

NYBSA Covid-19 Operating Procedures – March 31, 2021

In accordance with the ***Governor's Executive Order (GEO) of 0.31.21.01***, NYBSA shall implement measures which mitigate the exposures and spread of Covid-19. This plan will outline how NYBSA will comply with the necessary requirements found in the current GEO.

Person to person contact will be managed by following social distancing guidelines outlined by National, State, and Local authorities and the CDC. We are mandating that Team Managers follow the NYBSA Covid-19 Operating Procedures for all practices, games, and similar team events.

Approved signage, provided by Gwinnett County, will be posted at fields and other facility spaces indicating that individuals who have symptoms of COVID-19 shall not enter.

Field usage will be limited to current, NYBSA-approved teams only and must work within the scheduling guidelines outlined in the NYBSA Covid-19 Operating Procedures. Fields will remain closed when not in use by NYBSA-approved teams to prevent mass gatherings or unauthorized field usage outside of NYBSA scheduled events.

The concession facility reserves the right to open. In order to operate, vendors must follow all items outlined in Section IV: Restaurants & Dining Services of GEO 03.31.21.01. These regulations must be printed and posted inside of the concessions stand.

We are recommending that attendance be limited to immediate family members (parents & siblings) only. All attendees must abide by social distancing guidelines outlined in the NYBSA Covid-19 Operating Procedures.

NYBSA will honor these guidelines, effective March 31, 2021, with approval of the plan from Gwinnett County. All players, coaches, and parents must review NYBSA Covid-19 Operating Procedures, sign the waiver of liability, and are required to abide by all additional National, State, Local, and CDC guidelines, as applicable.

The health and safety of the NYBSA community is of most importance to the association. The Board is communicating weekly to discuss the latest events, updates, concerns, recommendations, etc., and has developed a Task Force to manage the development and execution of the NYBSA Covid-19 Operating Procedures. These procedures are fluid, and we are committed to updating them as needed.

COVID-19 Operating Procedures for Participating Teams

I. Use of Pinckneyville Park & Collins Field

- All Team Managers, Assistant Coaches, and players must sign an updated NYBSA waiver before participating in practices, games, or other activities associated with NYBSA registered teams – no exceptions. The updated waiver is included in the online registration, and no additional action is required.
- If a player or a family member of a player exhibits symptoms of COVID-19, such as fever, cough, sore throat, loss of smell, or shortness of breath, the player shall stay home, alert the Team Manager, and not participate in baseball or softball activities associated with registered NYBSA teams until the player has been cleared to do so by his/her treating physician.
- If a Team Manager, Assistant Coach, or family member exhibits symptoms of COVID-19, such as fever, cough, sore throat, loss of smell, or shortness of breath, the Team Manager and/or Assistant Coach shall stay home, alert the respective League Commissioner, and not participate in baseball or softball activities associated with NYBSA registered teams until the Team Manager and/or Assistant Coach has been cleared to do so by his/her treating physician.
- Team Managers and/or Assistant Coaches shall send any player exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 home immediately and shall promptly notify the team's respective League Commissioner regarding such an event.
- It is recommended that only the player and one (1) parent/guardian attend practices.
- It is recommended that only the player, parent/guardians, and siblings attend games.
- For the parent/guardian and siblings that attend, they should not congregate around the teams and must maintain at least 6 feet between themselves and other attendees in accordance with current social distancing guidelines.
- Before EVERY team activity, the Team Manager and Assistant Coaches shall ask the team how they are feeling, encourage honest answers, and address the importance of social distancing during team activities. Furthermore, the Team Manager and Assistant Coaches shall remind the players not to touch their face during practice. If the Team Manager or Assistant Coaches notice any symptoms, such as repeated coughing during a practice, the Team Manager or Assistant Coaches shall remove that player from practice and send that player and the respective player's family members home.
- The Team Manager and Assistant Coaches shall structure team activities to maintain a minimum distance of 6 feet between the players and the coaches at all times.
- The Team Manager and Assistant Coaches shall additionally enforce the rules outlined below and shall immediately address players and/or spectators breaking any of the rules.
- The Team Manager, Assistant Coaches, parents, guardians, and players are required to provide and bring their own hand sanitizer for use during team activities. The Team Manager and Assistant Coaches shall ensure that all players and coaches sanitize their hands before team activities, breaks in play, and before leaving the field at the end of team activities.
- Players and Coaches are the only approved people allowed in the dugouts. The Team Manager and Assistant Coaches shall ensure that players load and unload the dugouts. No parents, Team helper's, etc. are not permitted in the dugouts at any time.
- There shall be no handshakes, fist bumps, elbows, hand stacking or any other contact between players and coaches, including team huddles/meetings.

- Teams shall refrain from community snack food or anything that requires hand-to-mouth contact or spitting, such as gum, peanuts, and sunflower seeds during team activities.
- There shall be no sharing equipment, including catcher's equipment, gloves, helmets, and bats.
- There shall be no drills held with players standing in line less than 6 feet apart.
- The Team Manager and Assistant Coaches are encouraged to develop practice plans to include smaller groups and to rotate stations to limit larger groups.
- Batting cages shall be limited to one coach and one player with no lines. The batting cage coach shall pick up all balls and sanitize hands afterwards. A player is not permitted to touch the baseballs while in cage.
- Bullpens shall have a maximum of 3 people - the pitcher, the coach, and the catcher, and the players and coaches shall endeavor to remain at least 6 feet apart from one another at all times.
- Players are not required to wear facemasks while on the field.
- It is "highly" encouraged, but not required for players are to wear facemasks while on the bench and not currently in the action of the game.
- The Team Manager and Assistant Coaches are required to wear facemasks at all times.
- The Team Manager and Assistant Coaches are encouraged to wipe/disinfect all baseballs after each team activity.
- Spectators, players, and coaches shall not congregate before or after team activities. A minimum of 15 minutes should be scheduled between practices/games taking place on a specific field to avoid cross-contamination between teams. The Team Manager and Assistant Coaches must be mindful of ending team activities on time to allow for team transitions if a practice occurs after their practice.
- Spectators are "highly" encouraged, but not required, to wear facemasks.
- The restrooms at Dan Watts Park will remain closed. Restroom access and maintenance at Pinckneyville Park will be determined by Gwinnett County.
- The Team Manager and Assistant Coaches must send an email to the team's respective League Commissioner self-reporting any issues that occur during practices/games.

To help in our efforts, we ask for your cooperation in a few areas:

1. Please refrain from coming to practice or games if you experience any cold or flu-like symptoms.
2. Please be diligent about your player's health and personal hygiene.
3. If you have been in direct contact with someone who tested presumptive positive, please follow the [CDC guidelines](#) and refrain from bringing yourself, family or players to team activities until the designated time period has passed.

II. Travel Tournaments / Travel Games

- The Team Manager shall carefully review game/tournament requirements before registering and agreeing to participate. Tournament location, rules, and safety requirements shall be shared with and approved by each player's family prior to registration so that families understand the risks of participation and can make a decision on whether they would like their player to participate in that tournament. We also require that the Travel Commissioner be notified in advance of your plans to register and play in any tournament that is not included as one of the following pre-approved event sponsors: Perfect Game (PG), Prep Baseball Report (PBR), Travel Ball Select (TBS), Training Legends

(TL), Southern Sports Productions (SSP), RBI Tournaments (RBI), Triple Crowne Tournaments (TC), Grand Slam Baseball (GS); and United States Specialty Sports Association (USSSA).

III. Third-Party Training Facilities (NSTA, D-BAT, and similar training facilities)

The Team Manager shall ensure that team practices that are held at third-party practice facilities, such as NSTA or D-BAT, are conducted in keeping with the intent of these operating procedures and shall follow all policies and procedures established by said third-party facilities for the health and safety of our players and their families.