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Tuscarawas County YMCA COVID-19 Procedures for T-Ball and Coach Pitch Baseball

We are excited to be able to begin phasing in Youth Sports at our YMCA. Although our league will look slightly different than it has in prior seasons, we are confident each player will have an enjoyable time. In order to have the best possible experience, we ask that you read thoroughly through these rules and procedures prior to the beginning of the season, and become familiar with them.

Section 1: General Information

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, our league format has been modified to an inter-team scrimmage style of play. For example, Team 1 and Team 2 will each be split into two equal sides (ex: Team 1a, and Team 1b), and will play within their own team. Team 1a and Team 1b will play each other each week, likewise with Team 2a and Team 2b. Team 1 and Team 2 will never play each other during the season, and players from the two teams will not mix.

Games have been scheduled with additional time between competitions to allow for sanitization of equipment (where necessary), and to allow families ample time to exit the playing field before the next group arrives. Please do not crowd other people, and remember to remain six-feet of distance between others at all time, as much as possible.

Section 2: What If There Is A Positive Case?

First and foremost, no one should attend games, practices, or any other league activities if they are experiencing symptoms associated with COVID-19, are currently under quarantine mandated by their state or local health department, or have been in contact with someone presumed or confirmed to be positive with COVID-19 within the last 14 days.

If a positive COVID-19 case is reported and traced back to our YMCA, we will cooperate fully with guidance given to us by our state and/or local health departments, and will adhere to all HIPAA policies. The affected person(s) will be notified, while keeping the individual's identity confidential.

Section 3: Best Practices for Self-Monitoring, Social Distancing, and Facial Coverings

Self-Monitoring/Assessment: All individuals should measure their body temperature to ensure that no fever is present prior to participating or attending each YMCA activity. Anyone with symptoms of fever, cough, or worsening respiratory symptoms, or any known exposure to a person with COVID-19 should not attend any YMCA activity until cleared by a medical professional.

Social Distancing: All players, coaches, volunteers, and spectators should practice social distancing of six feet wherever possible from individuals not residing within their household, especially in common areas. For

situations when players are engaging in the sports activity, see On-Field Guidance below for more information.

Face Coverings/Masks: As of July 23rd, 2020 all individuals in Ohio must wear facial coverings in public at all times when:

- At an indoor location that is not a residence
- **Outdoors, but unable to maintain six-foot social distance from people who are not household members**
- Waiting for, riding, driving, or operating public transportation, such as a taxi, a car service, or a private car used for ride-sharing.

The order only requires those 10 years old or older to wear a mask. Additional exclusions include:

- Those with a medical condition or a disability or those communicating with someone with a disability;
- **Those who are actively exercising or playing sports;**
- Those who are officiants at religious services;
- Those who are actively involved in public safety; or
- Those who are actively eating or drinking.

In short, face coverings for spectators are recommended, but not required, unless you cannot maintain six-feet of social distance from those who are not members of your household.

Coaches, volunteers, and program staff must wear facial coverings at all times.

Children under the age of 10 are not required to wear facial coverings, but may do so if desired.

Additionally, all persons entering the YMCA building must be wearing face coverings, unless they are actively engaged in exercise. Should you need to enter the building to use the restroom, vending machines, or otherwise, you must wear a mask.

Remember to practice good health hygiene by washing your hands frequently, covering your coughs/sneezes, and by avoiding touching your eyes, nose and mouth.

Section 4: On-Field Guidance

No Handshakes or Personal Contact Celebrations

- 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. Creative alternate ways to display good sportsman ship after the game could include: Air fives, tipping your hat to the opponent, clapping, etc.
- Players and families should vacate the playing field as soon as is reasonably possible after the conclusion of their game to minimize unnecessary contact with players, coaches, and spectators from the next game, ideally within 15 minutes.

Drinks and Snacks

- We are suspending our postgame group snack-sharing until further notice. Teams should not share any snacks, food, or beverage with one another.
- Players/spectators/coaches must bring their own beverages, and should not share or drink out of the same container as others.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- All managers/coaches, volunteers, officials, etc., should wear a facial covering.
- Players should not wear protective medical gloves on the field during game play.
- Players 10 and under are not required to wear a cloth face covering while on the field during game play. However, it is advised that players wear cloth face coverings when in close contact areas, and in places where recommended social distancing is challenging or not feasible.
- Players are permitted to wear a cloth face covering on the field during game play, if physically able to do so, based on any directive of a medical provider or individual determination of the player/parent/guardian.

Player and Game Equipment

- Players should have their own individual batter's helmet (in age divisions that require one), glove, and bat. Equipment should not be shared between players.
- Some critical equipment may not be able to be obtained by every individual. When it is necessary to share critical or limited equipment, all surfaces of each piece of shared equipment will be disinfected with an EPA-approved disinfectant against COVID-19 before used by a new player.
- Players should not share towels, clothing, or other items that they may use to wipe their face or hands
- Player's equipment (e.g. bags, helmets, bats, gloves, etc.) should be cleaned and disinfected after each use by a parent/guardian/caretaker, where applicable.
- Individuals disinfecting equipment are encouraged to use gloves while using disinfectants and follow the manufacturer's directions for use. All disinfectants should be stored properly, in a safe area, out of reach of children.
- Baseballs will be disinfected prior to the start of each game, and will be rotated out after each inning. Each baseball that is rotated out of use will be disinfected after each game.