



PARKS & RECREATION

ATHLETICS DIVISION

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ADULT SOFTBALL SAFE RETURN TO PLAY GUIDELINES

Bremerton Parks & Recreation continues to modify operations in response to state and local guidelines and recommendations for parks and recreation activities and programs as part of the “Healthy Washington – Roadmap to Recovery” COVID-19 recovery plan. The following requirements are based on available information and the current status of Kitsap County and are subject to change. These requirements do not replace or supersede any protocols or restrictions that are in place through local or state authorities.

Face Coverings & Physical Distancing:

- General Face Covering Requirements
 - Face coverings are required for all officials, coaches and players at all times except the following people are exempt from the requirement to wear a face covering:
 - Participants actively engaged on the field of play are not required to wear face coverings.
 - People who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 are exempt from the requirement to wear face coverings.
 - Face coverings must be worn by participants in the dugout if distancing cannot be maintained, unless exempt as indicated above.
- Physical distancing of six feet should be maintained in dugouts unless exempt as indicated above.

Player Equipment:

- Player equipment should be spaced six feet apart inside/outside the dugout to prevent direct contact.
- Players should have their own individual glove, bat and catcher’s equipment.
- Measures should be enacted to avoid, or minimize, equipment sharing when feasible.
- Players should not share towels, clothing, or other items that they may use to wipe their face or hands.
- Player’s equipment (e.g. bags, bats, gloves, etc.) should be cleaned and disinfected after each use.
- Recommend staff, players, umpires and spectators bring hand sanitizing products.

Softballs:

- Keep new softballs in their original packaging until they are needed.
- Softballs should be rotated through on a regular basis to limit individual contact.
- Umpires should limit their contact with the ball, and catchers should retrieve foul balls and passed balls, where possible.
- Foul balls landing outside the field of play should be retrieved by participating players, coaches, and umpires. No spectators should retrieve the ball.

Handshakes/Personal Contact Celebrations:

- Players and coaches should take measures to prevent all but essential contact necessary to play the game. This should include refraining from handshakes, high fives, fist/elbow bumps, chest bumps, group celebrations, etc.

Pre-Game Plate Meetings:

- Physical distancing of six feet between individuals should be implemented during all pre-game plate meetings between team coaches and the umpire.
- Plate meetings should only consist of one coach from each team, and game umpire.
- All pre-game meeting participants should wear a cloth face covering unless exempt as indicated above (see Face Coverings above).
- No player should ever be part of a plate meeting.

Post-Game Sportsmanship:

- Teams will line-up on their respective fair line and tip their cap to the other team. There will be no post-game handshake lines.

Facility, Spectator and Administrative Guidance

Spread out Scheduling of Games:

- Players and families should vacate the field/facility as soon as is reasonably possible after the conclusion of their game to minimize unnecessary contact with players, coaches and spectators from the next game, ideally within 10 minutes.
- All attendees are encouraged to practice physical distancing (six feet).
- Teams will practice social distancing beyond the field of play.
- Allow time between games for cleaning and disinfecting.
- If there is a game prior to your event, families and spectators are encouraged to stay in their vehicles or at a recommended social distance until the start of their game play to prevent overcrowding of spectators spaces and walkways.
- Players/families/spectators are instructed not to show up to fields more than 15 minutes before game time.
- All posted and published local and state regulated guidelines shall be followed.

Limiting Spectator Attendance/Physical Distancing:

- All spectators are to follow best physical distancing practices:
 - Stay six feet away from individuals outside their household
 - Wear face covering, unless exempt as indicated above
 - Avoid direct hand or other contact with players/coaches during play.
- Anyone with any of the following conditions should not attend a game until evaluated by a medical provider and given the clearance to do so
 - Active COVID-19 infection
 - Known direct contact with an individual testing positive for COVID-19.
 - Fever
 - Cough