

Torrington Parks and Recreation – Adult Softball

“Play it Safe!”

Covid—19 Operational Guide

I. On Field Play

a. Rules for Players

- Social Distancing will always be observed by each player to the extent possible throughout their time at the field.
- Players have the option to wear a face mask as a batter and as a baserunner.
- Players in the field may wear a facemask at their own discretion.
- Keep physical contact to a minimum with teammates (high fives, handshakes, etc.)
- Team meetings will take place only in areas where safe social distancing between players is feasible.
- Players will remain outside the fence area at a minimum of 6 feet apart when they are not on the playing field.
- Only the Manager, Players and the Scorekeeper on the team are allowed be in the bench area during a game.
- All players should provide their own equipment including ASA Certified bats, helmets and gloves.
 - The City will provide bats for teams that do not have them, however teams are required to disinfect the bats after each use with disinfectant wipes provided.
 - If it is determined that any illegal bats are being used, the league may have to revert back to all teams being required to use City supplied bats.
 - All Personal Bats used by players must have the USA/ASA stamp.
- No sunflower seeds, gum or spitting is permitted.
- No food is allowed inside the dugouts or on the field.
- Each team will use their own set of softballs when they are in the field.

b. Rules for Managers

- The Manager will be designated as the “point person” should an injury take place on the field.
- Only the player on deck is to pick up the bat for the hitter after each at bat
- Managers and players can bring hand sanitizer to the field for use between innings.
- Managers are responsible for enforcement of social distancing guidelines for their teams.

c. Rules for Umpires

- Umpires will follow all social distancing guidelines as set forth by the league.
- Umpires are not allowed inside the dugouts.
- Because of the Social Distancing requirement for this softball season, the Umpire will have to stand 6 feet behind the Catcher. In order to facilitate better Ball and Strike calls, the Men's league will be using a 35 inch Mat behind Home Plate. The pitched ball must contact the Mat to be a strike. If the Pitched ball does not make contact with the Mat, then the umpire will call the pitch a Ball.
- Umpires have the option to wear disposable gloves.

II. Rules for Spectators

a. Logistics

- All fields will be clearly marked with signage for rules and reminders.
- Spectators must maintain a safe social distance of 6 feet or greater from each family unit as required by the State of CT.
- No sharing of food or drink is allowed.
- All items brought to the field must be removed from the field by all players/spectators.
- All PPE used during games shall be properly disposed of.
- Portable restrooms will be provided at all fields and cleaned twice per week by the sanitation company.

b. Operations and Communications

- We will communicate with the teams to let them know what supplies they need to bring to the field.
- Each player will be required to sign a “waiver of liability” to play.
- Players will be asked to proactively report any illness to the Manager if a player feels ill
- If a player/manager is sick, they are not allowed to attend a game or practice until cleared by their doctor to resume activities.

III. Supplies

The City will provide the following supplies that will help them maintain a safe environment for the players, such as:

- Hand sanitizer (to be used as a back-up if teams run out.)
- Disposable masks (to be used as a back-up if a player runs out.)
- Disposable gloves (to be used by umpires and in emergency situations by managers.)

- Disinfectant wipes, sprays.
- Signage