

NSA STATES SOCIAL DISTANCING RULES

Coaches, we first want to welcome you back and are excited to have you back on the fields with us!

That being said, we all need to understand that for us to return we have to have some patience in processes, rules set forth by our partners that allow us to use their fields, and the governments that set the rules for them.

There will be some differences that we are not accustomed to for a while, but hopefully they are rules that we can all live with because the alternative of not playing was not fun for anyone, most importantly our children.

The guidelines below are requirements by either the sports commission of Polk County, the cities of Lakeland, Auburndale, and Bartow or NSA HQ. **These are not optional nor negotiable.**

- 1) When checking in your team, you will need to have a printed NSA roster from your team sanction page on www.playnsa.com. This roster was updated on May 14th to include a waiver for COVID 19. **PLEASE, PLEASE save yourself some time and print out this new roster before you get to the park.** If you do not have this new roster from after May 14th at check-in, you will be forced to fill it out there, and every player and coach on your team will have to fill out an individual waiver.
- 2) You will be required to supply your own balls for your team when you are playing defense. They **MUST** be .375 compression and it must be readable on the ball. We will have balls for you to purchase at \$5.00 a ball should you not have any game ready balls available. Please have game balls ready for when foul balls occur so that you are not delaying game time. You may use purchased balls in more than one game, you do not need to purchase or supply new balls for every game, as long as they are in good, quality condition.
- 3) The plate meeting will still happen but with no shaking hands. There should only be 1 coach to represent the team at the meeting. No players or additional coaches.
- 4) **Spectators must only view the game from the foul lines past the dugouts and in the outfield. No one will be permitted between the dugouts except coaches, players and 1 scorekeeper per team. No one is allowed to set up tents, chairs or any other seating arrangements between the dugout areas. THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS OR THE TOURNAMENT WILL BE CANCELLED BY THE COUNTY!!!!**
Please go over this with your families so they know what to expect and do not get upset. If they do not comply, they will be asked to leave.
Concessions and bathrooms will be open but please do not congregate around those areas once you are finished. If players are waiting on a game to finish, then they may sit in the bleachers but NO PARENTS! PARENTS WILL BE REQUIRED TO STAY IN THE PARKING LOTS UNTIL 10 MINUTES BEFORE THEIR CHILDS GAME STARTS. IF THEY FEEL

THE NEED TO WALK THEM INTO THE COACH THAT IS FINE, BUT THEY THEN MUST RETURN TO THE PARKING LOT UNTIL 10 MINUTES BEFORE THE GAME STARTS. PARENTS, A GOOD INDICATOR OF 10 MINUTES PRIOR TO GAMETIME IS WHEN YOUR TEAM IS WARMING UP ON THE FIELD.

Too many people did not follow the rules this past weekend at Christina Park and they have threatened to not let us play there if things don't change. Please, please don't force your kids back into the house and off the fields. This is a blessing to be able to play during these times so do not ruin it for everyone! These requirements are a small inconvenience for everyone to play!

- 5) There will be no shaking hands after games. Return to your dug out when the game is over and wave good game to the other team.
- 6) After your game, if you are not scheduled to play again immediately, coaches and players will be expected to leave the inside of the complex.
- 7) There will be no award presentation. The awards will be given to the first and second place coaches to disperse to their team after the game, away from the field of play.
- 8) Teams must bring their own first aid kits, sanitizers, disinfectant wipes and ice.

Lastly, please enjoy being back out on the fields with your team and parents enjoy your children. Keep in perspective these requirements are minimal and could be far worse. We all have begged for softball to return and some locations are still closed so let's not complain or gripe and let's just enjoy some softball!!!