



CITY OF ROCKVILLE RETURN TO PLAY – TEENS KICKBALL LEAGUE

The Department has adjusted its field permit guidelines during COVID-19. This document provides important details as to those changes and some league playing rules or protocol changes in response to the league survey.

- Please be vigilant in preventing the spread of the COVID-19 virus by practicing good hygiene as recommended by CDC guidelines. CDC guidelines can be found here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>
- Please stay home if you are experiencing any signs or symptoms of COVID-19 or if you have been exposed to someone who has had signs or symptoms of COVID-19. Please see CDC guidelines for specific COVID-19 symptoms.
- Players and game officials, please check your temperature prior to leaving for scheduled game on a City of Rockville field. If your temperature is 100 degrees or higher, you are not permitted to participate in an activity on a City of Rockville field for a minimum of 14 days. You may, however, return sooner if you have a Doctor's note for return to play.
- As per the CDC: If you are immunocompromised, the best way to prevent COVID-19 is to avoid being exposed to the virus. We strongly urge you to consider the risk that you would be taking by participating in a game on City of Rockville fields, as you will be putting your health at risk. Therefore, you may consider not participating in games at this time.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) offers general guidelines and recommendations for the public on how to limit the spread of COVID-19. They currently include:

- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces and exercise equipment including balls
- Thoroughly wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol
- Wear a cloth face covering that covers your nose and mouth in public settings
- Stay at least 6-feet away from non-household members
- Cover mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing
- Stay at home if you are sick

Teens Kickball Leagues Re-Start Precautions:

Coaches and Players:

- During the league games a “station” will and needs to be assigned for each player to place their equipment, and that they should return to during breaks. We recommend players bringing a lawn chair to allow for adequate social distancing.
- Each player must utilize their own equipment. During games, the City will provide a sanitized ball that will be disinfected before, during and after each game.
- No one is to share water, towels, or any personal equipment.
- No centralized hydration or refreshment stations
- Eliminate pregame coaches conference or conduct meeting while maintaining physical distance
- Recommend players, coaches and officials sanitize hands during game breaks. The City of Rockville will provide hand sanitizer to each field during gameplay.
- Eliminate pregame plate conference or conduct meeting while maintaining physical distance.
- If more than 1 (one) player is in the dugout for longer than 1 (one) minute, all players in the dugout area must wear their masks.
- Recommend players and umpires sanitize hands between innings. The City of Rockville will provide hand sanitizer to each dugout during gameplay.
- Teams arriving for their scheduled game should wait outside of field gates / venue until teams from previous game vacate the area. End of game, players must leave the field area immediately.
- No team/player handshakes, no team/player high fives, and no group gatherings between teams on the field. Try to keep social distancing between teams. Ask team members to tip caps, wave, team cheer etc –from across the field –after a game.

Spectators:

- No spectators are allowed at games during Phase I.
- Spectators at game during Phase II-III are allowed, but we encourage all spectators to remain home. If spectators must come to games, we will allow one parent to join their child, but must maintain six feet of distance between themselves and others, and they must always keep face coverings on during City of Rockville games.
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Face Covering Guidelines:

- Coaches, spectator, and officials must always wear a mask or face covering while on City property. This includes walking to/from their car to the field, while on the sideline and especially when 6 ft social distancing is not possible.
- Players must wear a mask or face covering when they are not actively participating in a game. This includes, walking to/from their car to the field, while on breaks during practice and while on the sideline during games, especially when 6ft social distancing is not possible
- Extra Home Plate for Base Runner
 - Extra home plate for base runner to use located on the rearward extension of the 1st base foul line at a distance of 8 feet from the rearmost corner of the regular home plate.
 - Commit Line - A line 3 feet long shall be marked perpendicular to the foul line halfway between 3rd base and home plate.
 - All plays at home is a force out play.

- If a runner advancing toward home plate touches the commit line or the ground beyond it, *he cannot return to 3rd base*. A runner who re-crosses the commit line shall be called out automatically. A runner who left the base before an outfielder touches a fly ball, crossed the commit line, and touched alternate home plate can be declared out on appeal.
- **Scoring:** The play at home is always a force play regardless of the number of runners on base. To score, a runner must touch the extra home plate before the catcher touches the regular home plate while in possession of the ball. *Under no circumstances shall the catcher tag or attempt to tag the runner with the ball* (violation shall result in the runner being declared safe.) A runner who touches or jumps over any portion of the regular home plate or pitching mat shall be declared out. In the event of an errant throw the runner attempting to score must avoid collision with the catcher attempting to field the ball.
- **Arguing or not adhering to any City of Rockville distancing rules will result in a technical out for your team. If your team receives 3 technical outs during the course of a night for not adhering to distancing rules, your team will forfeit all games played that night.**

Source

[Centers for Disease Control \(CDC\)](#)

[National Council Youth Sports](#)

[USA Softball](#)

[USSSA Softball](#)