



BASEBALL SASK

2021 RETURN TO TRAIN & PLAY PROTOCOL

MAY 30, 2021



NOTE: ALL UPDATES IN THIS RELEASE WILL BE HIGHLIGHTED IN YELLOW

UPDATE ON THE UPCOMING BASEBALL SEASON IN SASKATCHEWAN

What a crazy past 12 months that we have had trying to navigate our day-to-day activities amidst the Covid-19 pandemic. Fortunately, in 2020, we were eventually able to play the great game that we love. We are all crossing our fingers that we are able to do the same in 2021. Last year proved that we can all do what it takes, and we will be ready to do so again.

We are looking forward to starting our baseball season with games allowed to start on Sunday, May 30, 2021.

Plans are underway for our 2021 Provincial Championships as well with the dates released earlier this week. We just need approval for tournaments to be approved hopefully in the coming weeks.

Once we receive further details from the Government of Saskatchewan and Saskatchewan Health Authority, we will be sure to keep our membership updated in this document.

For the time being, please see detailed below what is and is not currently allowed based on the Re-Open Saskatchewan Plan.

BASEBALL SASK OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

The Government of Saskatchewan has announced that public health measures around outdoor sporting activities will be eased as part of Step One of the Re-Opening Roadmap, set to commence on **Sunday, May 30, 2021**. Outdoor sports, originally included in Step Two of the Re-Opening Roadmap, will now be added to Step One. Easing of measures for indoor sports remains in Step Two of the Re-Opening Roadmap.

The adjustment to the Re-Opening Roadmap is being made recognizing the lowered risk of transmission in outdoor settings along with the successful uptake in Saskatchewan's COVID-19 vaccination effort in reducing the transmission of the virus.

Beginning **May 30, 2021**, competition and game play for outdoor team sports can proceed with the following requirements:

- Participants may not compete if they are feeling unwell.
- Players and coaches should be encouraged to screen for COVID-19 symptoms prior to arriving to practice and play, using the [self-assessment tool](#)
- League play is allowed to resume; however, tournaments are not permitted at this time. This will be revisited in Step Two of the Re-Opening Roadmap.
- **No interprovincial travel.** Teams competing in regional interprovincial leagues need to contact the Business Response Team prior to beginning play.

- Capacity must be in compliance with the public health order for public outdoor gatherings for each playing surface or game area. Public outdoor gatherings are set to expand to a limit of 150 people on May 30 as part of the Re-Opening Roadmap. Common areas, such as those where there are multiple playing surfaces, must also be in compliance with gathering limits in the public health order.
- The 150 public outdoor gathering does not include anyone on the field of play (players, coaches or umpires).
- Individual and protective equipment should not be shared. When helmets and bats or other equipment are shared, cleaning and disinfecting must occur between each use.
- Commonly touched equipment used for game play (e.g. game ball, bat) is routinely replaced or disinfected during the course of practice or play. It may be a good idea that the defensive teams provide their own game balls. This way only their teams will be touching the baseballs.
- Coaches, officials, umpires, referees and players who are not on the field are not required to wear masks outdoors under the public health order. However, masks may be worn if they are more comfortable with that layer of protection.
- No shaking hands, high-fives, etc.
- Spectators not from the same household should maintain two metres of physical distancing.
- Spectators must remain in designated areas. Masks are not required to be worn outdoors under the public health order, but they may be worn if spectators are more comfortable with that layer of protection.
- Hand sanitizer approved by Health Canada (DIN or NPN) or soap and water handwashing stations should be available for participants and spectators.
- No sharing of water bottles.
- Public washrooms, when available, are cleaned and disinfected regularly, and soap and water or hand sanitizer is available.
- Contact information of the coaches, officials and players should be recorded by the home team and maintained in order to assist with contact tracing for 30 days in the case of a confirmed case of COVID-19.

However, depending on where you are located, you will need to contact your local Minor Ball Club to see what their position is on Outdoor Training and Games. Based on the local Covid-19 situation, they may not be in a position to allow this yet and they will make the decisions at the local level.

BASEBALL SASK OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

Large Floor Spaces (i.e. high school gym or large indoor facility) can be used for multiple groups of individuals for the purpose of conditioning and training if the following requirements are met:

- Physical distancing of five metres between groups of participants, and three metres for high intensity and two metres for low intensity activities between participants is maintained.
- Barriers/markings for other surfaces are required to prevent interaction and physical contact between groups of participants.
- Each group is limited to eight participants or less.

- Maximum number in the facility is 30, not including coaches and staff.
- Area is well ventilated.
- Groups are managed to avoid queuing or crowding (e.g. start and end times must be staggered between groups to prevent larger numbers in change rooms and walkways).
- Individual groups of eight (8) participants or less may share a surface with other groups of eight (8) participants or less if they maintain 5 meters of physical distancing between the groups. Individual groups of eight (8) must remain in their own group throughout the training session and they must all wear a mask (players and coaches).

Guidelines for General Operation

- Designate one or more people to be responsible for ensuring compliance with these guidelines. This should not be someone engaged in other critical duties (e.g. coach, manager, instructor).
- Signage should be posted to caution patrons about the risks of COVID-19.
- Encourage patrons to limit their time spent in the facility, as well as maintain physical distancing when returning to their vehicles or homes.
- Spectator maximum capacity for the facility is 150 people as long as two metres of physical distancing can be maintained from other members of the public not included in their household group.
- Discourage gatherings of spectators in common areas.
- Spectators (excluding parents and guardians where necessary for player support) **MUST** be kept out of participant spaces (e.g. fields of play, courts, bench areas, change rooms).

Participant Health and Illness

- Patrons/staff who are sick or symptomatic must not enter/participate. Participants, spectators and volunteers should use the Government of Saskatchewan's self-assessment tool for COVID-19 and follow the subsequent directions.
- Participants, coaches, instructors and spectators should continuously self-monitor.
- Organizers must keep a record of attendees. All players, spectators, staff and volunteers should be provided with a sign-in on arrival option, with name, phone number and/or email to facilitate contact tracing, if necessary. Records of attendance must be retained for a minimum of one month. Where possible, do not use a common pen. Providing this information is voluntary for attendees and can only be used for the purposes of COVID-19 contact tracing.
- If a person becomes sick, they should immediately stop participating and return home.
- If a person becomes sick or injured, and first aid or further care is required:
 - Try to limit the number of individuals in contact with the sick person.
 - Place a mask over the individual's mouth and nose if they are not able to do so. Maintain a safe distance until the mask is in place.
- First aid providers caring for people should follow standard precautions. Those who provide direct care requiring close or direct contact should wear a mask.
- Following care, first aid providers should discard the mask and gloves following standard procedures and perform hand hygiene.

Cleaning, Disinfection and Hand Hygiene (Indoor and Outdoor)

- Increase the frequency of cleaning and disinfecting of commonly touched surfaces and shared equipment, such as vending machines, water fountain handles, doorknobs, handrails, light switches, countertops, tables, equipment handles and consoles.
- All frequently touched surfaces should be cleaned and disinfected prior to a new group being provided access to field space, including benches, dugouts, bleachers, railings, picnic areas, gates, etc.
- Encourage participants to bring their own equipment to the facility.
- Participant-owned equipment, including sport gloves, should be visibly clean.
- Shared equipment (e.g. baseball gloves, baseballs, bats, etc.) must be disinfected frequently.
- Participants should clean their hands before and after using shared equipment
- Hand hygiene should be performed prior to play and contacting shared equipment, as well as through the duration of the activity (i.e. intermissions, breaks, etc.) and at the end.

****NOTE****

The information in this document may change at any time based on any new updates made by the Government of Saskatchewan and Saskatchewan Health Authority. The most recent version will be dated on the cover page of this document.

The latest information will always be found in the link below from the Baseball Sask website:

<https://www.baseballsask.ca/about/return-to-train-and-play-covid-19>