

# Victoria All Fun Slo Pitch COVID-19 Safety Plan

Date: March 1, 2022

## Purpose of COVID-19 safety plan

This COVID-19 safety plan has been created by Victoria All Fun Slo Pitch League to outline the policies and procedures that have been put in place to protect players and spectators from the potential transmission of COVID-19 and meet obligations to obtain required league insurance.

## Disclaimer

With the ever-changing COVID-19 state of affairs, and with new and updated information from our local, provincial and federal governments, this document is subject to change. Further revisions will be distributed to team captains and posted on the league's website.

It is important that all individuals understand that when you choose to participate in physical activities outside the home during the pandemic, you may be at an increased risk of being exposed to and contracting COVID-19. This is an inherent risk of participating in activities in your community where you may interact with other individuals. Participants should carefully assess their personal health circumstances before engaging in slo pitch activities. If you are at higher risk of experiencing serious illness from COVID-19, consider limiting or avoiding participation in the sport activities for the time being.

## Responsibilities

The Victoria All Fun Slo Pitch League Executive Committee is responsible for the development of this plan and ensuring the distribution to all team captains.

All players, team spectators, and anyone else associated with the league or an individual team will follow this safety plan as a condition of participation in the league.

Team captains are responsible for ensuring this safety plan is communicated to, understood by, and adhered to by their team's players and spectators.

Team captains are responsible for ensuring that all team members have shown proof of vaccination before they will be allowed to play.

If players or spectators have any concerns regarding this plan, they are to bring them to the attention of the league executive committee.

Everyone associated with the league must follow all government health regulations and mandates.

## Illness Policy – STAY HOME IF YOU ARE UNWELL

All league members and spectators are expected to conduct a self-health check before attending games or other league events. Anyone who is feeling ill is required to stay home and not return to activity until their symptoms have resolved. The COVID-19 self-assessment tool (<https://bc.thrive.health/covid19/en>) can be used to help determine if further assessment or testing for COVID-19 is needed.

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Date: March 1, 2022

All players must be fully vaccinated. In addition, no one will be allowed on the field if:

- They or anyone in their household are experiencing any COVID-19 like symptoms according to the present Public Health assessment tool (<https://bc.thrive.health/covid19/en>) or have recently tested positive for COVID-19.
- They or anyone in their household has been in contact with anyone in the past 5 days who has tested positive for COVID-19.
- They or anyone in their household have been directed by a public health authority to self-isolate in the past 5 days.

Anyone who has tested positive for COVID-19 will not be allowed to return to play until at least 5 days have passed since they tested positive AND their symptoms have improved AND they no longer have a fever.

Where the stated instructions may differ between this plan and the Public Health Office, the Public Health Office directive will supersede these guidelines.

## Exposure Protocol Courtesy

As a courtesy to players and teams, in the event of a possible COVID exposure players should inform their team captains who will immediately notify their own team, the opposing team's captain(s) and a member of the League Executive.

## Contact Tracing

Teams should maintain a contact list of all their players and keep track of which players are in attendance for every game. If there is an exposure event during league activities, the League President may require these records to provide the provincial Health Authority with accurate contact tracing information.

## Personal Protection

- The use of mask or face shield is recommended.
- The use of personal fitted batting gloves is recommended.
- The use of individual hand sanitizer is recommended.
- The use of individual bats is recommended.
- Helmets are **not** to be shared.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or into your elbow when coughing or sneezing.
- No spitting, including sunflower seeds.
- Do not share beverages or food.

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## Arrival/Departure at the Field:

- It is recommended that players and spectators arrive no more than 30 minutes before scheduled game time.
- For properties where there are multiple diamonds, teams should remain aware of activities associated with the other field and maintain 2m distancing.
- If spectators are present, they should stay 2m away from players and other spectators.
- Players and spectators are to leave facilities immediately upon game completion.

## Game Play

- 2m physical distancing should be maintained by players on the sidelines. Use of dugouts is discouraged.
- If bats are shared between players, it is recommended they be sanitized between uses.
- Helmets will **not** be shared.
- Coaches will stand 2 meters away from 1st and 3rd base at all times.
- The umpire, catcher, and batter should attempt to keep the 2m physical distancing protocol.
- Base runners are to run 2m behind the catcher when scoring.
- When a player other than the batter retrieves a dropped bat, it should be picked up by the barrel only.
- At the end of the game, there are to be no handshakes or high-fives.

## Compliance

There will be zero tolerance for any player who fails to respect other participant's personal space (including umpires). Offending players may be removed from the league immediately without compensation.

Teams and or players who do not adhere to the suggestions put forth by league organizers risk being refused to participate.

Players and or teams removed from the league due to non-compliance with COVID-19 guidelines shall not receive a refund of any kind.