



June 8, 2020

SUBJECT: TNC RETURN-TO-PLAY COVID-19 GUIDELINES

Pursuant to agreement among Hillsborough County Parks and Recreation (HCPR) leadership, the following procedures and rules are to be followed upon the initiation of park operations at Town 'N Country (TNC) Baseball.

I. Park Operations

1. In order to maintain safety and proper social distancing rules, TNC Baseball will make the following adjustments to their operations and facilities, in effect until such time as the Center for Disease Control (CDC), State Health Department, and HCPR announce it is safe to return to normal activities:
 - A. TNC will adhere to a Return-To-Play (RTP) Operational stance that will be for practices only for registered participants and on a voluntary basis. This will NOT include games, camps, scrimmages, or tournaments, etc.
 - B. Due to TNC having many available points of entry to the fields, a designated and communicated point of entry check point will be communicated to parents for pickup/drop-offs near their specific field. The coach/volunteer will facilitate recording a participation roster.
 - C. A temperature check for contact tracing, will also be conducted. As well as signing a waiver prior to entering the facility. Those who feel ill and or may be symptomatic must stay home and follow CDC protocols.
 - D. The public address system will broadcast guidance to ensure adherence of hand sanitizing/washing and social distancing reminders on a regular basis.
 - E. Practice times will be staggered to avoid player/coach/parent contact congestion between sessions.
 - F. Parents and family members will be encouraged to remain in their vehicles or drop-off children if possible. If a parent/legal guardian chooses to watch (limit to 1 parent/guardian per child), they must:

1. Stay off the field, as all practices are considered closed. This means, no parents other than the authorized coaching staff are allowed on the field. (10-person group, this includes the coach)
 2. Bring in their own sitting (i.e. camping chairs) and space out with the appropriate distancing guidelines within common areas. Blocking walkways and or entryways of any kind is prohibited.
- G. Bleachers will not be available for use at this time. They will be roped off and visibly marked as restricted from use. Volunteers will enforce this on a constant routine to police any violators. Blatant disregard to adherence will result in disciplinary action.
- H. Concession stand operations will be suspended until further notice. This means no selling of refreshments and/or merchandise.
- I. Clubhouse use will be limited to the treatment of minor injuries and or such limited activities that are mission critical and are unable to be executed in any other reasonable area. Any other emergency use of the clubhouse between games will be limited by social distancing and disinfection rules and guidelines.
- J. Remote video teleconferencing is the standard for Board Meetings and or other park sanctioned congregations, online registrations, and parent meetings.
- K. Maintenance and storage sheds will only be used and accessed by facilities and authorized park personnel. Social distancing guidelines will be maintained at all times within these resources. The wiping down and sanitizing of equipment between uses will be practiced by staff.
- L. TNC's safety plan will incorporate CDC safety distancing guidelines and provisions for inclement weather. Such In case in the event of lightning parents who are waiting in cars will be immediately notified to pick their child up. Children will be released to the parent/legal guardian who dropped them off unless other instruction was provided to the coach by that parent/guardian.
- M. In the event there is known confirmation of someone being sick. There will be no RTP eligibility until that/those individuals meet CDC's criteria to discontinue home isolation. The facility will also be disinfected by volunteers

and staff. The designated board member will also notify health officials to include the HCPR Athletics Office.

- N. Program Hours will adhere to their scheduled times. If the need should arise where a practice may need to be changed, it will be communicated and approved by the Division Player Agent and VP of Baseball Operations and assure it does not fall outside the Complex program hours from Sunrise to 9pm.

II. Field Operations

There are numerous occasions when usual baseball procedures would require players to be in violation of social distancing rules and recommendations. Therefore, the following adjustments will be made at all fields:

1. RTP Guidelines are intended to reduce participant capacity by having no more than 10 people per group. This includes coaches as part of the 10-person group per CDC guidelines. All dugouts will only be utilized as point of entry/exit. They will not be utilized as equipment storage, and or team congregation or water break spots. Players and coaches must sanitize their hands prior to entering the field and immediately after returning therefrom with the team issued hand sanitizer (min. 60% alcohol).
2. The normal location of batter, catcher, and coach put those persons too close together, so the following changes to practices/drills will be made:
 - A. The back line of the batter's box will become a hard rule. It is recommended to coaches that these drills be separated to individual batting with no catcher and/or the catcher be more of a backstop 6'-10' behind batter.
 - B. The catcher's box will add a line across the box, four feet back from the front. Catchers will set up behind that line for those practice drills.
 - C. Cones/markers will be utilized to help players recognize 6' distancing guidelines on drills.
 - D. Team huddles will allow for 6' social distancing and no player contact like handshakes or high fives will be allowed.

- E. Ideally coaching staff will remain with their group and will not rotate by activity. Groups are prohibited from intermingling.

III. Compliance

In the effort to assure that these guidelines are being enforced, TNC will implement the following:

1. Volunteer Coordinator/Board Member will oversee that there are assigned, trained volunteers to routinely monitor the following:
 - A. Bathroom usage to ensure social distancing and proper facility resource use.
 - B. Clean, sanitize, and disinfect common touch surfaces between sessions (Restrooms, door handles, sink handles, drinking fountains).
 - C. Provide assistance and or instruction on how to properly apply disinfectants and properly stow these products away from children and other non-staff personnel.
 - D. Routinely rove the complex for any violations and vocalize corrective action. Violators who do not comply are to be reported to that Divisions Player Agent and or any Board Member for immediate action.
 - E. CDC suggests that participants, coaches, and parents wear masks, thus volunteers will routinely remind members via the Public Announcement (PA) system of this safety guideline.
2. Division Player Agents and Coaches will oversee the baseball field operations and safety compliance under direction from the Vice President Director of Baseball Operations. This includes and is not limited to:
 - A. Monitor group practices and adherence of all safety guidelines.
 - B. Enforce immediate adherence and corrective action to all violations.
 - C. All scheduled practices will be recorded with a participant roster to assist with contract tracing if necessary.
 - D. The use of shared player equipment is discouraged, any shared equipment is required to be sanitized frequently between uses.
 - E. Assure that all fields and facilities are secured/locked after use, with the exception of the field designated for public use.
 - F. Batting Cages and Pitching Lanes are restricted from public use due to the challenge of adhering and enforcing stated policies.

Lack or refusal to comply with these safety guidelines can result in disciplinary action that can result in suspension from participation in RTP activities, as well as the possibility of being banned from the park. These rules and procedures supersede any previous interim social distancing internal TNC guidelines. Further, it is understood that all of these rules and procedures are untested, and may require some adaptation once RTP and operations begin. However, no team, coach, player, or parent may make any such changes without the expressed written consent of the Town 'N Country Board of Directors and or HCPR leadership.

These stop-gap measures and guidelines will assure that Town 'N Country Baseball is taking every capable precaution in assuring our community's safety during these trying times.

Respectfully,

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