

WSSL Guidelines for Participation during the COVID 19 Pandemic

The following guidelines represent what the WSSL board has drafted for softball play in the 2021 season. There will be a separate document that provides a COVID 19 waiver required by the WSSL BOD in order for you to play or practice in the WSSL this season. Players will also have to sign a waiver to play on Williamsburg Parks and Recreation fields.

WSSL will comply with all of the current State of Virginia Covid-19 restrictions as issued by the Governor.

Please read this document thoroughly! It represents our agreement with our local partners and is written with your best interests in mind:

1) If you have a fever, or known COVID19 symptoms, or have been exposed to someone who has COVID19 within 14 days, you may not play. Managers will be responsible for keeping any sick players or players in quarantine off the field.

2) Before you enter the field, you should use hand sanitizer or wipes. WSSL will have sanitizer and/or wipes available at all events.

3) Wearing a face covering when waiting on the sidelines is preferred in order to protect others. The same is true if you prefer to bring your own chair...as long as you are seated OUTSIDE the field and the proper distance apart. You should put on your face covering as you pass through the dugout coming and going from the field of play.

4) With the exceptions noted below, face coverings and/or gloves are not necessary during play since we are outdoors, as long as you maintain a social distance as much as possible during play.

5) In order to lessen the chance contamination by sharing equipment, you should try to use your own equipment. If you borrow equipment (with permission of the owner) please wipe it off before you return it to the owner.

Again, it is important we all follow the guidelines, in order to ensure we are in line with the Governor's, JCC, WP&R, and WSSL guidance. These guidelines may seem a little restrictive, but they are made to ensure the safety of all our members. Remember - if you don't follow the guidelines, we risk being barred from the JCC and WP&R fields.

Social Contact before, during and after games:

- In the midst of this virus and social distancing being what it is, we recommend you bring a chair so no one sits too close outside of the dugout. We ask the team at bat to pass through the dugout coming off the field and sit outside the fence. **The manager and only the on-deck batter should be the only persons sitting in the dugout.**
- There will be a “no-contact, no-handshake policy” to be observed at every level of the organization until further notice. This includes all physical contact and extends to customary game-related activities, and post-game handshakes between members of opposing teams. Instead, staff, players and coaches should verbally say “good game,” without shaking hands, high-fiving or fist-bumping.
- Players will be expected to maintain social distancing before and after the game – and during the game when possible.
- Spectators will be required to maintain social distancing.

The Game:

- All players should bring a chair to sit on outside the dugout while their team is at bat, or while they are not playing in the field.
- Hand sanitizer will be available in each team's dugout so that players should use it before entering, and while exiting, the field of play.
- All players will have masks or face coverings to be placed over their nose and mouth when entering or exiting the field of play, or while standing within six feet of another person.
- The on-deck batter or a player assigned by the offensive team will be responsible for picking up the bat after it is used. The bat should be handled by the barrel not the handle for the person retrieving the bat.
- The catcher should try to be 6 feet behind the batter (not the plate). The umpire should stand 6 feet to the right side of the catcher for a right-handed batter and to the left side of the catcher for a left-handed batter.
- We will **NOT** be supplying community water jugs for obvious reasons until the pandemic is over. Players will need to supply their own individual water.