EMPLOYEES OF MBRB. Participants must immediately report COVID-19 symptoms or diagnosis daily to health care provider and team representative. The individual must quarantine and be symptom-free for 14-days to return to MBRB sanctioned play.**

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### **These MBRB RTP guidelines are designed to comply with NYS Department of Health guidance for Sports and Recreation**

**All participants of MBRB sanctioned play must adhere to the following guidelines**

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**Physical distancing of six-  
feet from those not in the  
same household**

- Players will maintain six-foot distancing in designated seating areas when not actively participating in a game
- There will be assigned seating areas for spectators and players, there will be no exceptions unless a medical condition requires a parent to be outside their designated area.
- Parents are not permitted on the field of play, in the dugout or near designated player seating areas
- Players must adhere to the six-foot distancing rule whenever possible; even in the field of play
- Coaches must adhere to distancing at all times.
- Players and coaches must refrain from personal contact celebrations (e.g. high-fives or fist bumps), no signs or signals that require touching of the face, or pre/post-game meetings between coaches and players
- Umpires must adhere to distancing at all times; balls and strikes will be called from behind the pitcher's mound
- The pre-game plate meeting must be conducted with six-foot distancing – only one person from each team and umpire should be in the meeting
- Spectators are limited to two (2) per player. No spectators may enter the field of play. Spectators must adhere to six-foot distancing at all times
- Carpooling to MBRB games across households is discouraged

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## **Use of face coverings (masks)**

- Players will be required to wear face coverings while not actively participating in a game and are unable to maintain the six-foot distancing rule. Face coverings are still encouraged even when social distancing
- Players will not be required to wear face coverings while on the field of play. Players should avoid touching their face unnecessarily
- Players will be required to wear face coverings when entering and exiting the field of play, unless social distancing is maintained
- Coaches, umpires and spectators (ages 3 and older) will be required to wear face coverings when unable to maintain six-foot distancing

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## **Healthy Hygiene Practices**

- Healthy hygiene practices include hand washing, using sanitizer, refraining from spitting, and covering coughs and sneezes must be observed. Team/Parent/Umpire issued hand sanitizer will be available to players, coaches and umpires during games. It is recommended that sanitizer be used between innings and at regular intervals during games
- Eating seeds, chewing gum and products of the like are not permitted. NO FOOD will be permitted in the designated player seating area
- Players, coaches and umpires are not permitted to share drink bottles or other personal items such as face coverings. Participants should have personal water bottles
- If it is necessary to share critical game equipment such as bats, helmets, or catcher's equipment, the equipment must be cleaned with a disinfectant approved against COVID-19 between uses
- Before play begins and after play ends, each team is responsible for sanitizing their dugouts, equipment and high touch areas of the playing field
- The start and end times of games will be scheduled to minimize the overlap of participants

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## **Providing adequate equipment, gear and sanitation supplies**

- Each team should have an adequate supply of baseballs to supply new balls for each game. The team playing defense will use their team balls for their defense innings. Any foul balls or out of play balls should be retrieved and returned to the defensive team dugout and sanitized before being put back in play. Balls must be sanitized after each inning
  - Each team will provide supplies including soap, sanitizer, paper towels, tissues and wipes for their players and coaches
  - Each team will provide supplies to disinfect hard surface areas (benches, bat racks, etc.) when they first arrive at the dugout and after play
  - Umpires should provide their own supplies as well
  - Sanitation supplies for the common areas are the responsibility of the field owner
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## Providing COVID-19 messaging and posted signage

- Sign(s) reminding all participants of the MBRB COVID-19 requirements will be posted appropriately at each site
  - MBRB RTP requirements will be posted on the MBRB website and sent via email to participants
  - All participants should view the following CDC COVID-19 video(<https://youtu.be/LMBzjaVRChY>)
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## Managing a COVID-19 Event

- Participants must be assessed for COVID19 symptoms by their parents prior to any games
- Per the CDC, COVID19 symptoms includes shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, cough, fever, chills, muscle pain, headaches, sore throat, and loss of taste or smell
- Any participant experiencing COVID19 symptoms must stay at home; anyone participating in a MBRB event must be symptom- free and if they have had a recent positive COVID19 test have stayed isolated without symptoms for at least 14-days
- If advised by a MBRB coach of a positive COVID19 test result following a game, MBRB will immediately notify local health officials required by the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) about any MBRB participant having a positive COVID19 test result
- MBRB will retain event schedule information, team rosters, game attendance, and staff information; MBRB will provide this information to state and local health officials to assist in contact tracing of exposed/potentially infected individuals
- MBRB will act in accordance with privacy laws and regulations and notify MBRB participants of a COVID19 exposure at a MBRB event

**Spectators, coaches and players should be aware of the following facts when deciding to participate in MBRB activities:**

- a. The Centers for Disease Control has identified that those who currently have a heart condition, lung disease, asthma, diabetes, or any other serious health condition have greater risks associated with COVID-19.**
- b. The Centers for Disease Control has identified those over 65 as having greater risks associated with COVID-19.**
- c. If you come in contact with someone that is presumed or confirmed to have COVID 19 or you become ill, you could possibly be isolated or quarantined by public health for 14 days or longer.**  
Please keep these facts in mind when deciding to participate in MBRB events and games.

**THIS DOCUMENT CONSTITUTES A PROPOSED PLAN AND NO LEGAL DUTY IS CREATED OR ASSUMED.**

# **MBRB COVID-19 RTP Plan Participant's Compliance Requirements**

## **MBRB provides:**

- MBRB COVID-19 Plan for Return to Play (RTP)
- Waivers for each coach/participant/parent to sign prior to the season and games.
- COVID-19 signage to be posted at game sites during play; reminding all participants of ways to reduce the spread of COVID-19
- Adequately spaced game scheduling to avoid overlaps at each field location
- Notice of NYS Department of Health guidance for Sports and Recreation (see <https://www.governor.ny.gov/sites/governor.ny.gov/files/atoms/files/SportsAndRecreationMasterGuidance.pdf>). MBRB designates respective organization of home team (or the home team manager if a team is not part of an organization) as the responsible party for meeting these standards
- Appropriate notification to local officials of a positive COVID-19 test result as requested and required by the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH). MBRB will provide assistance in contact tracing for any MBRB coach, player or parent/participant testing positive for COVID-19

## **Teams – Coaches, Players and Parents provide:**

- Compliance with MBRB COVID-19 Plan for Return to Play (RTP). The collective cooperation of all participants will be required to ensure safety
- Compliance with the field owner COVID-19 rules if they are more restrictive than the MBRB COVID-19 Plan for Return to Play (RTP) rules
- Monitoring and enforcement of participant's adherence to the MBRB COVID-19 Plan for Return to Play (RTP) and specifically the six-foot distancing requirement using assigned coaches and parent/family seating areas
- Game attendance recorded in the scorebook for each MBRB game including all participants - coaches, players, and spectators (family members) at each game. Coach shall ask each player names of their family members in attendance and note their names in the scorebook. The attendance information is required to assist with tracing if a COVID-19 case is identified and reported
- Compliance with the COVID-19 game play rules to minimize exposure risk
- Review of all MBRB COVID-19 RTP requirements with parents and players prior to the season start date
- Signed parent, coaches, and player MBRB COVID-19 RTP waivers
- Prior to MBRB games, an assessment of a participant's COVID-19 symptoms and if suspected stay home and if tested positive report to MBRB
- Compliance with the COVID-19 face covering protocols and social distancing guidelines to minimize COVID-19 exposure risk
- Team provides an adequate supply of game balls
- Teams/parents provide sufficient equipment and gear to minimize players sharing; and, proper sanitization if equipment or gear is shared among players
- The required social distancing spacing at the playing field
- Teams/parents provide sanitation supplies and sanitizers for each game for use on equipment and high touch areas
- Sanitization of the high touch areas prior to and after games
- Compliance with only two family members attending a MBRB sanctioned game for a player (or players from the same family)
- Compliance with NYS Department of Health guidance for Sports and Recreation (<https://www.governor.ny.gov/sites/governor.ny.gov/files/atoms/files/SportsAndRecreationMasterGuidance.pdf>).

**Field or Facility Owners provide:**

- Compliance with MBRB COVID-19 Plan for Return to Play (RTP). The collective cooperation of all participants will be required to ensure safety
- Field or facility COVID-19 guidelines required for the MBRB participants to use their fields. These rules if more restrictive will be in effect for the MBRB games
- Compliance with the COVID-19 face covering protocols and social distancing guidelines to minimize COVID-19 exposure risk
- Compliance with the COVID-19 playing area sanitation guidelines to minimize COVID-19 exposure risk
- Review of all MBRB COVID-19 RTP requirements prior to the season start date
- Compliance with NYS Department of Health guidance for Sports and Recreation (<https://www.governor.ny.gov/sites/governor.ny.gov/files/atoms/files/SportsAndRecreationMasterGuidance.pdf>)

**Umpires provide:**

- Compliance with MBRB COVID-19 Plan for Return to Play (RTP). The collective cooperation of all participants will be required to ensure safety
- Review of all MBRB COVID-19 RTP requirements prior to the season start date
- Compliance with the COVID-19 face covering protocols and social distancing guidelines to minimize COVID-19 exposure risk
- Compliance with the COVID-19 game play rules to minimize exposure risk.
- Compliance with NYS Department of Health guidance for Sports and Recreation (see <https://www.governor.ny.gov/sites/governor.ny.gov/files/atoms/files/SportsAndRecreationMasterGuidance.pdf>)

ALL GUIDANCE AND POLICIES HEREIN ARE BASED ON THE POLICIES ESTABLISHED BY NEW YORK STATE. MIDLAKES BABE RUTH BASEBALL, INC., AND ALL AFFILIATED ENTITIES AS WELL AS EMPLOYEES, DIRECTORS, OFFICERS, VOLUNTEERS, AND ASSOCIATED PARTIES ARE IN NO WAY LEGALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR NEW YORK STATE’S POLICY GUIDANCE. THIS DOCUMENT DOES NOT AFFIRM THAT NEW YORK’S POLICIES HAVE ANY BASIS IN FACT OR SCIENCE.

FAILURE BY ANY PLAYER, COACH, SPECTATOR OR VOLUNTEER TO ADHERE TO THESE GUIDELINES MAY RESULT IN THEIR IMMEDIATE REMOVAL FROM THE GAME. MULTIPLE VIOLATIONS MAY RESULT IN THEIR REMOVAL FROM THE LEAGUE WITH NO REFUND AND MAY HINDER THEIR ABILITY TO REGISTER FOR FUTURE SEASONS. IF ANYONE IS FOUND IN VIOLATION OF ANY OF THE ABOVE GUIDELINES, PLAY WILL BE SUSPENDED AND THE INDIVIDUAL OR INDIVIDUALS WILL BE ASKED TO COMPLY. PLAY IS NOT TO BE RESUMED UNTIL THE INDIVIDUAL OR INDIVIDUALS COMPLY. IF THEY REFUSE THEY WILL BE ASKED TO LEAVE THE MBRB COMPLEX. IF THEY DO NOT, LAW ENFORCEMENT WILL BE CALLED AND PLAY WILL REMAIN SUSPENDED UNTIL THE INDIVIDUAL OR INDIVIDUALS EITHER VOLUNTARITLY LEAVES OR ARE REMOVED. IF PLAY IS SUSPENDED FOR MORE THAN 15 MINUTES, THE TEAM WHOSE SPECTATOR IS NOT IN COMPLIANCE WILL FORFEIT THE GAME.

I have read and fully understand all information provided in the MBRB Plan for Return to play and will follow all guidelines, recommendations and rules set forth by MBRB.

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Player Name

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Parent/Gaurdian

Date