

CLEARWATER PLAYING/ SOCIAL DISTANCING RULES

Coaches, we first want to welcome you back and are excited to have you back in Clearwater with us!

That being said, we all need to understand that for us to return we have to have some patience with the processes, the 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 Clearwater/St. Pete, the city of Clearwater 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) Games will be 1:15, finish the inning to help with social distancing guidelines and the cleaning of facilities.
- 3) Please do not enter the dugouts for your next game until you see the City of Clearwater complete their cleaning of the dugout process. Failure to do this will delay the game and that time will be reduced off of your game time.
- 4) 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.
- 5) 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.
- 6) **Spectators must only view the game down the left and right field foul lines (grass areas only) past the dugouts. Please practice social distancing CDC guidelines when doing this as well. No seating behind the temp fences in the outfield. No one will be permitted to sit or stand between the dugouts (all concrete areas) 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 (concrete areas). THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS OR THE TOURNAMENT WILL BE CANCELLED BY THE City of Clearwater!!!!**

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 area behind the outfield temp fencing 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 GAME TIME IS WHEN YOUR TEAM IS WARMING UP ON THE FIELD. This will encourage social distancing and also allow for those leaving the park to exit ahead of new spectators coming to watch the next round of games.

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!

- 7) 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.
- 8) After your game, if you are not scheduled to play again immediately, coaches, players and spectators will be expected to leave the inside of the complex.
- 9) Coaches, do not hold team meetings after the game in the quad. Hold them outside of the gate so new spectators can arrive, the city can sanitize the dugouts and we can start the next game in a timely manner.
- 10) 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.
- 11) Teams must bring their own first aid kits, sanitizers, disinfectant wipes and ice.
- 12) Players should not be sharing equipment!
- 13) Players should be bringing their own food, snacks and drinks and should not be sharing with anyone. It is for their individual consumption.
- 14) There should be no spitting of gum, seeds or any other item inside the complex
- 15) NSA will NOT be sanitizing the complex but the City of Clearwater will have a plan devised to disinfect dugouts, bathrooms etc.
- 16) The city of Clearwater encourages all to wear face masks but **IT IS NOT A REQUIREMENT!**

17) The City of Clearwater will be sanitizing the dugouts. Top team on schedule is in 1st base dugout and bottom team is in 3rd base dugout. The 1st base dugout will be sprayed down after rounds 3-5-7 and 3rd base after rounds 2-4-6. Please make sure that during those rounds you exit the dugouts and do not enter until they have been sprayed and disinfected. Please cooperate and stay out of their way so they can do it in a timely manner.

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!!!