

Guidelines Update

July 2, 2020

While we all welcome the return of America's pastime and Metro Collegiate Baseball, the recent resurgence of Covid-19 in southern and southwestern states reminds us that it is important to continue to act responsibly and to take reasonable precautions.

The CDC has consistently held that social distancing is our most valuable weapon in the fight against this virus. For that reason, we ask that everyone pay heed to the Policies and Protocols related to Covid-19 posted on our website. There is abundant space at both BMAC and Ballwin and thus, plenty of room for people to distance themselves and still enjoy the game in the proximity of the field. While family units are able to cluster together, it is wise to maintain a healthy distance from other family units.

St. Louis County released new guidelines for the use of face coverings, which will take effect on July 3rd. We urge everyone to read those guidelines carefully, in order to be fully informed. In summary, they indicate that when it is not feasible to maintain a distance of six feet from others (not of your family unit), a face covering should be worn. This order blankets all public venues, transportation, restrooms and outdoor areas. So you can see the importance of maintaining a healthy distance. Per these guidelines, face coverings need not be worn on the field.

When players are not on the field, we urge coaches to space their teams along the foul lines rather than allowing them to huddle in the dugouts as they have been accustomed to doing in the past. Players should remain either on the field or along the sidelines when the game is in progress and should not wander into spectator areas. Once again, we remind coaches that the use of shared equipment is prohibited unless it is thoroughly disinfected between uses.

Most importantly, we encourage each family to do a health assessment of themselves prior to leaving for the park. A list of Covid-19 symptoms is available online on the CDC's website. These are reasonable precautions and will go a long way toward preserving the health and safety of our families, our friends and our neighbors. Thank you all for your cooperation.

Sincerely,
Marty Stein
Pres., Metro Collegiate baseball



The St. Louis Metro Collegiate Baseball League Policies and Protocols Relating to Covid-19

revised June 28, 2020

- ◆ All players, coaches, umpires, league officials and related staff must report to the designated screening station prior to entering the team area(s), the dugout or the playing field. The screening will be performed by a league official and will include the use of a touchless thermometer. Coaches are responsible for ensuring that their team, in its entirety, is screened.
- ◆ The use of shared equipment such as batting helmets, catcher's gear, caps, wrist bands, batting gloves, towels, ace bandages, water bottles, etc. is prohibited. Each player must provide his own equipment and apparel and keep said equipment and apparel secure and separate from that of others on the team.
- ◆ The CDC recommends maintaining a social distance of six feet (6') from others whenever possible. For that reason, players may distance themselves down their respective foul lines rather than being confined to the dugout itself. Players are cautioned to also maintain this distancing as much as possible during pregame warmups.
- ◆ Face masks are not required on the field of play, though they are permitted for those who choose to wear them. Any pitcher choosing to wear a face mask must select a mask of a dark color and that mask must be approved for play by the Umpire In Chief prior to the start of the game.
- ◆ The Covid-19 virus is particularly spread through droplets and aerosol of human saliva. For this reason, the use of chewing gum, chewing tobacco, sunflower seeds and other such substances which promote excess salivation and the release of fluids through spitting, drooling, coughing, etc. is prohibited for all players, coaches and officials.
- ◆ Spectators and guests are cautioned to school themselves on the symptoms of Covid-19 and do a self-assessment each day prior to leaving for the ballpark. Masks are encouraged but not mandated, though proper social distancing should be maintained at all times.