



POST COVID-19 Return-to-Play Guidelines - Slowpitch Softball

1. Follow all local and state guidelines for facilities and events.
2. All players will be required to sign a NEW waiver prior to resuming play.
3. Player contact will be minimized by eliminating team/player handshakes and team/player high fives. No group prayers between teams on the field. FSL, Inc. will create a plan to keep social distancing between teams in effect beyond the field of play. Other means of game celebrations and team sportsmanship at the end of games will be suggested. (e.g., ask players to tip their caps/visors, or have teams bow to each other from across the field).
4. Spectators will be encouraged to not attend events until gathering limitations have been increased or removed.
5. Play formats may be adjusted to ensure events stay within gathering limitations.
6. FSL, Inc. will distribute to all participants these protocols/restrictions prior to the start of any event to ensure the safety of all attending, including staff.
7. All staff, players, umpires and spectators are encouraged to continue social distancing on and off the field during an event.
8. All staff and umpires are required to wear a mask or face covering. Players and spectators are encouraged to wear a mask or other face covering until CDC, state and local authorities declare that masks are no longer recommended.
9. New softballs will remain in their original packaging until they need to be introduced into play. Used softballs will be disinfected between innings and prior to being introduced into play.
10. Teams will be required to clean their dugout of all trash and other items after each game.
11. Disinfectant will be provided in each dugout. Upon arriving at a dugout for the first time, teams are to disinfect hard surface areas (benches, bat racks, etc.). *Procedures #10 and #11 here will comply with the CDC recommendation of a two-step process for cleaning and disinfecting*
12. Dugout size will be increased, where possible, to allow for proper spacing. FSL, Inc. will recommend players stand outside the dugout to allow for social distancing, but will not be allowed onto the field of play or foul areas inside the fence line.
13. Players will be encouraged to bring individual water bottles.
14. Base coaches will NOT be allowed at any time.
15. FSL, Inc. will recommend staff, players, umpires and spectators bring hand sanitizing products.
16. One captain per team will conduct a pregame meeting at home plate. All involved will be required to keep 6 feet social distancing during ground rules and coin toss.
17. Line up cards will not be required.
18. FSL, Inc. will allow for adequate time in game scheduling to ensure adherence to social distancing during crossover of teams.
19. It is recommended that all players and umpires use their own equipment while participating. This includes gloves, bats, etc.
20. The catcher and umpire shall position themselves during a player's at-bat to allow for social distancing.
21. The head umpire will be the single point of contact for teams each game.
22. Sunflower seeds are not allowed at any time.
23. FSL, Inc. will educate all staff and umpires on its COVID-19 safety protocols.
24. FSL, Inc. will encourage all players, staff and umpires to stay home if they display symptoms or are sick.
25. In the event that FSL, Inc. is made aware that a player, staff or umpire tests positive for COVID-19, FSL, Inc. will inform the Georgia Department of Public Health to ensure the agency is aware and that contact tracing with required personal notifications is occurring.
26. FSL, Inc. will request permission from the infected individual to share their name with others who may have been in close contact. If such permission is not granted, the game day and time will be provided to others.