



# **COVID-19 Operating Playbook**

VERSION 03/19/2021

# Foreword

Waretown Thunder Parents,

First and foremost, we hope that you and your loved ones are safe and healthy. Moving forward, our highest priority remains the health, well-being and safety of our participants, families, volunteers, and fans.

The Waretown Thunder Softball Club is an all volunteer organization, dedicated to the development of girls youth sports, specifically, girls fast-pitch softball. We annually charter our teams and organization with Babe Ruth League, Inc.

We have received many questions from our parents about if and how COVID-19 will change this year's softball season. We know this outbreak has been stressful to many and recognize that exercising and participating in activities like sports can be a healthy way to cope with stress and connect with our community. After careful thought and planning, we are excited to let you know that our league plans to resume softball activities this Spring while following CDC considerations to protect players, families, and our community.

We have prepared our COVID-19 Playbook, a program preparation plan for resuming softball activities. The playbook addresses the most recent guidelines and requirements. We will, as needed throughout the season, update our COVID-19 Playbook, work cooperatively with our state, local governments and Babe Ruth League, make any required adjustments and communicate them to all our parents and players in a timely manner.

We ask that you take the time to review our COVID-19 Playbook, become familiar with our new policies and review them with your child before returning to the field. All parents/guardians are required to sign our waivers and bring them to your teams first practice. We encourage you to ask any questions and welcome your feedback regarding our new policies. By working together, with each parent and player doing their part, we can minimize risk and make our season as safe as possible for all involved.

If you have a specific question about this plan or COVID-19, please contact Darren Mooney, President WTSC, 609-312-1815 or Mark Houck, Vice President WTSC, 609-618-1987 for more information. You can also find more information about COVID-19 at [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov).

Sincerely,  
Darren Mooney  
President WTSC

# Index

Foreword	2
Index	3
State of New Jersey Guidelines	4
Babe Ruth League Waiver	11
Township of Ocean Waiver	12
Township of Ocean Guidelines	16
Waretown Thunder Softball Club COVID-19 Program Preparation Plan	17
Health Screening Sheet	20
Playbook Checklist for Coaches	21
Youth Sports Fact Sheet	22



Guidance for Sports  
Activities

**March 18, 2021**

**Youth and Adult Sports Interstate Restrictions**

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 232 (2021), all interstate outdoor games and tournaments for youth sports, up to and including high school, are permitted as of March 19, 2021. Interstate youth sports competition includes any sports game, scrimmage, tournament, or similar competition that is conducted outdoors with opposing teams or individuals from different states competing against each other and which would require an opposing team or individual to travel from a state outside of New Jersey.

These outdoor competitions are subject to the gatherings limit for non-professional, non-collegiate sports activities, as most recently laid out in Executive Order No. 232. Masking and social distancing should be followed by all athletes (when not actively participating in activity), coaches, referees, trainers, and spectators.

All athletes, coaches, trainers, spectators and others who travel outside of the state and immediate region should follow current travel guidance related to quarantine.

**The restriction on indoor interstate youth competitions remains in effect.** The interstate ban for indoor sports also prohibits out-of-state teams from hosting competitions in the state. This order includes school, recreation, club, and travel teams.

In addition, New Jersey, Maine, Rhode Island, New Hampshire, Vermont, Connecticut, and Massachusetts have extended a regional commitment to suspend interstate hockey competitions for public and private schools and youth hockey through at least March 31, 2021.

**Summary**

*This "Guidance for Sports Activities" published by the New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH) is intended to guide organizations that oversee sports activities as they resume operations to ensure the health and safety of staff, participants, and their families. The Guidance address skill-building drills and team-based practices as described in the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\) Guidance on Youth Sports](#).*

*This guidance document does not apply to professional or collegiate sports activities or US national team activities.*

*High school sporting activities under the jurisdiction of the New Jersey Interscholastic Athletic Association (NJSIAA) must abide by NJSIAA protocols, which shall consider NJDOH guidance. Club, recreation, and travel teams must follow NJDOH guidance to ensure the safety of athletes and others involved in the sport.*

*The public health data on which this document is based can and do change frequently. Organizers should check back frequently for updates. NJDOH also encourages organizers to keep informed of guidance from the CDC, which may change regularly.*



**Sports program operators must abide by the following risk assessment chart:**

<u>Risk Level</u>	<u>Examples</u>	<u>Permissible Activities</u>	<u>Prohibited Activities</u>
High risk - Sports that involve close, sustained contact between participants	Rugby, boxing, judo, karate, taekwondo, wrestling, pair figure skating, football, group dance, group cheer.	Indoor and Outdoor Practices and Competitions, Outdoor interstate competitions	Indoor interstate youth competitions, as defined in EO 194
Medium Risk - Sports that involve some close, sustained contact, but with protective equipment in place between participants OR intermittent close contact OR group sports OR sports that use equipment that cannot be cleaned between participants.	Lacrosse, hockey, multi-person rowing, multi-person kayaking, multi-person canoeing, water polo, swimming relays, fencing, cycling in a group, running in a close group, group sailing, volleyball, soccer, basketball, baseball/softball, short track.	Indoor and Outdoor Practices and Competitions, Outdoor interstate competitions	Indoor interstate youth competitions, as defined in EO 194
Low Risk - Sports that can be done individually, do not involve person-to-person contact and do not routinely entail individuals interacting within six feet of one another	Archery, shooting/clay target, individual running events, individual cycling events, individual swimming, individual rowing, individual diving, equestrian jumping or dressage, golf, individual sailing, weightlifting, skiing, snowboarding, tennis, individual dance, pole vault, high jump, long jump, marathon, triathlon, cross country, track and field, disc golf, badminton.	Indoor and Outdoor Practices and Competitions, Outdoor interstate competitions	Indoor interstate youth competitions, as defined in EO 194



## **Guidance for Operations**

Outdoor and Indoor Sports and Athletic Facilities Organizations, businesses, schools, and government entities that operate outdoor and indoor sports facilities, such as athletic fields, courts and other playing surfaces, pools, and sailing and boating facilities that are permitted to reopen their premises and facilities to adult sports and supervised youth sport leagues, summer sports camps, and other athletic activities should follow the safety measures outlined below. As a reminder, municipalities retain the discretion to open or close municipal fields or facilities.

### **1. Preparing a Sports Program for Practices**

- a. Each sports program shall create a plan (“program preparation plan”) to ensure the following:
  - i. Identify adult staff members or volunteers to help remind coaches, players and staff of social distancing. Use of signs, tapes or physical barriers can be used to assist with guiding social distancing requirements.
  - ii. Within the program, consider creating consistent groups of the same staff, volunteers, and athletes, and avoid mixing between groups.
  - iii. Individuals shall remain 6 feet apart from one another whenever possible. This applies to athletes, coaching staff, and referees, as well as parents/guardians and other spectators to the extent they are permitted.
  - iv. Coaching staff and any parents/guardians that are permitted to attend must wear cloth or disposable masks. Athletes must wear cloth or disposable masks when not engaging in vigorous activity, such as when sitting on the bench, when interacting with an athletic trainer, etc. Face masks are not required when persons are engaged in high intensity aerobic or anaerobic activities. Face masks should **not** be worn when engaged in activities that may cause the cloth face covering to become wet, like when swimming, or when doing so may endanger the individual’s health. When face masks are not worn, efforts should be made to maintain at least 6 feet from others.
  - v. Create staggered schedules to limit contact between groups and/or players.
  - vi. Limit the use of carpools or van pools. When riding in an automobile to a sports event, encourage players to ride to the sports event with persons living in their same household.
  - vii. All staff should be educated on COVID-19 health and safety protocols prior to the resumption of athletic activities, including:
    1. Revised practice rules and regulations in place during COVID-19;
    2. The importance of staying home when experiencing symptoms of COVID- 19 or residing with someone experiencing symptoms of COVID- 19;
    3. Social distancing and facecoverings;
    4. Proper hand hygiene;



5. How to address a situation in which an athlete presents with symptoms of COVID-19; and
  6. How do address situations in which social distancing or other necessary requirements are challenged by athletes or parents/guardians/visitors.
- viii. Educate athletes and coaching staff about when they should stay home and when they can return to activity.
1. Actively encourage sick staff, families, and players to stay home. Develop policies that encourage sick employees to stay at home without fear of reprisal, and ensure employees are aware of these policies.
  2. [Individuals, including coaches, players, and families, should stay home](#) if they have tested positive for or are showing COVID-19 [symptoms](#).
  3. Individuals, including coaches, players, and families, who have recently had a [close contact](#) with a person with COVID-19 should also [stay home and monitor their health](#).
  4. Immediately separate coaches, staff, officials, and athletes with COVID- 19 symptoms at any sports activity. Individuals who have had close contact with a person who has symptoms should be separated and sent home as well, and follow [CDC guidance for community-related exposure](#).
  5. Establish procedures for safely transporting anyone who is sick to their home or to a healthcare facility.
- ix. All athletes, coaches, and staff should bring their own water and drinks to practice activities. Team water coolers for sharing through disposable cups and other types of shared water sources should not be permitted
- x. Encourage athletes to use their own equipment to the extent possible.
- xi. Discourage sharing of equipment as much as possible. If equipment is shared, coaching staff should be aware of the sanitation procedures for team equipment (balls, bats, etc.) and sufficient disinfecting wipes or similar products should be made available. Consult CDC guidance for cleaning and disinfection.
- xii. Individually partitioned showers or communal showers with installed barriers/partitions (at least 6 feet apart) are only permitted in facilities with pools (in accordance with the NJAC 8:26, Public Recreational Bathing). Locker room use will otherwise be limited to hand washing and restroom use only. If facility showers are to be used, ensure signage is in place to reminding athletes to maintain proper physical distancing of 6 feet.
- b. Communicate applicable details of the plan to parents/guardians and/or participants before commencing practices.
  - c. Organizers should further consult and implement, as appropriate, recommendations listed in the CDC guidance regarding assessing risk, promoting healthy behaviors, and maintaining a healthy environment during youth sports.



## **2. Preparing an Indoor or Outdoor Facility for Sports Practices**

- a. Each facility that will be used for practices must:
  - i. Post signage in highly visible locations with reminders regarding social distancing protocols, face covering requirements, and good hygiene practices (e.g., hand hygiene, covering coughs);
  - ii. Reduced crowding and enforce proper social distancing around entrances, exits, and other high-traffic areas of the facility;
  - iii. Ensure routine and frequent cleaning and disinfecting, particularly of high-touch surfaces in accordance with CDC recommendations;
  - iv. Limit occupancy in restrooms that remain open to avoid over-crowding, maintain social distancing through signage and, where practicable, utilize attendants to monitor capacity; and
  - v. Have hand sanitizer, disinfecting wipes, soap and water, or other sanitizing materials readily available at entrances, exits, benches, dugouts, and any other area prone to gathering or high traffic.
  - vi. On any given field or space, there must be sufficient space between designated groups to prevent any interaction between the groups.
- b. Indoor facilities should ensure appropriate indoor air/ventilation by:
  - i. Keeping doors and windows open where possible and utilize fans to improve ventilation.
  - ii. Inspect and evaluate the heating, ventilation and conditioning (HVAC) unit to ensure that the system is operating within its design specifications and according to existing building code standards.
  - iii. Conducting routine maintenance as recommended by the manufacturer or HVAC professional.
  - iv. Within the design specification of the HVAC unit:
    - 1. Increasing the volume of outdoor air to the maximum capacity while the gym is occupied.
    - 2. Reducing the volume of recirculated air being returned to the indoor spaces
    - 3. Increasing the volume of air being delivered to the indoor spaces to the maximum capacity
    - 4. Selecting maximum filtration levels for the HVAC unit.
    - 5. Ensuring that the HVAC unit runs continuously while the facility is occupied.
    - 6. Ensuring that the HVAC unit runs for at least two hours before and two hours after the facility is occupied.
    - 7. Considering installing portable air cleaners equipped with a high efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filter to increase the amount of clean air within the facility.
    - 8. Reviewing and following the latest CDC guidance for ventilation requirements.



### 3. Conducting Sports Practices

- a. All athletes, coaches, staff and others participating in practices and competitions must be screened, via temperature check and/or health questionnaire<sup>1</sup>, at the beginning of each session. Players, coaches, staff, and volunteers showing symptoms of COVID-19 **shall not** be permitted to participate. If any individual develops symptoms of COVID-19 during the activity, they should promptly inform organizers and **must** be removed from the activity and instructed to return home.
- b. Coaches, staff, visitors and athletes will be required to abide by the gatherings/ limitations as set forth in Executive Orders and/or Administrative Orders in effect at the time of competition.
- c. Encourage practice activities that do not involve sustained person-to-person contact between athletes and/or coaching staff and limit such activities in indoor settings. For example, focus on individual skill-building activities.
- d. Adhere to precautions outlined in the program preparation plan.
- e. Ensure that athletes and coaches adhere to social distancing while not actively involved in practice activities (on the bench, in the dugout, etc.). Consider assigning coaching staff to monitor sideline social distancing.
- f. If any equipment is provided by the operator, operators must minimize equipment sharing and clean and disinfect shared equipment at the end of a practice session using a product from the list of disinfectants meeting EPA criteria for use against the novel coronavirus. Do not permit athletes to share food, beverages, water bottles, towels, pinnies, gloves, helmets or any other equipment or materials that is involved in direct bodily contact.
- g. Consider dividing larger teams into smaller groups and staggering practices at different times or across different days.
- h. Limit any nonessential visitors, spectators, staff, volunteers, vendors, members of the media, and activities involving external groups or organizations as much as possible. Visitors and spectators should wear face masks at all times, unless doing so would inhibit the individual's health or the individual is under the age of two.
- i. Where they are permitted, operators are encouraged to mark off spectator/chaperone viewing sites to allow for social distancing. Visitors showing symptoms of COVID-19 shall not be permitted to attend.
- j. Restrict spitting, handshakes, high-fives, team huddles, and any other close- contacting activities.

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<sup>1</sup> Examples of appropriate screening documents can be accessed at <https://www.cdc.gov/screening/paper-version.pdf> (CDC screener), or [https://www.njsiaa.org/sites/default/files/documents/2020-10/covid-19-screening-questions\\_0.pdf](https://www.njsiaa.org/sites/default/files/documents/2020-10/covid-19-screening-questions_0.pdf) (NJSIAA screener).



#### 4. Preparing for games and tournaments

Competitions, tournaments, invitationals, and other activities or events that involve interaction between athletes from the same team or between teams, while permitted, carry [significant risks](#) that operators, towns, coaches, parents and others should carefully consider before proceeding. If participating in or organizing a competition, tournament, or invitational:

- a. Follow protocols listed above under “conducting sports practices.”
- b. Coaches, staff, visitors and athletes will be required to comply with the gathering limitations, as set forth in Executive Directives and Administrative Orders, in effect at the time of competition.
- c. Concession stands should meet the requirements for indoor and outdoor dining outlined in the applicable Executive Orders and Executive Directives.
- d. Consider social distancing requirements when scheduling contests and events. Social distancing will need to be maintained on buses/vans. Thus, multiple buses/vans and/or individual parent/guardian transportation will likely be required. Games should be scheduled at intervals that allow for proper sanitation of facilities and equipment following each game.

#### Additional notes:

- **Contract Tracing/Public Health Investigation:** Operators, coaches, participants, and others engaging in sports activities must cooperate with local health departments (LHDs) on contact tracing. Contact tracing is the process used to identify those who have come into contact with people who have tested positive for many contagious diseases, including COVID-19. It is a long-standing practice and is an integral function of LHDs. Given that club sports teams and recreational sports teams are comprised of students enrolled in local school districts, it will be necessary for both club/recreational youth sports staff and school district staff, including but not limited to administrators, school nurses, school safety specialists, counselors, and any other staff deemed appropriate by the school district, to collaborate with and assist LHDs with contact tracing in the event of illness of a player, coach, referee, athletic trainer, and/or anyone else involved with a sports team/group. Additionally, all school districts and club/recreational youth sports staff should collaborate with LHDs to develop contact tracing policies and procedures, as well as identify the best methods to educate the broader school and youth sports community on the importance of the public health investigation and contact tracing.
- **Behavior of the athletes off the field.** Athletes who do not consistently adhere to social distancing (staying at least 6 feet apart), mask wearing, handwashing, and other prevention behaviors pose more risk to the team than those who consistently practiced these safety measures. Operators and coaches should encourage all participants to abide by applicable infection control protocols outside of the sports activity.
- **Testing of participants.** Testing is recommended if an athlete, coach, or other team member is sick, was exposed to a person who has COVID-19 or had “close contact” with an individual. Any further testing recommendations are dependent on the re-evaluation of the state’s testing priorities.



# AMATEUR ATHLETIC WAIVER AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY

## READ BEFORE SIGNING

In consideration of being allowed to participate in any way in the Waretown Thunder Softball Club athletic sports program, related events and activities, the undersigned acknowledges, appreciates, and agrees that:

1. The risks of injury and illness (ex: communicable diseases such as MRSA, influenza, and COVID-19) from the activities involved in this program are significant, potentially life-threatening, and while particular rules, equipment, and personal discipline may reduce these risks, the risks of serious injury and illness do exist; and,
2. I KNOWINGLY AND FREELY ASSUME ALL SUCH RISKS, both known and unknown, EVEN IF ARISING FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASEES or others, and assume full responsibility for my participation; and,
3. I willingly agree to comply with the stated and customary terms and conditions for participation. If, however, I observe any unusual significant hazard during my presence or participation, I will remove myself from participation and bring such to the attention of the nearest official immediately; and,
4. I acknowledge that I am aware that there are risks to me of exposure to directly or indirectly arising out of, contributed to, by, or resulting from:
  - An outbreak of any and all communicable disease, including but not limited to, the virus “severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2)”, which is responsible for Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) and/or any mutation or variation thereof;
5. In consideration of having the opportunity to participate as either a team member or competitor at location, and in acknowledging that I am aware of and willing to assume the risks associated with this activity, I hereby voluntarily agree to waive, hold harmless and indemnify The Waretown Thunder Softball Club, Babe Ruth League, Inc. and its trustees, agents, volunteers and employees from any and all claims, demands, damages and causes of action of any nature whatsoever arising out of ordinary negligence which I, my heirs, my assigns or successors may have against them for, on account of, or by reason of my participation in the above activities. I indicate my agreement to this hold harmless elective noted below.

**I HAVE READ THIS RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK AGREEMENT, FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS TERMS, UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE GIVEN UP SUBSTANTIAL RIGHTS BY SIGNING IT, AND SIGN IT FREELY AND VOLUNTARILY WITHOUT ANY INDUCEMENT.**

Participant Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Participant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_

## **FOR PARTICIPANTS OF MINORITY AGE (UNDER AGE 18 AT THE TIME OF REGISTRATION)**

This is to certify that I, as parent/guardian with legal responsibility for this participant, have read and explained the provisions in this waiver/release to my child/ward including the risks of the activity and his/her responsibilities for adhering to the rules and regulations. Furthermore, my child/ward understands and accepts these risks and responsibilities. I for myself, my spouse, and child/ward do consent and agree to his/her release provided above for all the Releasees and myself, my spouse, and child/ward do release and agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Releasees from any and all liabilities incident to my minor child's/ward's involvement or participation in these activities as provided above, EVEN IF ARISING FROM THEIR NEGLIGENCE, to the fullest extent permitted by law.

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_

DATE SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Phone Number: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_



**ASSUMPTION OF RISK, RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY, AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT  
RELATING TO COVID-19 EXPOSURE, COVID-19 LIABILITY, AND COVID-19 RISKS**

*The persons to whom this Agreement applies are, as follows:*

Adult Participant Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Minor Participant Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Participant Age(s): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(If applicable) Name of Participant's Parent or Legal Guardian signing below: \_\_\_\_\_

IN CONSIDERATION for myself and/or my children listed above being permitted to utilize the services, utilize the facilities and/or participate in the programs of \_\_\_\_\_ (the "Organization"), including, but not limited to, observation or use of facilities or equipment, or participation in or acting as a spectator during any program affiliated with the Organization, the undersigned, on behalf of himself or herself and such participating children and any personal representatives, heirs, and next of kin (hereinafter referred to as "the undersigned") hereby acknowledges, agrees and represents that he or she has inspected and carefully considered such premises, equipment, and facilities and has considered the Organization's programs and that the undersigned finds and accepts same as being safe and reasonably suited for the use or participation by the undersigned and such participating children.

In addition, the undersigned acknowledges that novel coronavirus ("COVID-19") infections have been confirmed throughout the United States, including several cases in the undersigned's own State and locality. In accordance with the most recent guidance and recommendations issued by the World Health Organization (WHO), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), undersigned's own State's Department of Health (DOH) for slowing the transmission of COVID-19, the undersigned hereby agrees, represents, and warrants that neither the undersigned nor such participating children shall visit or utilize the facilities, services, and/or programs of the Organization (other than any exclusively online services and programs) within 14 days after (i) returning from highly impacted areas subject to a CDC Level 3 Travel Health Notice, (ii) exposure to any person returning from areas subject to a CDC Level 3 Travel Health Notice, or (iii) exposure to any person who has a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19. The CDC Travel Health Network is continuously updating this list and the undersigned agrees that they are aware of this list and the countries listed. The undersigned agrees to check on a daily basis the CDC Travel Health Notices list (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html>) prior to participating in or utilizing the facilities, services, and programs of the Organization. The undersigned hereby agrees, represents, and warrants that neither the undersigned nor such participating children shall participate in, visit or utilize the facilities, services, and/or programs of the Organization if he or she (i) experiences symptoms of COVID-19, including, without limitation, fever, cough, loss of sense of taste or smell, or shortness of breath, or (ii) has a suspected or diagnosed/confirmed case of COVID-19. The undersigned agrees to notify the

Organization immediately if he or she believes that any of the foregoing access/use restrictions may apply.

The Organization has taken certain steps to implement certain recommended guidance and recommendations issued by public health agencies for slowing the transmission of COVID-19, including, without limitation, the access/use restrictions set forth above. The undersigned acknowledges and agrees that the Organization may revise its procedures at any time based on updated recommended guidance and recommendations issued by public health agencies and further agrees to comply with the Organization's revised procedures prior to utilizing the facilities, services, and/or prior to participating in the programs of the Organization. The undersigned further acknowledges and agrees that, due to the nature of the facilities, services, and programs offered by the Organization, social distancing of 6 feet per person among children and their fellow participants or others is not always possible. The undersigned fully understands and appreciates both the known and potential dangers of participating in the programs and/or utilizing the facilities and services of the Organization and acknowledges that use thereof by the undersigned and/or such participating children may, despite the Organization's reasonable efforts to mitigate such dangers, result in exposure to COVID-19, which could result in quarantine requirements, serious illness, disability, and/or death.

IN FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF BEING PERMITTED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ORGANIZATION'S PROGRAMS, THE UNDERSIGNED HEREBY AGREES TO THE FOLLOWING:

THE UNDERSIGNED, ON HIS OR HER BEHALF AND ON BEHALF OF SUCH PARTICIPATING CHILDREN, HEREBY RELEASES, WAIVES, DISCHARGES AND COVENANTS NOT TO SUE the Organization or its national governing body organization, or any of their respective directors, officers, employees, volunteers and agents, or any of the fellow participants or their family members or guests from all liability to the undersigned or such participating children and all personal representatives, assigns, heirs, and next of kin of the undersigned or such participating children for any loss or damage, and any claim or demands on account of any property damage or any injury to, or an illness or the death of, the undersigned or such participating children (or any person who may contract COVID-19, directly or indirectly, from the undersigned or such participating children) *whether caused by the negligence, active or passive, of the Organization or otherwise while the undersigned or such participating children are in, upon, or about the premises or any facilities or using any equipment of or participating in any program of or affiliated with the Organization.* To the extent such statute applies, the undersigned also expressly and knowingly waives all rights under California Civil Code Section 1542, which provides: "A general release does not extend to claims that the creditor or releasing party does not know or suspect to exist in his or her favor at the time of executing the release and that, if known by him or her, would have materially affected his or her settlement with the debtor or released party."

THE UNDERSIGNED HEREBY AGREES TO INDEMNIFY, DEFEND AND HOLD HARMLESS the Organization or its national governing body organization, or any of their respective directors, officers, employees, volunteers and agents, and each of them, from any loss, liability, damages or costs they may incur, *whether caused by the Organization's negligence, active or passive, or*

*otherwise* while the undersigned or any participating child is participating in any program of the Organization or in, upon, or about the premises or any facilities or equipment affiliated with the Organization. The undersigned understands and agrees that the Organization is not required to provide insurance to cover the undersigned or such participating children in the event they suffer illness, injury, death, property loss, theft or damage of any sort upon, or about the premises or any facilities or equipment therein or while participating in any program affiliated with the Organization.

The undersigned agrees and acknowledges that use of the Organization facilities and services, and participation in the Organization programs, may involve inherent danger and risk, including, without limitation, the risk of physical illness or injury, death or property damage. THE UNDERSIGNED HEREBY ASSUMES FULL RESPONSIBIUTY FOR, AND RISK OF ILLNESS, BODILY INJURY, DEATH OR PROPERTY DAMAGE to the undersigned or such participating children due to negligence, active or passive, or otherwise while in, about or upon the premises of the Organization and/or while using the premises or any facilities or equipment thereon and/or while participating in or observing any program affiliated with the Organization. The undersigned acknowledges that any illness or injuries that the undersigned or such participating children contract or sustain may be compounded by negligent first aid or emergency response of the Releasees and waive any claim in respect thereof.

THE UNDERSIGNED further expressly agrees that the foregoing ASSUMPTION OF RISK, RELEASE AND WAIYER OF LIABILITY, AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT is intended to be as broad and inclusive as is permitted by the laws of the State in which the undersigned resides or participates and that if any portion thereof is held invalid, it is agreed that the balance shall, notwithstanding, continue in full legal force and effect.

I HAVE CAREFULLY READ AND VOLUNTARILY SIGN THIS ASSUMPTION OF RISK, RELEASE AND WAIYER OF LIABILITY, AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT AND FURTHER AGREE THAT NO ORAL REPRESENTATIONS, STATEMENTS OR INDUCEMENT APART FROM THE FOREGOING WRITTEN AGREEMENT HAVE BEEN MADE. I AM AWARE THAT BY AGREEING TO THIS AGREEMENT I AM GIVING UP VALUABLE LEGAL RIGHTS, INCLUDING THE RIGHT TO RECOVER DAMAGES FROM THE ORGANIZATION IN CASE OF ILLNESS, INJURY, DEATH OR PROPERTY LOSS OR DAMAGE, INCLUDING, FOR THE AVOIDANCE OF DOUBT AND WITHOUT LIMITATION, EXPOSURE TO COVID-19 AT ANY ORGANIZATION FACILITY OR DURING PARTICIPATION IN ANY PROGRAM AND ANY ILLNESS, INJURY OR DEATH RESULTING THEREFROM. I UNDERSTAND THAT THIS DOCUMENT IS A PROMISE NOT TO SUE AND A RELEASE OF AND INDEMNIFICATION FOR ALL CLAIMS. IF SIGNING ON BEHALF OF MINOR: I ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT THIS AGREEMENT IS MADE ON BEHALF OF MY MINOR CHILD(REN) AND/OR LEGAL WARDS AND I REPRESENT AND WARRANT TO THE ORGANIZATION THAT I HAVE FULL AUTHORITY TO SIGN THIS AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF SUCH MINOR(S).

**I have read and understand the terms of this Assumption of Risk, Release and Waiver of Liability, and Indemnity Agreement and agree to its terms.**

\_\_\_\_\_ Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Emergency Contact Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Emergency Contact Number



# Township of Ocean

50 RAILROAD AVENUE  
WARETOWN, NJ 08758

June 17, 2020

PHONE: (609) 693-3302  
FAX: (609) 693-9026

To Whom it May Concern:

Attached please find the Governor's Executive Order No. 149, permitting youth sports to resume no-contact practices on June 22, 2020 and contact practices and starting competitions in certain sports on July 6, 2020.

Also attached, are the CDC guidelines for youth sports, the NJDOH Guidance for Sports Activities, and the daily log for Health Screenings and Attendance. Please share this with your boards and coaches as they need to be familiar with the new COVID-19 protocols.

Please note that as part of the daily logs and health screenings, all leagues are required to take the temperatures of all coaches, players, volunteers each time they are at the complex whether they are practicing or in the batting cages.

Each coach is responsible for his or her own team's logs. These logs are for contact tracing and in the event of a positive test for Covid-19 within the league, these logs are to be used to notify all at risk individuals.

The Township is requiring all coaches, players, volunteers must complete the COVID-19 Liability Waiver. The league presidents are to submit all signed waiver forms within 10 days of your resumption of league activities. It is suggested that you email the writable document to everyone in your organizations and request that they fill them in, print and hand back to you on day one of practice. Please drop off the entire league's waivers at one time. Failure to submit the waivers may result in the loss of access to the fields.

All leagues are required to submit your Program Preparation Plan as detailed in the NJDOH guidance document. The plan should be in addition to any plans that your governing sports bodies require. The leagues plan must be emailed to Diane B. Ambrosio, Township Administrator ([clerk@twpoceannj.gov](mailto:clerk@twpoceannj.gov)) prior to your opening.

Attached please find examples of letters and information, sent to the town from our insurance carrier for your review and use.

If you have any questions or need further information, please contact please contact Jeanne Broadbent [recreation@twpoceannj.gov](mailto:recreation@twpoceannj.gov) or call 609-693-3302 ext. 601

Please be reminded all items need to be complete and brought or sent to the me, for reapproval of Field use prior to using the Township Fields.

Sincerely,



Diane B. Ambrosio, RMC  
Business Administrator/Municipal Clerk

Cc: Township Committee  
Ocean Township School Board  
Jeanne Broadbent, Recreation Director

# Waretown Thunder Softball Club COVID-19 Playbook

## Program Preparation Plan

### Education

1. All participating parents/players will be issued our Program Preparation Plan
2. All parents/players will be required to sign the COVID-19 Waiver forms issued by the Township of Ocean, Babe Ruth League and Gagliardi Insurance.
3. Our coaching staff and volunteers will be educated on COVID-19 health and safety protocols including:
  - Our Revised practice rules and regulations in place during COVID-19.
  - The importance of staying home when experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 or residing with someone experiencing symptoms of COVID-19.
  - Social distancing and face coverings.
  - Proper hand hygiene.
  - How to address a situation in which a player presents with symptoms of COVID-19
  - How to address situations in which social distancing or other necessary requirements are challenged by athletes or parents/guardians/visitors.
  - Our players and coaching staff will be educated about when they should stay home and when they can return to activity.
  - We will actively encourage sick staff, families, and players to stay home.
  - Encourage sick players and coaches to stay at home without fear of reprisal, and ensure players and coaches are aware of this policy.
  - Individuals, including coaches, players, and families, should stay home if they have tested positive for or are showing COVID-19 symptoms.
  - Individuals, including coaches, players, and families, who have recently had a close contact with a person with COVID-19 should also stay home and monitor their health.
  - Be on the lookout for symptoms of COVID-19, which include fever, cough or shortness of breath. Call your doctor if you think you or a family member is sick.

## Fields/Complex

1. The township will provide signs that can be used on the fields to assist with guiding social distancing requirements.
2. Dugouts, benches and high traffic areas will be routinely disinfected and sanitized prior to practices starting and when practices end.
3. Hand sanitizer and disinfecting wipes will be available in all dugout and high traffic areas.
4. Use of bathrooms are limited to one person at a time. Hand sanitizer and soap and water will be available in all bathrooms. Bathrooms will be cleaned and disinfected prior to the start of practice and upon the completion of practice.
5. The bleachers are closed during practice.
6. Visitors and spectators should wear face coverings at all times, unless doing so inhibits the individuals health or the individual is under the age of 2.
7. Visitors and spectators should bring their own seating and social distance 6 feet apart.
8. Visitors showing signs of COVID-19 will not be permitted to attend practices.

## Practices

1. All coaches, players and volunteers participating in practice sessions will be screened using the “Daily Log of child and staff Entry Health screenings and Attendance” sheet supplied by the township. This includes a temperature check and health questionnaire. Players, coaches and staff showing symptoms of COVID-19 shall not be permitted to participate. If any individual develops symptoms during the activity, they will promptly inform organizers and must be removed from the activity and instructed to return home.
2. We will assign a volunteer, present at all practices, to remind all players, coaches and staff of social distancing.
3. Individuals shall remain 6 feet apart from one another whenever possible.
4. Coaching Staff and parents/guardians should wear cloth face coverings.
5. Players are also encouraged to wear cloth or disposable face coverings when not engaging in vigorous activity, such as when sitting on the bench, when interacting with an athletic trainer, etc. Face coverings should not be worn by staff or athletes when engaging in high intensity aerobic or anaerobic workouts, or where doing so would inhibit the individual’s health.
6. When multiple teams are scheduled to practice on the same day, we will create a staggered schedule to limit contact between groups/players.
7. All players, coaches and staff will bring their own water or drinks to practice with no sharing permitted. Do not share food.
8. Players will use their own equipment whenever possible. Sharing of equipment is discouraged and limited as much as possible. If necessary to share equipment (balls, bats), disinfectant wipes as well as hand sanitizer will be available. Players are encouraged to bring their own hand sanitizer. We will also have a ultra violet sanitizing wand light (steri wand) for use on common surfaces in between uses. Players are not permitted to share gloves, helmets, towels or any other equipment that may come in direct bodily contact.
9. Coaches, staff, visitors and players will abide by the gatherings limitations in effect at the time of practice and or games.
10. Practice activities will be limited to reduce physical closeness or contact between players by allowing players to focus on building individual skills (batting, pitching). Unnecessary physical contact such as handshakes, high fives, fist bumps, huddling and hugs are prohibited. Healthy hygiene practices are required of all participants. Use provided hand sanitizer, cover coughs and sneezes with tissue or the inside of your elbow. Do not spit. Avoid touching your face.
11. Immediately separate coaches, staff, officials, and athletes with COVID-19 symptoms at any sports activity. Individuals who have had close contact with a person who has symptoms should be separated and sent home as well, and follow CDC guidance for community-related exposure.
12. Anyone who is sick will be isolated, safely escorted to their vehicle and family called to transport them home or call 911 for an ambulance if necessary.

# Daily Log of Child and Staff Entry Health Screenings and Attendance

Date:

You are required to complete the Health screening questionnaire each day you are together. No players, coach, volunteers, parent is permitted onto the playing field or into the complex prior to the coach completed the health form and temperatures checks. The attendance logs must be maintained by the coaches and submitted to the league Presidents and Recreation Departments upon request.

Coaches Name & Email address

Coaches cell number ( )	Staff	Age 14-17	Age 2.5 to 5	Age 6 to 13	Temp. Upon Arrival (Exclude if 100.4 or Higher)	Fever Reducing Medication Administered?	Close Contact with Anyone Diagnosed with COVID-19 in the Past 14 Days?	Child/Staff Symptoms(s)?		Household Member Symptom(s)?		Excluded?
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# CHECKLIST FOR COACHES

## Protect Players from COVID-19

- Send a welcome email or call parents and/or players. Inform them about **actions that the sports program will take to protect players**. Remind them to stay home if sick or if they have been around someone who is sick.
- Be a role model. **Wear a cloth face cover** and encourage parents, fans, officials, and sports staff to wear one during practices and games.
- Provide **hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol** to players before and after practice/game, or encourage them to wash their hands with soap and water.
- Educate players about **covering coughs and sneezes** with a tissue or their elbow. Discourage spitting.
- Remind players about **social distancing** and identify markers (signage or tape on floor, if applicable). Encourage your players to focus on building their individual skills and cardiovascular conditioning, so they can limit close contact with other players.
- Check with your sports administrator to make sure they are following **cleaning and disinfection** recommendations.
  - Cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces on field, court, or play surface (e.g. drinking fountains) at least daily or between use.
  - Cleaning and disinfecting shared equipment



Lower Risk

Higher risk



Skill-building drills at home



Within-team competition



Full competition from different areas



[cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://cdc.gov/coronavirus)

# KEEP YOUTH ATHLETES SAFE

## Reduce the Spread of COVID-19 in Youth Sports

### Reduce physical closeness between players when possible

- Allow players to focus on building individual skills, like batting, dribbling, kicking, and strength training
- Limit full contact between players to game days (avoid during practice)
- Increase space between players in the practice areas, including on the sideline, dugout, and bench
- Avoid high fives, handshakes, fist bumps or hugs

### Minimize sharing of equipment or gear

- Encourage players to bring their own equipment, like gloves, balls, and helmets (if possible)
- Clean and disinfect shared items between use

### Limit travel outside of your area

- Consider competing against teams in your local area (neighborhood, town, or community)

### Identify small groups and keep them together

- Avoid mixing between groups
- Stagger the arrival and drop off of each group to limit interaction
- Have scrimmages within team to limit exposure

Implement plans to **space out spectators by 6 feet** at games or competitions. Limit nonessential visitors, spectators, and volunteers.



Lower Risk



Higher risk



Skill-building drills at home



Within-team competition



Full competition from different areas



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