

West Shore Minors (WSM) COVID-19 Participant Guidance

In response to the current national health crisis and in conjunction with local, state, and federal health and governmental policies, WSM, has adopted the following recommended safety protocols, for players, coaches, and spectators.

It is recognized that participation by all individuals, players, coaches, officials, volunteers, parents, spectators is fully a voluntary act. These guidelines have been developed in accordance with Governor Wolf's "Guidance for All Sports Permitted to Operate During the COVID-19 Disaster Emergency to Ensure the Safety and Health of Employees, Athletes and the Public" (Gov), CDC's "Consideration for Youth Sports" (CDC) and West Shore Minors (WSM) guidelines.

It is the responsibility of all participants to self-regulate and self-monitor with respect to the safety guidelines provided in order to protect not only themselves but others. The recommendations and guidelines employed by WSM is intended to provide a framework by which we can minimize the risk of COVID-19 in order to provide the players with the benefits of youth sports.

Any individual who has concerns that the implementation of the guidelines is not satisfactory for them and/or their child are encouraged to take respectful steps to address the concern, reach out to appropriate WSM officials and/or remove themselves and their player from an environment they feel is unsafe.

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GENERAL PARTICIPANT GUIDANCE (Players, Coaches, Officials, Volunteers, Parents, Spectators)

1. All participants shall follow all local and state guidelines and directives.
2. Coaches and athletic staff must screen and monitor athletes for symptoms prior to and during games and practices. If individuals participating in sporting activities show symptoms, have a temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher, or are sick, they must be sent home. **Gov**
3. Any player or participant who has tested positive for COVID-19 or has had close contact with a person testing positive for COVID-19 is required to notify the CVSA COVID-19 Point of Contact or safety officer as appropriate so necessary follow up can take place. **CDC**
4. Any player who is experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, has tested positive for COVID-19, or has recently had close contact with a person with COVID-19 WILL NOT BE PERMITTED to participate in any CVSA sponsored activities. Coaches have the authority to send a player home immediately if they are exhibiting any symptoms. **CDC**
5. If there is a game or practice, prior to your event, families and spectators are encouraged to stay in their vehicles or at recommended social distances until the start of their game play to prevent overcrowding of spectator spaces and walkways. **Gov CDC**
6. When practices or competition facilities must be shared, we will increasing the amount of time between practices and competitions to allow for one group to leave before another group enters the facility to allow time for cleaning and/or disinfecting. **Gov CDC**
7. All athletes, coaches, and officials must bring their own water and drinks to team activities. **Gov**
8. Controlled practices and games will only be allowed with no more than 90 people per field (including spectators). **WSM**
9. All activities and gatherings must conform to the gathering limitations set forth by the Governor's Plan for Phased Reopening, and the facility as a whole may not exceed 50% of total occupancy otherwise permitted by law. **Gov**
10. No more than 2 spectators per player allowed. **WSM**
11. Bleachers are not to be used by spectators. Spectators should plan to bring their own seating. **WSM**
12. Players and coaches should take measures to prevent all but the essential contact necessary to play the game. This should include refraining from handshakes, high fives, fist/elbow bumps, chest bumps, group celebrations, etc. **Gov**
13. All players/coaches must follow rules of field/complex/municipality you are playing at. **WSM**

PARENT GUIDANCE:

1. Parents are encouraged to:
 - a. Provide their players with antibacterial wipes and hand sanitizer to clean hands and equipment between innings, or as needed. **CDC**
 - b. Provide their players with personal drinks for all activities. **Gov**
 - c. Drinks should be labeled with the person's name. **WSM**
 - d. Clean and Disinfect their players' equipment after each practice and game. **WSM**

- e. Practice appropriate social distancing and wear cloth face coverings when applicable as spectators. **CDC**
2. No more than 2 spectators per player allowed. **WSM**

COACH GUIDANCE:

1. Coaches and athletes must maintain appropriate social distancing at all times possible, including in the field of play, sidelines, dugouts, benches, and workout areas. During down time, athletes and coaches should not congregate. **Gov**
2. Communicate player seating assignments in the dugout, on the bleachers or in seating outside the field of play, in an effort to maintain social distancing. An expanded dugout is encouraged however players must be placed behind a fence. **CDC WSM**(behind fence)
3. There should be no shared team beverages or snacks before, during, or after game or practices. **WSM**
4. Coaching staff and other adult personnel should wear face coverings (masks or face shields) at all times, unless doing so jeopardizes their health. **Gov**
5. Coaches will be responsible for ensuring that equipment is adequately spaced and visible prior to the game for a “visual only” equipment check by the umpires. **WSM**
6. Activities that increase the risk of exposure to saliva must not be allowed including chewing gum, spitting, licking fingers, and eating sunflower seeds. **Gov**
7. Ensure that game ball(s) are disinfected before and after every game and practice. **Gov, CDC and WSM**
8. Coaches are required to: **Gov and CDC**
 - a. Educate Athlete on proper hand washing and sanitizing
 - b. Disinfect hard surface areas (benches, high touch areas, etc) upon first arrival.
 - c. Properly disinfect shared equipment between users.
 - d. Clean dugout of all trash and other items after game.
 - e. Disinfect hard surface areas (benches, high touch areas, etc) prior to leaving.
 - f. Disinfect field preparation equipment (Rake, field liner, hammer, etc)

PLAYER GUIDANCE:

1. Coaches and athletes must maintain appropriate social distancing at all times possible, including in the field of play, sidelines, dugouts, benches, and workout areas. During down time, athletes and coaches should not congregate. **Gov**
2. Players should wear cloth face coverings, if possible when in close contact areas and in places where recommended social distancing is challenging or not feasible, such as in dugouts. **CDC**
3. No personal player bat bags/equipment bags should be allowed in the dugout. Player equipment should be spaced accordingly outside the dugout to prevent direct contact. **WSM**
4. Players are required to have their own individual batter’s helmet, glove, bat, and catcher’s equipment (if needed). **WSM**
5. Whenever possible, equipment and other personal items should be separated and not shared. If equipment must be shared, all equipment should be properly disinfected between users. **Gov CDC**
6. Activities that increase the risk of exposure to saliva must not be allowed including chewing gum, spitting, licking fingers, and eating sunflower seeds. **Gov**

SPECTATOR GUIDANCE:

1. Spectators should wear cloth face coverings if possible and maintain 6 foot social distancing to the maximum extent practical, and avoid direct hand or other contact with players/managers/coaches during play. **CDC**
2. Spectators should bring their own seating or portable chairs, bleacher seating is closed to spectators. **SST**
3. A spectator with any of the following conditions should not attend a practice or game **Gov**
 - a. Active COVID-19 infection
 - b. Known direct contact with an individual testing positive for COVID-19
 - c. Fever, Cough, or other symptoms
4. Those at higher risk for severe disease should consider consultation with their medical provider before attending a game and should ensure the strictest adherence to guidelines regarding face coverings, distancing, and handwashing. **CDC**
5. Spectators should not touch or return foul balls to play. **WSM**