

Nebraska USSSA Return to Tournament Play / Guidelines

• Player / Coach Safety

- Pre-game meetings will be limited to 1 coach per team and the umpire of the game.
- Teams should spread out as much as possible. Expand the dugout when space allows it and even use some of the bleacher space if needed.
- Players should use their own personal equipment (gloves, bats, helmets) as much as possible.
- Dugout / bench will be limited to essential team personnel. There should be a maximum of three coaches in the dugout at any one time. No bat boys or girls, no scorekeepers.
- Score keepers may be outside dugout helping space players.
- Players will be allowed to wear personal protective items, such as masks and gloves, if these items do not compromise the safety of any and all participants.
- Players must bring their own water bottles or coolers and must have their names on it. No team water coolers or other shared items will be allowed.
- **Teams will be required to clean and sanitize their dugout before and after each game. This includes removing trash and wiping down all hard surfaces such as benches and bat racks.**
- The defensive team is required to provide all baseballs used in their half inning to limit the contact with the ball to players of the same team. The umpire will not handle any balls but will be responsible for verifying that all balls are USSSA approved. Tournament Host will supply 4 baseballs per team per event. When a ball goes out of play, it needs to be returned to the defensive team and should be sanitized before going back into play.
- After each game, instead of handshakes, each team shall line up on their side of the field and tip caps to the opposing team to minimize player contact. **One coach from each team must verify & sign opposing teams pitching card with score and pitching. Then return them to the Site Director.**
- Award ceremonies will not take place. Site directors will give awards to head coach. The coach will oversee handing out the awards as he/she sees best.
- Tournament Director will decide if they use will one umpire or two. Also if they maintain their normal positions or work safely behind the mound. They will have the option of wearing personal protective items as well.

• Facility Safety

- Fan attendance is limited to household members of the players on the team.
- The bleachers behind home plate and next to dugouts will be off limits to spectators.
- Spectators are required to bring their own seating to the event and will need to practice social distancing. Spectators should also maintain social distancing of six feet between families and spread out around the field and in the common areas.
- **Attendees are recommended to provide their own sanitizing wipes/spray and/or hand sanitizer.**
- The use of sunflower seeds, gum, and anything else that is spit from a mouth to the ground is prohibited. This goes for coaches, players, umpires and spectators.
- All persons in the facilities must adhere to the guidelines from the CDC, state and local authorities regarding travel restrictions and stay-at-home orders.
- Any person who is experiencing symptoms of sickness will be prohibited from entering the facilities.
- We highly encourage all spectators to wear personal protective items.
- We ask all teams and spectators not to congregate at any times. This includes before and after games inside the facility as well in the parking lots.
- Any lines for restrooms, concession stands, or others are also discouraged. If there must be a line, six feet apart shall always be in effect.
- Restrooms will be cleaned and sanitized regularly. Be sure to wash hands after using the restrooms.

All event attendees (employees, players, coaches, fans) must comply to the entirety of this health statement before entering our event:

I have not tested positive for COVID-19, had a fever, cough, difficulty breathing, chills, body ache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, or been around anyone with these symptoms (with the exception of medical personnel and first responders), in the last 14 days. I am not currently under a state, county, city, or other stay-at-home order. I understand that it is my responsibility to protect myself from contracting COVID-19 or other infectious diseases while at this event. By entering the event, I am indicating that I, (1) am in good health, (2) am responsible for protecting myself from COVID-19 or other infectious diseases, and (3) accept all responsibility and agree to hold harmless event operator, complex owners and sanctioning bodies from any damages that occur as a result of my attendance at the event.