



MEMORANDUM- COVID-19 as of March 13, 2020 at 4:00 PM

The following plan is provided as a guide to assist members and staff in ensuring appropriate safety protocols are followed with respect to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Currently Softball BC has, with the assistance and guidance of Softball Canada and BC health authorities, taken the following steps:

- Guidelines and education on ways to minimize your risk of becoming infected or of passing the virus to others
- Hygiene standards to be followed when conducting clinics or meetings
- Suspension of travel to the USA under Softball BC sanction
- **Cancellation of gatherings of 250 people or more, including indoor and outdoor softball activities, conferences, meetings, or other similar events. Events which would fall under this restriction include any tournament hosting at least 12 teams in one park over a weekend. It is reasonable to assume 250 people would gather at one time in that scenario. It also includes any Opening Day plans for associations with a membership of 100 or more athletes, where, again, it would be reasonable to assume 250 people would gather at some point in one venue.**

The Softball BC board and staff are reviewing and preparing contingency plans for upcoming Softball BC activities through the season, including coach and umpire clinics, Team BC programmes, and sanctioned events such as tournaments and regular season play. We are considering a variety of options with the health and personal safety of the softball community being our overriding consideration. I'm sure you will agree these are unsettling times that require leadership and flexibility in order to navigate our way.

We will continue to update the Softball BC community membership on any changes as they arise. With the season ready to start very soon in greater Vancouver and Vancouver Island, and Icebreaker tournaments scheduled, we are creating a contingency plan should any of those events be cancelled. Softball associations and teams should be aware of this, as we recognize there are financial implications for host and teams for the tournaments.

For more information:

The [British Columbia Centre for Disease Control](#) provides updates and helpful information on their website.

[Guidance on mass gatherings](#)

[Common questions about COVID-19](#) from Healthlink BC

Recommendations on [protecting yourself and your community](#).

[COVID-19 pandemic preparedness and planning materials](#)

Sincerely,

Rick Benson, Executive Director