

SAFETY MEASURES FOR PARTICIPATION

- Prior to actual participation, players, employees, and volunteers should be evaluated to ensure that they do not have a fever of 100.4°F or are exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19. This may include conducting pre-activity symptom assessments.
- Check all temperatures of all players, employees, and volunteers prior to engaging in group activity.
- Any individual who has a temperature of 100.4°F or exhibits any COVID-19 symptom, should not participate in group activity and should be sent home immediately.
- If there is a report of a positive case of COVID-19 from within HPKL, notify others who may have been in close contact with the individual of their potential exposure and potential need for quarantine or additional medical attention.
- Adhere to state and local ordinances on group gatherings.

USE OF PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

- Cloth face coverings and personal protective equipment (“PPE”) should be worn consistent with CDC, state and local guidance.
- Individuals should wear a face mask or a face covering while in non-game situations.
- Non-playing personnel should wear a face mask or a face covering at all times, including in the dugout. All individuals should utilize a face mask or a face covering in areas where social distancing is not possible.
- Players should not be required to wear a face mask or face covering while on the field or engaging in other strenuous activities (e.g., workouts, practices, batting practice, strength and conditioning activities), but may do so if they prefer or it is requested by a medical professional or parent.
- Umpires are encouraged to wear a face mask or face covering while umpiring, particularly if unable to maintain a safe physical distance from the players.
- Consider any additional requirements for face coverings and PPE based on individuals’ roles (i.e., athletic trainers, strength and conditioning coaches).

EQUIPMENT

- Equipment (glove, bat, batter’s helmet, batting gloves, catcher’s equipment) should not be shared between participants.
- To the extent that equipment needs to be shared, establish protocols for when and how equipment will be cleaned and disinfected in between uses. Consider disinfecting communal equipment regularly throughout practices and games (i.e., between innings).
- Request that parents/guardians clean and disinfect any personal equipment before and after group activities.
- Players and other on-field personnel should wash or sanitize their hands throughout practices and games (e.g., every time a player returns to the dugout) and after the handling of equipment or personal effects, like mouthguards.
- Eliminate the touching of the face (eyes, nose and mouth) when handling shared equipment and the ball.
- Consider limiting the continued use of baseball and softballs without cleaning. Balls should be cleaned throughout an activity or rotated out on a regular basis.

FOOD AND DRINK

- Prohibit the use of communal water and sport drink coolers/jugs and use individualized water or sport drink bottles instead.
- Avoid sharing cups, water bottles, food/snacks, and limit all food and drink products to individualized items.
- Like equipment, individual food and drink containers should be sanitized at home after each use.

IN-GAME

- Players, on-field personnel, and umpires should practice physical distancing to the extent possible, with the limitations of competition and the fundamentals of baseball and softball.

- Consider eliminating plate meetings. If the plate meeting does occur, it should be limited to one coach from each team, plus an umpire, who should stand 6 feet apart from one another.
- Attempt physical distancing in the dugout if space allows, as well as in other in-game or pregame activities. Consider spreading out to seating outside the dugout, to a feasible extent.
- Players and on-field personnel should make all efforts to avoid touching their face with their hands (including to give signs), wiping away sweat with their hand, licking their fingers, whistling with their fingers, etc.
- Avoid physical interactions (i.e., high-fives, fist bumps, hugs, handshakes) with teammates and personnel.
- Sunflower seeds, bubble gum, and spitting are prohibited in the dugout and on the playing surface.

SPECTATORS

- Encourage spectators to utilize a face mask or face covering while on site.
- Consider limiting or spacing seating in stands and around playing sites to promote physical distancing.

