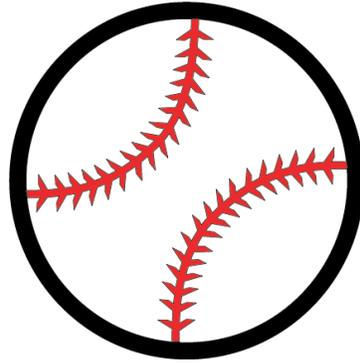


Penticton



Safety Plan

**PENTICTON MINOR FASTBALL SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION'S
RETURN TO PLAY GUIDELINES AND PROTOCOLS**

June 20, 2020

INTRODUCTION

PMFSA's Return to Play Guidelines are based on an overriding principle of encouraging the maximum participation of members of the organization while respecting the safety of members and the public from the COVID-19 virus. The Executive Members of PMFSA have voted to approve Softball BC's Back to Bases plan as the PMFSA Safety Plan. The Following PMFSA Safety Plan was developed to enhance that document in order to meet PMFSA's unique needs.

PMFSA will follow these guidelines as well as all guidelines and protocols used by the following government and sport sector requirements:

- BC guidelines from WorkSafeBC and BC Health Authority
- Municipal requirements (<https://www.bcrpa.bc.ca/covidguideli>)
- viaSport Return to Sport Guidelines for BC
- Softball BC's Back to Bases Return to Play Guidelines and Protocols

These best practices do not supersede any protocols, guidelines, or restrictions outlined by Regional, Provincial and/or Federal Health Authorities. All Softball BC participants are expected to continue to follow the guidelines outlined by Regional, Provincial and/or Federal Health Authorities.

Due to the uncertain aspects in returning to play, these guidelines are expected to change based on new/updated safety procedures outlined by Provincial and/or Local Health Authorities or feedback to Softball BC Directors.

The PMFSA executive will revisit these guidelines as new requirements are announced by the respective Provincial and/or Federal Health Authorities.

COVID-19 AND TRANSMISSION

COVID-19 is transmitted via liquid droplets when a person coughs or sneezes, but also potentially when they are talking in very close proximity to another person. The virus in these droplets can then enter the body of another person when that person breathes in the droplets, or when the droplets touch the eyes, nose or throat of that person.

Transmission requires you to be in close contact – less than the physical distancing of three to six feet. This is referred to as ‘droplet’ transmission and is believed to be the primary way COVID-19 is transmitted.

COVID-19 can also be transmitted through droplets in the environment if someone touches a contaminated area and then touches their face without cleaning their hands. The virus does not enter the body through skin it enters through the eyes, nose or mouth when the person touches their face.

Unfortunately, human beings touch their faces quite often throughout the day, much more than they realize. This is why regular handwashing and cleaning of high-touch surfaces is so important.

For COVID-19 there are some emerging indications that there are people who can spread COVID-19 virus 24 to 48 hours prior to symptom onset, but at present it is not known whether this is a significant risk factor for transmission.

Droplet transmission is much more likely when in close contact in an indoor setting. Transmission is less likely in an outdoor setting where there is more space for people to keep physically distanced.

However, in the context of sports, even outdoors there can be risks from high-touch surfaces because many sports involve objects that are normally shared among players, coaches or volunteers (balls, equipment, etc.).

SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19

The symptoms of COVID-19 are similar to other respiratory illnesses, including the flu and the common cold. These symptoms include fever, chills, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat and painful swallowing, stuffy or runny nose, loss of sense of smell, headache, muscle aches, fatigue and loss of appetite.

People infected with COVID-19 may experience little or no symptoms, with illness ranging from mild to severe. Some people are more vulnerable to developing severe illness or complications from COVID-19, including older people and those with chronic health conditions.

DEFINITIONS

In this document, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

Attendance Coordinator: a person assigned by PMFSA to collect and store attendance records from each Attendance Tracker (below) at every softball activity.

Attendance Tracker: a person assigned by a team or group to record the name and phone number of all participants and others attending any softball activity.

District: the geographical area which has been defined by Softball BC (page 9 of the 2020 Handbook of the Constitution and Special Operating Rules) as a community for the purpose of organizing softball activity and competition.

Distancing Monitor: a person assigned by each team to monitor the physical distancing of their team's players, coaches, and spectators on and off the field.

Facility: any given location where softball activity takes place, and without limiting the generality of this term, a location shall be considered one facility regardless of the number of softball diamonds it contains.

In Charge Person (Injury Attendant): a person (could be a coach, manager or parent) who is in attendance at a game and is the person that is designated to go onto the field if an injury occurs - wherever possible this should be a person with first aid training.

In Club: In club sport activities are those which take place within the home sport community or clubs where participants are members. This means avoiding cross-regional, inter-provincial or cross-country travel for sport.

League: the community of Men's & Women's teams registered with Softball BC for the purpose of in-community softball activities and organized competition. Leagues may be made up of teams from different districts, but with common rules and playing schedule.

LSO: local sports associations, and in the context of this document includes any local-level organization that is a member of Softball BC.

Sanitizing Champion: a person assigned by a team to be responsible for sanitation of the Facility and equipment during a given softball activity. It will be their job to monitor and report sanitation needs to PMFSA. They should report these needs by email to president.pmfsa@gmail.com

Screener: a person assigned by an LSO to ask the designated screening questions of all participants and others attending any softball activity – this person may be the same person as the Attendance Tracker at the discretion of the LSO.

PARK OR VENUE PREPARATION

PMFSA has developed the following action plan regarding the preparation of the parks and venues in use. PMFSA executives will communicate all information and guidelines to their members, volunteers, players, fans, and anyone who attends their Facility for softball-related activities. PMFSA will conduct a risk assessment on each facility or field rented by the association. Each team will be required to fill out an Emergency Action Plan for all fields and venues.

The following steps will be taken by PMFSA regarding the Parks or venue preparation:

- Concession stands will not be used by PMFSA
- PMFSA will be using porta potties at Columbia and Wiltse field. Porta potties will remain locked unless needed. Each team will be required to clean all porta potties used before and after each use. PMFSA will ensure each porta potty will have a hand sanitizing station. All participants will be required to use hand sanitizer before resuming any softball activities. PMFSA will have access to a public washroom in Peachland, the cleaning of these facilities is the responsibility of the City of Peachland. Anyone using that washroom will be required to use hand sanitizer before rejoining the softball activity.
- PMFSA will encourage separate entrance and exit locations at all fields. Where this is not possible, we will take the following steps to encourage physical distancing at these access points:
 1. Allow 15 minutes of time between all scheduled activities to avoid cross over at drop off and pick up times.
 2. Remind all players and spectators to follow the recommended social distances.
 3. Encourage all players to wear a face mask when social distancing is not possible.
- PMFSA will post signage to educate and communicate the need for physical distancing, hand washing and sanitizing locations, personal steps to minimize transmission of the virus. This signage will also communicate how to recognize symptoms of COVID-19.
- Signage will be displayed at all fields in use. Signs will be posted in spectator areas, registration and player area. The signage will be as follows:
 1. COVID-19 Do Not Enter
 2. COVID-19 Handwashing Poster
 3. Physical Distancing Posters
 4. COVID-19 Presentation
 5. Entrance/Exit
 6. Spectator Area
 7. Registration Area
- Soap or hand sanitizer will be made available to all people in various locations throughout any facility used by PMFSA members.
- PMFSA will provide the following sanitation supplies:
 1. Hand sanitizer
 2. Protective gloves
 3. Disposable face masks
 4. Cleaning supplies
 5. Garbage cans with lids
- Garbage cans with lids will be made available at each field for all disposable tissues and wipes.

OUTDOOR ACTIVITY PREPARATION

Following are the steps that will be taken by PMFSA in relation to any softball activity:

- In order to maintain a limit on gatherings of no more than 50 people on one softball diamond PMFSA will:
 1. Prepare a schedule for team use of the permitted venue for practices as well as games. Attendance will be tracked and monitored for each softball related activity.
 2. PMFSA will schedule staggered start times of all activities to limit the number of people coming and going at one time.
 3. All activities will be managed through pre-registration; no drop-in activities will be held.
 4. Teams and groups will be allocated a time that they have access to a specific sport field area. They will be provided enough time for diamond or sport field preparation and clean up.
 5. Teams and groups are to be instructed to arrive and depart at a specific time.
 6. There are not to be any post-practice or post-game meetings, participants should leave the playing area promptly at the end of the practice or game or when time has expired.
- PMFSA will ensure each softball related activity has an Attendance Tracker present. The Attendance Tracker will track attendance at each game or practice. PMFSA has appointed an Attendance Coordinator to maintain all attendance information in a secure location for a period of no less than ninety (90) days. PMFSA has developed an “Attendance Tracking Form”, this form will be provided to each team. The Attendance Tracker must ensure that attendance sheets are submitted to the Attendance Coordinator at the completion of each softball activity. This information will only be provided to an authorized health authority or local government representative who has the legal right to obtain such information, or to Softball BC staff for the purpose of contact tracing in the event of an outbreak of COVID-19. All records are to be destroyed after the 90-day period.
- PMFSA will designate spectator areas which will maintain the physical distancing guidelines for each household. These areas will be identified with signage and markings. The areas for participants and spectators will be dependent on the Facility in use and may include sanitized dugouts if appropriate.
- Prior to activities on the sport field, teams/groups must assign a Sanitizing Champion who is responsible for cleaning and sanitizing equipment used by their team or group during the softball activity. It is also recommended that teams clean and sanitize dugouts (if they will be used), bases, and if fenced, the gates and latches leading into and out of the playing area prior to beginning the softball activity.
- Once a team or group’s organized activity has ended, that group or team must clean and sanitize the area used, including gates, latches and field equipment, including, but not limited to bases, pitching machines, tees and/or nets, and dugouts and equipment storage areas if used.
- Extreme Weather Warning – In the event of severe weather, where either the activity has to be stopped temporarily, or it delays the start of the activity, all participants and spectators are to return to their vehicles and wait for an all clear signal or cancellation. If someone does not have a vehicle, they may shelter in a safe location, while maintaining a minimum distance of two (2) meters from others.
- PMFSA will adhere to Via-Sport’s Emergency Response and Outbreak Plan (available in next section)
- Each team will be required to use a “COVID-19 screener”. The screener will be responsible for pre-screening all participants and spectators attending a facility (this does not include casual park users or others attending the Facility for purposes other than softball, only those who are attending the softball activities). Before any individual can go onto the diamond, or engage in either softball activities, or to be there as a spectator, they must be screened to determine if they are permitted entry. These questions must be answered by everyone and if they give a positive answer to any of the following questions, that person will be instructed to either return home, or to seek medical attention, but they are not allowed to attend the scheduled softball activities.

Screening questions are:

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 Canada in the past 14 days?

FIRST AID

Each team will be required to appoint an adult as the “person in-charge”. That person will be the person who will go onto the field in the event of an injury. The person in charge is responsible for reading and following:

A guide for employers and Occupational First Aid Attendants:

<https://www.worksafebc.com/en/resources/health-safety/information-sheets/ofaa-protocols-covid-19-pandemic?lang=en>

First aid protocols for an unresponsive person during COVID-19:

<https://www.redcross.ca/training-andcertification/first-aid-tips-and-resources/first-aid-tips/first-aid-protocols-for-an-unresponsive-personduring-covid-19>

OUTBREAK PLAN

Early detection of symptoms will facilitate the immediate implementation of effective control measures. In addition, the early detection and immediate implementation of enhanced cleaning measures are two of the most important factors in limiting the size and length of an outbreak. An “outbreak” is two or more cases; a “case” is a single case of COVID-19.

- PMFSA has identified the roles and responsibilities of staff or volunteers if a case or outbreak is reported. PMFSA executive members, the head coach or the assistant coach of a PMFSA team has the authority to modify, restrict, postpone or cancel activities. The volunteer attendance trackers/health screener will be instructed to report any concerns to the head coach or assistant coach on the field.
- If anyone associated with a PMFSA activity reports they suspect or are confirmed to have COVID-19 and have been at a softball related activity, PMFSA will implement enhanced cleaning measures to reduce risk of transmission. If we are not the facility operator, we will notify the facility immediately.
- PMFSA has developed an illness policy and will require all members to read and sign a participant agreement.
- PMFSA will implement their illness policy and advise individuals to:
 1. Self-isolate
 2. Monitor their symptoms daily, report respiratory illness and not to return to activity for at least 14 days following the onset of fever, chills, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat and painful swallowing, stuffy or runny nose, loss of sense of smell, headache, muscle aches, fatigue and loss of appetite.
 3. Use the COVID-19 self-assessment tool at <https://bc.thrive.health/covid19/en> to help determine if further assessment or testing for COVID-19 is needed.
 4. Individuals can contact 8-1-1 if further health advice is required and 9-1-1 if it is an emergency.
 5. Individuals can learn more about how to manage their illness here:
<http://www.bccdc.ca/healthinfo/diseases-conditions/covid-19/about-covid-19/if-youare-sick>
- In the event of a suspected case or outbreak of influenza-like-illness, PMFSA will immediately report and discuss the suspected outbreak with the Medical Health Officer (or delegate) at your local health authority. PMFSA will implement our Illness Policy and enhanced cleaning measures.
- If PMFSA is contacted by a Medical Health Officer during contact tracing, our association will cooperate fully with all local health authorities.
- Each team will delegate a Sanitizing Champion.

INDOOR FACILITY PROTOCOL

Following are the steps that will be taken by PMFSA in relation to any indoor softball activity:

- In order to maintain a limit on gatherings of no more than 50 people, teams will be allocated a time that they have access to a specific indoor Facility which also provides enough time for preparation and cleanup of the space. Activities open to individual participants should be managed through pre-registration; no drop-in activities will be held. Teams and groups are to be instructed to arrive and depart at a specific time. All participants should leave the playing area promptly at the end of their session.
- In order to allow for proper physical distancing, indoor groups may need to be limited to groups of less than 50. The recommendation at the time this plan is released is that each person in an indoor space has at least 5 m squared of unencumbered space
- Entrances and exits to the Facility and areas shall be clearly indicated.
- It is highly recommended that face masks are worn when inside a Facility.
- The Screener will be responsible for pre-screening of all participants and spectators attending a Facility (this does not include other users of the Facility, only those who are attending the softball activities). Before any individual can enter the Facility in relation to the softball activities, they must be screened to determine if they are permitted entry. These questions must be answered by everyone and if they give a positive answer to any of the following questions, that person must be instructed to either return home, or to seek medical attention, but they are not allowed to attend the scheduled softball activities.

Screening questions are:

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 Canada in the past 14 days?
- PMFSA will designate participant (player, coach, team helper) areas which meet the physical distancing protocol of no closer than 2 metres , and establish spectator areas (where spectators are permitted) which also maintain the physical distancing for each household. Such areas should be identified with adequate signage and markings. The areas for participants and spectators will be dependent on the Facility in use.
 - Prior to indoor activities, teams/groups must assign a Sanitizing Champion who is responsible for cleaning and sanitizing equipment used by their team or group during the softball activity.

GRADUATED RETURN TO SOFTBALL

PMFSA will follow all guidelines associated with the Stages (Innings) as outlined in the Softball BC Return to play plan.

The focus for Softball BC is to allow players to return to softball activities while respecting all Provincial health guidelines. This means that in the immediate term, those activities will be restricted to practice and skill development sessions, first for U10 players and above, and then for players in the Learn to Play age groups. PMFSA will not be offering u6 and U8 programs for the 2020 season.

Softball BC understands that games and competition are a huge part of softball and is committed to allowing a return to game play for teams in U10 and above once Provincial Health Authorities and Softball BC determine that it is safe to do so. This phasing plan does not include dates for return to game play since we do not yet know when that will be.

It goes without saying that throughout all the phases, anyone displaying symptoms of COVID-19, or who thinks they may have been exposed to COVID-19 should not attend any Softball activities. PMFSA has put in place an Illness Policy and a participant agreement that outlines our policies and procedures. It includes reporting of a positive test result to our executive, and in such a case, the PMFSA Board would cease softball activities for anyone that may have encounter this person. The Head coaches and Assistant coaches also have the authority to cease softball activities if they have any concerns regarding covid-19.

As with any unruly or abusive behavior, in the event that participants or other attendees at softball activities refuse to comply with Softball BC's Return to Play plan and the rules and regulations put in place by PMFSA, all members of the executive or volunteers will be advised to call 911 and to allow authorities to deal with such situations.

STAGES/INNINGS

Inning 1: Controlled Practice & Skill Development (U10 - Men & Women)

Inning 2: Controlled Skill Development for Timbits U6 & U8

Inning 3: Community Focused Games U10 & Older

Inning 4: Competitive Games with Neighboring Communities

Inning 5: Competitive Games Inter- Regional, Cross Provincial & Tournaments

INNING ONE – Controlled Practice and Skill Development U10 through U19

TIMELINE: no earlier than June 10, 2020

PMFSA and participants are to follow the Facility and diamond protocols above, plus:

No more than fifty (50) people per diamond or as per the guidelines for attendance as outlined by the respective Municipality.

- Separate entrance and exit spots will be determined where possible. If this is not possible PMFSA will ensure that all activities are scheduled in such a way that there will be no cross over times for end and start times of any softball related activities.
- All participants will be required to hand sanitize upon arrival and hand sanitizing stations will be set up at various locations through all venues. Wherever possible washing will be scheduled into practices.
- Participants will be encouraged to bring their own bats, helmets, gloves, face masks and catchers gear. Any team gear that is used will be sanitized regularly by a Sanitation Champion. All participants will be reminded to maintain physical distancing procedures by a Team Distance Monitor. Where personal equipment must be shared, the equipment must be thoroughly sanitized between each use. When players are sharing a bat, it should be picked up by the barrel and sanitized by the Sanitizing Champion before being used by the next player.
- Water bottles and food items are not to be shared.
- No spitting, sunflower seeds or gum are allowed.
- A minimum amount of people should be responsible for setting up and taking down all equipment for a session.
- Practice plans should consider a minimal number of participants handling the same ball. For example, when possible, catching and throwing drills should be done in pairs only and the balls sanitized by the Sanitizing Champion after each drill.
- Coach must have a current EAP (emergency action plan) outlining, in the event of a minor or major injury, what the medical treatment process will be. The safety of all participants is top priority, but whenever possible, must be done with the requirements of COVID-19 transmission being minimized.
- Each team must appoint an 'In Charge Person' (Injury Attendant), and if an injury occurs to a player only the coach and In Charge Person, both wearing protective gloves and face coverings, may go the injured player. Everyone else must maintain physical distancing.
- Bleachers will be closed during this phase
- Under no circumstances will there be games or scrimmages.

**PMFSA has decided not to offer U6 or U8 programs for the 2020 season. The following are the Softball BC guidelines for U6 and U8 teams.*

INNING TWO: Controlled Skill Development for Timbits U6 and U8

TIMELINE: no earlier than June 17, 2020

All participants are to follow the Facility and Diamond protocols above, plus:

No more than fifty (50) people per diamond or as per the guidelines for attendance as outlined by the respective Municipality.

- Groups of no more than 10 participants and one household member each permitted in the designated practice area.
- Every participant must be accompanied by a responsible person over the age of 16 who is prepared to practice with the participant throughout the season.
- Program facilitator will maintain physical distancing with the participants and oversee the skill development sessions.
- It is recommended the season be made up of a 12 session, 6-week program
- Skills will focus on physical literacy
- No shared use of equipment. Each participant will supply or be supplied with their own session equipment.
- Any LSO equipment loaned to players should be sanitized before being put away.
- Under no circumstances will there be games or scrimmages.
- Each participant is to have their own water bottle and food items, no sharing of these items will be allowed.
- Facilitator will be responsible for ensuring planned sanitation breaks and hand cleaning.
- Coach/Facilitator must have a current EAP (emergency action plan) outlining, in the event of a minor or major injury, what the medical treatment process will be. The safety of all participants is top priority, but whenever possible must be done with the requirements of COVID-19 transmission being minimized.
- Each team must appoint an 'In Charge Person' (Injury Attendant). If an injury occurs to a player only the coach and In Charge Person, both wearing protective gloves and face coverings, may go the injured player. Everyone else must maintain physical distancing.

INNING THREE: In-Club Community Focused Games U10 and older

TIMELINE: no earlier than July 1, 2020

PMFSA and participants are to follow the Facility and Diamond protocols included in Inning 1 (except to the extent that they conflict, in which case these Inning 3 protocols apply) above, plus:

- Games will be scheduled with teams from the same community as defined by the viaSport sport sector guidelines and Softball BC
- No more than 50 per diamond or as per the guidelines for attendance as outlined by the respective Municipality.
- It is recommended that all players have their own equipment including helmets, gloves, playing face mask, bat and catchers gear. PMFSA has set up an equipment rental program for any families who are unable to provide their own gear.
- Bleachers should be closed or used only in a way where physical distancing is maintained.
- Teams may only use players on their approved roster and no pickups are allowed. 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.
- Pregame meetings will take place at home plate while respecting distancing of at least 2 meters. Only one coach per team and umpire (s) are to attend the meeting.
- Schedules are recommended to be drawn up to allow for time to prepare the venue before a game and clean it after the game has ended.
- 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.
- No handshake with the opposing team/officials after the game.
- Each team must appoint a Distancing Monitor who will observe their own team & spectators and encourage them to maintain physical distancing.
- Each team must appoint an 'In Charge Person' (Injury Attendant), and if an injury occurs to a player on that 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 and 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, provided that 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.
- Due to breathable air quality concerns about physical exertion while wearing face coverings, it is recommended that face coverings be removed when physical distancing can be maintained (for example when their team is on offence), and that players be switched out or given breaks after wearing face coverings for prolonged periods.
- 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 or 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.
- Offensive coaches are to remain a minimum of two meters away from 1st and 3rd base at all times, 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 2 meters away from the catcher, and the batter is to move 2 meters 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 (2) metre distance at all times, 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, along the sides of the diamond, behind the backstop or in the outfield as appropriate to the layout of the ballpark.
- No player may lick their fingers during softball activities. Pitchers may use pitching rosin and/or gorilla rags at all levels. If a player does lick their fingers while on the field, the player must leave the game and may only return to the game after they have sanitized or washed their hands with soap and water. Any player on the bench may replace the removed player and not be counted as a substitution leaving/re-entering the game.
- At the conclusion of a play at a base or bases, the batter/runner and defensive player should separate and establish appropriate distancing again as soon as possible. Umpire may assist in this by verbal reminder.
- On deck batter may only have one bat for warm-up.
- When an at-bat has finished, if the batter struck out or was put out prior to reaching first base, the batter will pick up their own bat and carry it back to the dugout, where they either hand it to a Sanitizing Champion or return it to their personal equipment bag. If the batter reaches base, their bat will be picked up by the barrel by the on-deck batter and handed to a Sanitizing Champion for either sanitizing or return to the original batter's equipment space.
- All players must sanitize their hands when returning to their dugout at the end of each half-inning.
- Participants and spectators are to leave the playing field and park immediately at the conclusion of the game.
- Next team to play on that diamond will not step onto the diamond until all members of the previous game's team have left the area.
- Coach must have a current EAP (emergency action plan) outlining, in the event of a minor or major injury, what the medical treatment process will be. The safety of all participants is top priority, but whenever possible must be done with the requirements of COVID-19 transmission being minimized.

INNING FOUR: Competitive Games with Neighboring Communities

TIMELINE: To be determined

PMFSA and participants are to follow the Facility and Diamond protocols below, as well as those included in Phase Three (except to the extent that they conflict, in which case these Inning Four protocols apply), plus

- Home team to set up the diamond and communicate entry and exit points to visitors, as well as any other protocols being observed at that park.
- Visiting team will be directed to spectator and participant areas which have been adequately marked off and identified for spectator seating or participant equipment storage.
- Where possible, a minimum of two umpires should be used for games to assist in physical distancing.
- Participants are to follow Inning 3 protocol.
- Coach must have a current EAP (emergency action plan) outlining, in the event of a minor or major injury, what the medical treatment process will be. The safety of all participants is top priority, but whenever possible, must be done with the requirements of COVID-19 transmission being minimized.
- Each team must appoint an 'In Charge Person' (Injury Attendant), and if an injury occurs to a player only the coach and In Charge Person, both wearing protective gloves and face coverings, may go the injured player. Everyone else must maintain physical distancing.

INNING FIVE: Competitive Games inter-regional, Cross Provincial & Tournaments

TIMELINE: To be determined

PMFSA and participants are to follow the Facility and Diamond protocols below as well as those included in Inning 4 (except to the extent that they conflict, in which case these Inning 5 protocols apply), plus

- No more than 50 per diamond or as per the guidelines for attendance as outlined by the respective Municipality.
- Game times are to be staggered to ensure there is an unencumbered pathway to enter and exit the facility.
- Participants and spectators are to leave the field immediately after the conclusion of their game/event.
- Medals/prizes are not to be handed out individually, but a closed box handed to a team representative.
- If appropriate home team to set up the diamond and communicate entry/exit points to visitors, as well as any other protocols being observed at that park. If it is a tournament, then the hosting club will have diamonds set up under the park/venue and diamond preparation, and it will be the responsibility of the host to communicate with visiting teams about the protocols to be followed at each specific park or Facility.
- Visiting team, or in the case of a tournament, all away teams attending the tournament will be directed to spectator and participant areas which have been adequately marked off and identified for spectator seating, or participant equipment storage.
- Where possible, a minimum of two umpires should be used for games to assist in physical distancing.
- Coach must have a current EAP (emergency action plan) outlining, in the event of a minor or major injury, what the medical treatment process will be. The safety of all participants is top priority, but whenever possible, must be done with the requirements of COVID-19 transmission being minimized.
- Each team must appoint an 'In Charge Person' (Injury Attendant,) and if an injury occurs to a player on that 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

Please note that these Guidelines are current and in accordance with the Provincial Health Guidelines and Orders in place at date of their issuance but may be updated should circumstances change or should relevant Guidelines and Orders be revised.

PMFSA VENUES IN USE

Wiltse Elementary School Field

640 Wiltse Boulevard
Penticton, BC

Operated by the City of Penticton
Phone 250 276 2165
Email: Carly.Lewis@penticton.ca

Spectator areas: Spaced appropriately along 3rd and 1st base line (signs will indicate all spectator areas).

Columbia Field

Hatfield Avenue
Penticton, BC

Operated by the City of Penticton
Phone 250 276 2165
Email: Carly.Lewis@penticton.ca

Spectator areas: Spaced appropriately along 1st base line (signs will indicate all spectator areas).

Cousins Field

4450 6th Street
Peachland, BC

Operated by the City of Peachland
Phone 250 250 767 2133
Email: cwise@peachland.ca

Spectator areas: Spaced appropriately along 3rd and 1st base line (signs will indicate all spectator areas).

PMFSA will conduct a site Safety Risk Management assessment for each field. The full document can be found at the following site: <https://softball.bc.ca/softball-bc-return-to-play-guidelines-and-appendixes/> HYPERLINK "https://softball.bc.ca/softball-bc-return-to-play-guidelines-and-appendixes/" play-guidelines-and-appendixes/

KNOW YOUR ROLE

PMFSA will provide information regarding policies and procedures to their Head Coaches, Assistant Coaches and necessary volunteers through a scheduled training session. The training session will take place before any team can take the field. All physical distancing procedures will be followed during this meeting.

All coaches will be provided a hard copy of all PMFSA policies and procedures as well as the Softball BC Back to Bases Plan. All policies, including the PMFSA Safety Plan and the Softball BC Back Bases Plan will be posted on the PMFSA Web page and emailed to PMFSA Members. All members and participants will be informed of their roles.

The following describes all roles within PMFSA:

PMFSA EXECUTIVES ROLE

Conduct a risk assessment of all PMFSA Facilities to determine if you can follow all necessary guidelines from Softball BC and the facility owner.

Review Softball BC Return to Play Guidelines and, as a board, bring forward a motion at a board meeting to approve the guidelines for your club.

Provide a copy to your facility owners in order to be given park permits.

Confirm your agreement with Softball BC to follow the guidelines through the compliance agreement.

Register your members with Softball BC.

Clearly mark entrance and exit points, areas for participants and spectators to go to, and if they are being provided by the LSO, where the sanitation stations will be set up as well as signage for the above. Place lidded garbage cans by dugouts for disposal of masks, tissues, wipes.

Mark appropriate distancing indicators for washrooms and concession if necessary.

Delegate an attendance coordinator and communicate with members the process for submitting attendance reports.

Delegate a scheduler to assign start and end times for all activities. If you have multiple diamonds, determine if they meet the criteria for gatherings of 50 people on each diamond and schedule, accordingly, using staggered start times if more than one diamond.

Ensure field equipment volunteers or contractors have PPE and sanitizer equipment and are following protocols for COVID-19 cleaning as per WorkSafeBC.

Attendance Tracker and Screener are to be stationed at the entrance to the facility.

If necessary, delegate a Sanitizing Champion to clean high touch areas and ensure cleanliness at the venue or venues.

Communicate, communicate, communicate with your members and the public.

COACH ROLE

Confirm your exact scheduled time and location for all softball activities. Communicate these times with your players/parents.

Delegate role of Attendance Tracker, Distance Monitor, In-Charge Attendant, Sanitizing Champion and Screener from among team.

Remember to bring a mask with you to all activities in case it is needed.

Check that the first aid kit is stocked and includes disposable gloves.

Ensure area to be used has been sanitized and hand cleaning supplies are available for everyone to use before beginning activity.

Direct team members to your assigned area for practice or games.

Maintain minimum of two metres distance whenever possible.

Fill out line-up card for games but do not share copies. Have them take a photo of your line-up if needed.

Be sure your area has been cleaned, sanitized, all garbage and refuse has been cleaned up before leaving the dugout area.

No post game meetings. Leave the park promptly as soon as cleanup is complete.

Attend the PMFSA coaches training meeting.

Follow all policies and procedures developed by PMFSA.

UMPIRE ROLE

Confirm your exact start and end time for your game.

Make sure your personal equipment is clean and sanitized before going to the park.

Arrive at the ballpark fully dressed.

Remember to bring two face covering masks with you.

Have your own clearly marked water bottle and snack.

Check in with the Attendance Tracker and Screener.

Go immediately to your designated area.

Do not handle any equipment other than your personal gear.

No spitting, gum, sunflower seeds, etc.

Maintain physical distance protocol when meeting with coach or your partner.

Sanitize your hands at after every half inning by washing at least 20 seconds with soap and water or using an approved hand sanitizer.

After the game is over, leave the park promptly.

PLAYER ROLE

Make sure your personal equipment is clean and sanitized before going to the park and keep it together in your bag.

Remember to bring two face covering masks with you as well as a small bottle of hand sanitizer.

Bring a foldout or camping chair.

Have your own clearly marked water bottle and snack.

Arrive at the ballpark fully dressed for softball activity.

Check in with the Attendance Tracker and Screener.

Go right to your designated area and wait for direction from your coach.

No spitting, gum, sunflower seeds, etc.

We recommend you don't share equipment, but if you must, be sure it has been sanitized before and after you use it.

Do your cheers but avoid getting close or screaming.

No high fives, handshakes, hugs – wave and thank the coaches/umpires and your teammates/opponents after a practice/game.

Sanitize your hands frequently, suggest after every half inning, or between drills by washing at least 20 seconds with soap and water or using an approved hand sanitizer.

After the game or practice is over, leave the park promptly with no meetings or visiting.

PARENT/SPECTATOR ROLE

Bring a foldout or camping chair. Do not sit in bleachers.

If there are other groups still on your team's designated practice/game space, wait at your vehicle or a safe distance away until the space has been vacated and your team coach indicates it is ok to come into the area

Check in on arrival with the Attendance Tracker and Screener.

Go to the designated spectator area while maintaining proper physical distancing.

No spitting, gum, sunflower seeds, etc.

In the event of extreme weather which causes either a delay or postponement to the activity, return to your vehicle to wait for resumption of play, or to a sheltered area while maintaining minimum 2 metres from anyone other than those in their own households.

After the game or practice is over, leave the park promptly with no meetings or visiting.

Ensure your child comes prepared with all required gear, hand sanitizer and protective face mask.

MONITORING AND UPDATING OUR PLANS AS NECESSARY

PMFSA receives all updates regarding changes to the Return to Play Plan from Softball BC. We will make changes to any of our documents or policy and procedures at any time if necessary, to meet the Return to Play Requirements.

We will do regular check-in's via email with coaches and volunteers to access our plan and to monitor risks. We will make changes to our policies and procedures if necessary.

Any changes to our plan will be sent by email to The City of Penticton and The City of Peachland to ensure we continue to meet their rental agreements.