



Spring 2021 COVID-19 Safety Protocols

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This document describes Hillsborough Youth Athletic Association's plan to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 and return to safe play in Spring 2021. The safety of players and volunteers is our main concern. Those who do not follow these guidelines will be asked to leave the field.

Health Screening

All participants should check for COVID-19 symptoms before arriving at any event. If a participant experiences any of the following symptoms they should not attend until deemed clear based on current CDC guidelines: Muscle aches, temperature greater than 100F, sore throat, runny nose and/or congestion, cough, shortness of breath, loss of smell or taste, vomiting or diarrhea, or have had recent close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19.

Physical distancing

All spectators must maintain physical distancing of at least six feet between groups. Face coverings are required when spectators cannot be separated by more than six feet. Teams will not line up for handshakes after games. Players should, instead, tip their cap to the opposing team if desired. No group huddles will be permitted. Benches should not be used where available.

Equipment

Player equipment should be stored outside the dugout where possible. Players should not share equipment, and there should be no shared drinks or water coolers.

Face coverings

During practices face coverings will be required for all participants (coaches, players, etc.). During games players on offense will be required to wear a mask except when batting, or running the bases. If a player arrives to the field without a mask they will be provided a disposable mask. All registered players will be provided with a neck gaiter that can be used throughout the season.

Participant Limit

All players will be allowed two spectators for games. Families where this may cause a great inconvenience will be asked to apply for an exemption. Please discuss this with your player's coach.

Handwashing

All participants are to wash their hands before and after the event, and after touching any shared surfaces. If handwashing stations, or appropriate restrooms are unavailable, hand sanitizer must be available.

Communication

In the event a player tests positive for COVID-19 they must inform the coach. The entire team will then be informed of the possible exposure, and must cease practices and games for 10 days. All return to play decisions will be made by the HYAA Board Executive Committee. Any games that are postponed will be rescheduled if possible. No refunds can be given in the event a team is unable to complete all games due to COVID-19 exposure. Individual participants would be advised to seek advice from their medical professional regarding testing and treatment.