



North Langley Softball

Game-Play Specific Guidelines

Inning 4/Cohort Games

Pre-Game Requirements:

- No more than 50 people per diamond as outlined by the Provincial Health Officer Order regarding gatherings and events, dated July 27th, 2020.
- Spectators are allowed, **in designated areas** (see Diamond Distancing Plan attached), as long as they maintain a minimum of two metres distance whenever possible.
softball.nldiamondsports.ca/information/returntoplay/
- Each team (Home and Visitor) is allowed to have a **MAXIMUM** of 24 persons at the field inclusive of players, coaches, role holders and spectators.
- The **HOME TEAM** is ultimately responsible to ensure full compliance with the North Langley Softball Return to Play (RTP) plan, including the guidelines specified in this document. This includes responsibility for players, coaches and spectators of both teams.
- All participants (including coaches, players, role holders and spectators) will maintain a minimum of two metres distance whenever possible and strictly adhere to all identified hygiene protocols.
- To ensure physical distancing, **arrival and departure** at Township of Langley Yorkson Community Park **must follow** directions outlined on the attached Yorkson (Ingress & Egress) map.
softball.nldiamondsports.ca/information/returntoplay/
- The Attendance Tracker for each team is to track their own team attendance using the mandated Township of Langley COVID Facility Attendee Register (attached)
[NL Softball website link to be added here](#)
- The home team is to take the third base line. The visiting team is to take the first base line.
- The home team is responsible for sanitization of all high touch surfaces (dugout posts/poles) and shared equipment (such as bases and equipment bin) both before and after the game.
- Bleachers and dug-outs are closed.

Game Requirements and Guidelines:

- Pick-ups are allowed from your current cohort only.
- Teams may play with as few as 8 players without being penalized.
- Line up cards must be prepared but will not be physically shared – photos may be taken by scorekeepers, etc. and the lineup card must be made available to show the umpire when requested.
- Pre-game meetings will take place at home plate while respecting distancing of at least two metres. Only one coach per team and umpire(s) to attend the meeting.

Attendance Tracking:

- During the pre-game plate meeting of Coaches and umpire(s), the Attendance Trackers from both teams will meet and confirm the total attendees list at the event does not exceed 50 people.
- If there are in excess of 50 people the Attendance Trackers will alert the coaches and umpires that the game cannot proceed until excess numbers leave the facility.
- Once the total number of people has been verified, the **Attendance Tracker** from the **HOME TEAM** will photograph both attendance tracker forms (Home and Visitor) and **submit those photos to Rachel Charron via text to 604-329-2555.**

- All participants are to leave the playing field immediately after the game has ended. No team meetings at the venue post game.
- No team huddles before, during or after the game. Quick chats can be had if two-metre distance is maintained.
- No handshake with the opposing team/officials after the game.
- If an injury occurs to a player on a team, either the umpire or coach will call time and only the coach and In Charge person – both wearing protective gloves and face coverings - may go to the injured player, everyone else must maintain physical distancing.
- Face coverings for virus contagion are recommended for all participants; coaches must have face coverings easily accessible to them and must wear them anytime they cannot maintain physical distancing from other participants.
- Face coverings for virus contagion are mandatory for home plate umpires. Should an umpire be unable to wear a face covering due to an underlying health issue or breathing/overheating concerns, the home plate umpire has the option of calling the game from behind the pitcher's circle as an alternative to wearing a face covering.

- Should a player need to leave the field during play due to breathing concerns associated with wearing a face covering, any player on the bench may replace the removed player and not be counted as a substitution leaving/re-entering the game.
- It is recommended that all participants bring back up face coverings should their original face coverings come off and fall in the dirt when removing their helmet.
- No person should pick-up or handle anyone else's helmet/face covering.
- The umpire is not to handle any equipment other than their own during a game, including game balls.
- Defensive team will sanitize the ball for their team during the game. Balls should be routinely rotated and sanitized. The pitcher/catcher will call time and the ball will be given to the Sanitizing Champion to be sanitized, the Sanitizing Champion will throw in a sanitized ball in exchange.
- If a ball goes out of play, a defensive player or coach should retrieve (if possible) and then sanitize the ball. If a spectator or offensive team member grabs the ball, they are to sanitize their hands immediately. Then the ball is to be sanitized as well.
- Offensive coaches are to remain a minimum of two metres away from 1st and 3rd base, regardless of where it may locate them on the diamond (as long as it doesn't increase the danger to a coach's personal safety).
- Between pitches, the umpire is to move two metres away from the catcher, and the batter is to move two metres away from the catcher. Once the play is ready to resume, umpire and batter move back into position, and umpire signals play ball.
- Coach to umpire, player to umpire and umpire to umpire conferences will be done with a two-metre distance maintained, unless all participants to the conference are wearing face coverings in which case the conference may be done at normal distance.
- Coach, pitcher and catcher may have a defensive conference at the pitching circle, with a two-metre distance being observed by all participants, unless all participants to the conference are wearing face coverings in which case the conference may be done at normal distance.
- Offensive team conference may be held with a two-metre distance being observed by all participants, unless all participants to the conference are wearing face coverings in which case the conference may be done at normal distance.
- Teams are to maintain physical distancing while off the field of play, with players in designated spots as appropriate in the ballpark. Spectators will maintain physical distancing, in the outfield as appropriate to the layout of the ball park per the attached Diamond Distancing Plan.



North Langley Softball

Screening Requirements

Prior to allowing access to the field, each Team Screener must ask the following questions of every person associated with their team who is to be present at the field. *(this includes players, coaching staff, role holders and spectators to a **MAXIMUM** of 24 persons)*

1. *Are you exhibiting any symptoms of COVID-19 (fever, dry cough, chest or respiratory pain?)*
2. *Has any member of your household exhibited any symptoms of COVID-19 within the last 14 days?*
3. *Have you, or any other member of your household, arrived from outside of Canada in the past 14 days?*
4. *Do you agree to 100% comply with the Host association's specific Return to Play guidelines including but not limited to, spectating (allowed or not allowed), social distancing, and sanitization rules?*

Questions 1 – 3 must be answered with a “no” and question 4 with a “yes” or participant must be instructed to leave the field immediately.