

SOUTH AUSTIN BASEBALL

Operating Procedures (Summer 2020)

Purpose

The purpose of this Operational Procedure (OP) is to provide guidance to South Austin Baseball families, coaches & players. This OP is based on the guidelines set forth by Austin Parks & Recreation Department (PARC), Little League International, Centers of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommendations and the Texas Governors Minimum Health Protocols for re-opening youth sports facilities.

Re-opening Process (PHASE 1)

Effective Monday, June 8, 2020, South Austin Baseball's facilities are open for players and coaches only for baseball activities - no games. Spectators are not permitted. Bleachers & concessions will be closed. Any participant shall be registered with South Austin Baseball and have a waiver on file. Unaffiliated individuals are not permitted to participate on South Austin Baseball's facilities.

Re-opening Process (PHASE 2)

Limited spectators who follow best practices of social distancing.
Bleachers & concessions opening per guidelines listed below.

How COVID-19 Spreads

The virus that causes COVID-19 is mainly spread by respiratory droplets. When someone infected with COVID-19 coughs or sneezes, respiratory droplets that contain the virus are expelled and can be breathed in by someone nearby. Although the virus cannot enter the body through the skin, the respiratory droplets carrying the virus can get into your airways or mucous membranes of your eyes, nose, or mouth to infect you. The virus can also be spread if you touch a surface contaminated with virus and then touch your eyes, nose or mouth, although this is not the primary way the virus spreads. SOUTH AUSTIN BASEBALL has implemented several steps to help reduce the spread of COVID-19. The following are guidelines for re-opening will be enforced by all participants, coaches, umpires/officials, spectators and volunteers to help keep all communities safe from the COVID-19 virus.

Hand Hygiene

Hand washing is one of the key points to help stop the spread of COVID-19. SOUTH AUSTIN BASEBALL encourages participants, volunteers and spectators to use hand sanitizing stations while at the facility. SOUTH AUSTIN BASEBALL will provide hand sanitizer (containing at least 60% of alcohol) at various locations including dugouts, restrooms, bleachers & concession stand.

Social Distancing

Social Distancing is another one of the key points to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. SOUTH AUSTIN BASEBALL encourages participants, volunteers and spectators to minimize in-person contact with others that are not in the same household, and keeping 6 feet of separation from individuals.

- Phase 1 - Coaches & players only. Dropoff is preferred; however, parents may wait in their vehicle during practice. Players & coaches will not be allowed on the field until their scheduled start time. Social distancing markers will be applied on benches and dugout.
- Phase 2 - Only one parent/guardian per participant is permitted at practice; siblings or any individuals who are not scheduled to practice or play games are prohibited from the facility. Social distancing markers will be applied on bleachers for spectators.
- Masks are required to be worn by spectators, players (except while participating in practice or games), coaches and umpire/officials.
- Games & practices will have at least 30 minutes between each game/practice to allow all plenty of time to clean, sanitize, and disinfect the facilities after every game and practice.

Face Coverings

Face coverings are not intended to protect the wearer, but to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. Face coverings can be made of cloth materials or medical grade; and will be required to be worn by all participants (not while in play), volunteers, and spectators while at facility to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

- Players should not wear face coverings while participating in practice or games to prevent unnecessary medical situations.
- Spectators & volunteers are required to wear face coverings while at the facility.

Playing Field and Dugouts/Benches

Keeping the playing field and dugouts/benches safe for participants, volunteers and the umpires at all times.

- Dugouts & other amenities with restricted access must be locked at the conclusion of each scheduled usage
- Preston Field access will be thru the left field gate only.
- Weber Field access will be thru the right field gate only.
- Players & coaches will be required to use hand sanitizer when entering and exiting the field.
- Dropoff is preferred; however, parents may wait in their vehicle.
- Each player must provide their own personal equipment - no sharing.
- Catcher's gear will be required to be cleaned & sanitized before re-use.
- Parents will be responsible for cleaning each player's equipment.
- No waiting in line for stations while practicing .
- No handshakes/ personal contact celebrations.
- Game Balls will need to be cleaned & sanitized at the end of each inning during each game and as needed during play.
- Practice Balls will need to be cleaned & sanitized at the end of practice.
- Players may not lick their fingers before pitching or handling the ball.
- Each player needs their own water bottle or sports drink bottle.
- Sunflower seeds, bubble gum & candy are prohibited in the dugouts, playing field, batting cages, bleachers, or any other areas of the facility at all times.
- Players will be assigned spots with 6ft separation while waiting to bat or to participate in the practice or game.
- Benches need to be cleaned & sanitized after every game and practice.
- Umpires will be placed behind the pitcher's mound/circle to call balls and strikes to minimize contact.

Concessions, Food, and Snacks (PHASE 2)

Concessions may resume operations only during scheduled games

- Gloves and face coverings should always be worn by concessionaires.
- Contactless payment only.
- Concessionaires must sanitize hands between interactions with customers.
- All food and drinks served at concessions must be pre-packaged and sealed.
- Provide 6-foot social distance markers to concession areas in which lines form.
- Sunflower seeds, bubble gum & candy are prohibited in the dugouts, playing field, batting cages, bleachers, or any other areas of the facility at all times.

Cleaning of Facility

While most have common knowledge of how to keep your facility clean, we are in a time that this needs to be done often to help stop the spread of COVID-19.

- Restrooms will have limited access. Masks must be worn to use the restroom. Players will require hand sanitizer following use of the restroom before returning to play.
- Daily checklist of all facility amenities will be recorded for all key persons to have access to show when cleaning, disinfecting, and sanitizing of restrooms, concession stands, and frequently used items have occurred.
- Educational materials on hand hygiene and social distancing will be posted around the complex.

Keeping Record

SOUTH AUSTIN BASEBALL will keep daily tracking of attendance at games/practices, volunteer work schedule and facility cleaning schedule.

- All participants & spectators will be responsible for measuring their body temperature (no greater than or equal to 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit) to ensure that no fever is present prior to participating or attending any event at the facilities.
- Anyone with symptoms of COVID-19, including fever, cough, or worsening respiratory symptoms, or any known exposure to a person with COVID-19 should not attend any event until cleared by a medical professional.
- SOUTH AUSTIN BASEBALL is required to report to City of Austin Parks and Recreation SPOC when a participant, volunteer and spectator is being tested and results for COVID-19. Reporting to guardians of participants, volunteers and spectators on the dates/times when a participant, volunteer and spectator is being tested and results for COVID-19.
- Any participant, volunteer or spectator that has been tested for COVID-19, to remain off facility grounds for 14 days or until a negative result has been presented. Proof of those results from a medical professional will need to be given to SOUTH AUSTIN BASEBALL.