



SPRING LAKE PARK CO-ED RECREATIONAL YOUTH SOFTBALL



COVID-19 Rules and Guidelines

SPRING LAKE PARK - PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

These rules and guidelines are based on the most up-to-date information provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Minnesota Department of Health.

1. Follow all current local and state guidelines for facilities and events.
2. Spectators will be encouraged not to attend events until gathering limitations are increased or removed.
3. All staff, players, umpires, and spectators are encouraged to continue 6 feet social distancing on and off the field during an event. It is recommended that spectators bring their own chairs and to **NOT** sit behind the dugouts.
4. **All coaches, players, and umpires are REQUIRED to wear a mask or other face covering when sport participants are not actively practicing or playing and cannot maintain physical distancing (e.g. standing in the dugout). Participants are STRONGLY RECOMMENDED to either wear a face covering at all times (including while actively playing) or to test weekly for COVID-19.** Masks must be of one neutral color with no designs on them and not distracting. Spectators are strongly encouraged to wear a mask or other face covering as well.
5. We recommend that players stand outside the dugout to allow for social distancing. However, players are **NOT ALLOWED** to stand in the field of play.
6. Teams and spectators must bring their own hand sanitizing products and/or sanitizing wipes.
7. One coach per team will conduct a pregame meeting at home plate. All involved are requested to keep 6 feet social distancing during ground rules.
8. No handshakes, team huddles or high fives. Teams should tip their hats or wave instead.
9. Teams **CANNOT** enter or congregate around the dugouts until the previous teams exits. Teams must leave the field immediately after their game concludes. Teams will have 5 minutes to vacate the bench area.
10. It is recommended that all players and umpires use their own equipment while participating. Players will be allowed to utilize their own personal bats, as long as they meet the equipment specifications for their specific Division. In all leagues, umpires may check personal bats to assure compliance.
 - a. Maximum Bat Length
 - i. 7U – 30 inches
 - ii. 12U – 34 inches
 - iii. 17U – 34 inches
 - b. Bats must be stamped as an “Official Softball” bat and be stamped 1.20 BPF to be considered legal. All TITANIUM ALLOY, DOUBLE WALL, and TRIPLE WALL bats are **ILLEGAL**.
11. The catcher and umpire shall position themselves during a player’s at-bat to allow for social distancing. The catcher shall position themselves behind the umpire, at least 6 feet, and become a “retriever/catcher”. All standard league rulings and responsibilities for catchers will apply to this position.
 - a. This rule applies to 17U only
12. All teams are directed to clean their dugouts and team bench areas on arrival and departure. This includes wiping down benches and any high-touch areas and removing any trash. We then recommend that everyone washes their hands after leaving the field.
13. If you are exhibiting symptoms of possible exposure to COVID-19, such as coughing, sore throat, shortness of breath, muscle aches or fever, you should not come to events until such time as you have been tested and/or cleared. This includes recent exposure to someone with COVID-19. If a COVID-19 exposure occurs, timely notifications are critical, so please notify the League Coordinator as soon as possible.

For questions & concerns about this information, please contact:

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League Coordinator

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