

2021 UPDATE - Safely Staying on Baseball Fields in NY/CT/NJ

Since 2014, the GHVBL promotes sportsmanship, fair play, safety, and fun competition for thousands of kids and families in NY/CT/NJ. Baseball promotes physical and mental health, is a very low risk activity when vigilant about adhering to the following critical safety measures.



MANDATORY FOR PLAYERS & COACHES

- Players must wear face coverings at all times when not on the field of play.
- Batting team: Players are socially distanced unless wearing mask. No touching.
- Wipedown of dugouts, bleachers, and bench area after each game.
- No participants permitted to share equipment or personal items (glove, bat, helmet, etc). Gear should be used by the individual owner only and should be sanitized before and after game play. (Exception - Catchers Gear may be sanitized during game if shared by players)
- All participants must adhere to 6-foot distancing guidelines and/or wear facial covering when off field of play.
- Parents & Coaches must conduct daily symptom self-evaluation assessments. Anybody experiencing symptoms or living with somebody experiencing symptoms must stay home.
- Teams keep their own lineup cards and/or use an online scorebook (GameChanger), umpires will not receive lineup cards.
- No sharing of food or drinks. Team drink coolers are prohibited. All players must bring their own drinks or snacks.
- No spitting or chewing seeds, gum or other similar products.
- **Universal No touch rule:** Players, coaches, umpires must refrain from physical contact with each other or opponents on and off the field of play. A tip of the hat or wave shall replace the customary post-game handshake.
- 15 minute buffer between practices & 30 minutes between games to allow for safe exit for Players, Coaches, Umpires, & Spectators.

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS FOR COACHES

- Must wear face coverings when not possible to keep 6 foot distance from all participants.
- Must ensure that players, assistant coaches and team's spectators are following COVID-19 prevention measures including, but not limited to all mentioned herein.
- Coaches are responsible for the actions and safety of their own team which includes spectators. They should ensure all players are adhering to social distancing in and around the dugout as well as other seating areas while not actively participating in the field of play.

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS FOR UMPIRES

- Must wear face covering and/or keep 6 foot distance from participants.
- Hand washing or hand sanitizing during the game.
- Umpire equipment and/or personal items should remain separate from teams.
- Must adhere to 6-foot distancing guidelines when interacting with players, coaches and spectators both on and off the field of play.
- Must conduct daily symptom self-evaluation assessments. Anybody experiencing symptoms or living with somebody experiencing symptoms must stay home.

MANDATORY FOR SPECTATORS

- Must adhere to 6-foot distancing guidelines for anyone not in the same family.
- Must conduct daily symptom self-evaluation assessments. Anybody experiencing symptoms or living with somebody experiencing symptoms must stay home.
- Must not enter player areas on the field, behind the backstop or in/around team dugouts and player & coach areas.

GHVBL Leadership takes the safety and wellbeing of all Players, Coaches, Umpires, & Spectators with the utmost of seriousness. All participants of the GHVBL are committed to being great examples of keeping New York, Connecticut, & Northern New Jersey baseball teams on the fields - and paving a path of healing and normalcy.