



Before Arriving at the Ball Park

All players, parents, coaches and umpires should be aware of safety protocols prior to arriving (will be posted on www.SoftballNapane.com)

- If you are sick or not feeling well please stay home.
- Self-screening through <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/self-assessment/> is required by all participants, volunteers and spectators prior to attending any game, practice, meeting or other in-person team activity and any individual shall not attend if they fail the screening protocol.
- Public Health has indicated that if physical distancing is not possible it is recommended that face coverings are worn. Softball Napane recommends that players wear a buff that can be raised or lowered based on physical distancing during practices or games.
- Signage will be displayed in the entry area regarding the spreading of the virus, proper hygiene, information on physical distancing and what to do if you have any symptoms.

At the Ball Park: Pre-Game or Pre-Practice

- Scheduling of diamonds must allow for a minimum of 30 minutes between the conclusion of the prior event and the start of the subsequent event.
- Phase 3 Provincial Re-Opening guidelines indicate that a maximum of 100 people can attend an outdoor event. We must keep group size at the ball park to 100. This is not per field but for the entire complex, only 100 people in total between both fields at the Fairgrounds. Please keep this in mind when determining who attends as a spectator.
- Spectators are to be located in a viewing area away from players and the bench areas –physical distancing must be maintained.
- All players must sanitize hands after warming up and before entering the bench area.
- No handshakes.
- Both teams may warm up on the field at the same time. Physical distancing is required.

Bench Area

- Dugout / bench area must be disinfected prior to starting the game or practice. A disinfectant spray or wipes must be used to ensure the area is clean.
- The dugout (covered area) of the bench at the Fairgrounds is not to be used by players and is not to be used for equipment bag storage.
- Players to spread out beyond the bench either along the fence line or behind the bench to maintain distancing of 2 metres.
- Individual player bags must not be in the bench area but in the extended bench area to help keep the pathway to the field clear.
- All players, coaches and umpires must have their own water bottles/sports drink. No community water jugs or shared plastic/paper cups.
- Sunflower seeds, gum, chewing tobacco, candy etc. or spitting of any kind are not allowed.

- Each bench area must to have a first aid kit with a supply of materials including masks and gloves to address any medical concerns or injuries.
- Teams must have 70% (or higher) alcohol hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes (or acceptable option) readily available at all times

The Game

- Game balls must not be shared between the teams. Each team must provide sanitized game balls. Balls are to be controlled by the respective benches. If a ball goes out of play, the defensive team will throw a sanitized game ball into play. The out of play ball will be returned to the bench and sanitized. All balls must be wiped and disinfected after each half inning by the appropriate team.
- Each bat is to be sanitized prior to the game. If bats are shared they must be wiped by a coach or manager prior to another player using.
- Once the game begins, umpires must not handle any equipment (bats, helmets, etc.). If an umpire must handle equipment (e.g. safety check) the equipment must be sanitized prior to use.
- Gloves and helmets are not to be shared.
- All catchers must have their own mask. Chest protectors and shin guards can be shared but must be wiped down by a coach or manager prior to wearing.
- On deck batter is limited to only 1 bat and must stay in designated area until stoppage of play.
- No bat boys/girls. The batter must be responsible to pick up their own bat if an out is made. If the batter reaches a base, the on- deck person must retrieve the bat by the barrel side and return it to the bench avoiding contact with the grip.
- Tag plays are allowed, but the defensive player must vacate the area as soon as reasonably practicable following the tag.
- Any discussions between coaches and players (eg. batter visiting 3rd base coach; coach talking to runners, etc.) must maintain physical distancing of at least 2 metres.
- Pre-game meetings with umpires are not required.

- Line-up changes are not required to be communicated to the umpire.
- Umpires must remain 2 meters from any player.
- Players and coaches are not to shake hands or high five throughout the game.
- There should be no post game handshakes.
- A designated person from each team should ensure the area is clean and sanitized for the next team.
- Players and spectators are not to congregate in the parking lots after the game.