**Chatfield Youth Fastpitch Association Practice and Competition Guidelines**

**COVID-19 Stay Safe MN**

Chatfield Youth Fastpitch Association, in accordance with MDH guidelines for youth sports, has put together the following guidelines as we return to practice. These guidelines were updated with the latest information from the Stay Safe MN plan posted by the Governor.

<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/sportsguide.pdf>

These guidelines are for practice and competition with the expectation that these could and most likely will change as additional Phases and changes are announced including possible return to games.

All players and parents will be required to understand these guidelines as well as read and sign the player waiver before being allowed to take part in any team activities.

Players and Coaches much complete a self-evaluation symptom assessment before coming to practice and anyone showing signs of symptoms must stay home and notify your head coach, so they are able to track timing for return to play outlined below

Symptoms consistent with COVID-19 include:

▪ New onset or worsening cough OR

  ▪ Shortness of breath OR

▪ At least two of the following symptoms: fever (100.4F or higher); chills; muscle pain; headache; sore throat; new loss of taste or smell

The MDH has published a decision tree for anyone showing symptoms on return that can be found here (Covid-19 Exclusion Guidance). The main two paths are listed here but please refer to the link to the Exclusion Guidance document for additional details

▪ If Tested for COVID-19; you will need 2 negative tests in a row at least 24 hours apart

▪ If not Tested for COVID-19; you must be symptom free without aid of medicine for at least 3 days AND at least 10 days have passed since your symptoms first appeared

Siblings and household members of anyone with symptoms should also stay home for 14 days unless the person showing symptoms is cleared using the COVID test process as explained above.

Full team practices are updated to Phase III from the State and  POD sizes have increased from 10 to 25. While this allows for practices with the full team, physical distance guidance and avoidance of contact between players is required.

Parents are asked to drop-off and pick-up players for practice in the parking area and ensure they are there at the designated time to help limit any congregating in this area to allow a smooth transition between teams. If a parent does need to be at practice it is required that he/she stays socially distanced from all players and coaches.

While face masks are not required on the field of play, it is suggested that players and coaches follow CDC recommendations regarding masks when entering and exiting fields and common areas especially when distancing isn’t possible. Players that desire to wear a mask during play are welcome to do so.

Everyone should ensure safe social distancing of 6’ or greater when entering and exiting the field as well as on the field and bench areas during practice.

Player equipment will be kept separated by 6’ from each other with any shared equipment (catchers gear, bats, etc.) being sanitized between uses.

Softballs should be sprayed with sanitizer before and after each practice. A team ball will be used in game situations, and sanitized between innings.

Players should use hand sanitizer before and after each practice and this should be available during practice when needed. Encourage players and coaches to sanitize their hands anytime they cough, sneeze, or touch with their face.

The association will provide sanitizer and cleaning supplies but families are always welcome to provide their own.

No spitting or eating seeds, gum, or other similar products will be allowed to be used on the field or in visitor areas.

No use of team water bottles or cooler; each player is required to bring their own water to practices.