



Fall Baseball and Softball Parent Protocol

Fall is Focus on Fun and Safety

The City of Charleston Recreation Department is thrilled to have fall sports for our citizens. The only way to have this fall be a success is with the COOPERATION of all parents, players and coaches. Fall sports will look different than our normal fall season. We have instituted new standards, protocols and game rules that will meet or exceed CDC national standards for keeping our children safe when playing outdoor sports. Our goal is to provide an atmosphere to allow our children to exercise, socialize (distantly), be fit and have fun!

Below are the protocols and we are asking ALL parents, spectators, players, and whomever come to watch to HELP US keep EVERYONE SAFE. If we fail at this, our kids are back inside and we know that is not what we want!

PLEASE follow all guidelines, protocols and ordinances set forth.

Please DO NOT attend practice or games if you feel sick.

- Coaches/Parents and Players will follow all city ordinances for mask established at time of play. As of this time Coaches and all spectators are required to wear a face covering at all time while on city fields, parking lots, restrooms and playgrounds.
- Players will be required to wear their face covering at all times except when they are actually practicing on the field or playing on the field. If on sidelines they must be in face covering.
- All spectators will be asked to socially distance
- Parents will need to bring chairs to watch games. No bleachers will be available for spectators.
- Please have your child carry their own hand sanitizer.
- Coordinators will schedule practices so there are minutes in between practice and games that will allow teams finishing to exit fields prior to the next round of practice/games begin.
- We ask that you and your player stay in your car until your practice time begins. Please do not arrive early and expect to be able to hang out on the field or around the field. This activity will not be permitted during this fall.
- Teams will get an air horn with 5 minutes left in practice, a second air horn at the conclusion of practice will sound. This is when players will end practice and head to cars.
- Coaches will not hold huddles or group talks during this time. Staff will begin to announce to please move to cars. We ask all parents to respect these time allotments as well. A coach may talk during their practice time but teams must leave the field at the second air horn.
- Games will be similar. Immediately following a games finish we ask everyone to move to their cars so we may get the next round of games started.
- No benches or bleachers will be used during practices or games.
- Dugouts will be extended and Fence will be marked with an x every 6 ft for players to hang their ball bags.
- No handshakes at the end of the game, no team huddles, no grouping together for cheers, no high fives, verbal encouragement only. Each team will line up on their foul line tip their hat or wave as a team to their opponent.
- We ask all players to not spit, do not spit on hands, cover their mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing.
- No seeds or gum chewing
- Snacks: we prefer no team snacks. If you do it MUST be prepackaged. No cut fruit or homemade items. Sanitize hands before and after.
- Players are to bring their own water bottle. There will be no shared water coolers.
- Sanitizer when available will be in dugouts. Coaches will be responsible for the team bag and sanitizing that equipment.
- We strongly encourage your child to have their own batting helmet, bat and catcher gear if needed so that you can ensure equipment has been sanitized.
- We ask that when needing to speak to staff at fields that you please maintain at least a 10ft distance. Staff will be happy to help and give you any necessary information.
- Practices will start after Labor Day
- Games will begin first of October
- No combines or drafts this season. Random draw, limited request.
- Request will be limited to one request per player and not guaranteed. Limits will apply to
- Coordinators will make final roster decisions. No more than 3 previous all-stars.
- Some age groups may be combined to co-ed depending on registration.
- 6 games per league ages 5-8. 4 weeks of practice, 4-6 weeks of games
- 8 games per league 9 and above. No scores, No standings.
- 9 and above will have all practices and games during the week. Practices once games start will be very limited.
- 8 and below will have all practices and games on Saturdays. No practices once games start.
- Game structure will be pods/cohorting of 4 teams to limit exposure in all age groups
- 1 Umpire will be used for 9 and above when available. There is an umpire shortage.
- We will minimize to eliminate all travel to other areas for this season.
- Concessions will be open with prepackaged snacks and bottle drinks.