

Strawberry Vale Minor Fastball Association Return to Play for Softball

References:

A. ViaSport Return to Sport Guidelines for BC:

<https://www.viasport.ca/sites/default/files/ReturntoSportGuidelines.pdf>

B. Softball BC “Back to Bases” Return to Play Guidelines

<https://softball.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Softball-BC-Return-to-Play-Guidelines-June-15-2020.pdf>

C. BCCDC Covid-19 Resources: <http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19>

D. WorkSafeBC: <https://www.worksafebc.com/en/about-us/covid-19-updates/covid-19-returningsafe-operation>

Situation:

Softball BC, the PSO for softball, has drafted a plan for softball consistent with the federal and provincial health guidelines, and the provisions of the viaSport Return to Play guidelines. Strawberry Vale Fastball must have their own written Return to Play plans approved by their board of directors in compliance with all orders and guidelines from the Provincial Health Officer and must be either posted on the wall of a facility or on the organization's website.

Softball BC emphasized the advice of public health officials and viaSport to move ahead slowly, and systematically restart activities in a way that allows our organization and local health authorities to monitor, evaluate and adjust as needed. Given an evolving situation in a COVID-19 persistent environment, all organizations are required to follow the guidance from all levels of government and the BC health authorities to ensure you are providing a safe environment for all participants.

With the Phase 2 guidelines that have been released by the Province, diligence and strict adherence to protocols are essential to ensure the health and safety of all players, coaches, and support members. Risks of exposure to COVID -19 are increased through close physical proximity or through contaminated surfaces. The closer together individuals are and the longer they are close to each other, the greater the risk. For return to play to softball, exposure through proximity, shared equipment and spaces will be of the highest concern.

Challenge: In order to reduce the risks of exposure and transmission, the implementation of protocols for all drills, practices and future play will need to be implemented.

Way Ahead:

In order to return to play, the following positions must be in place for each softball activity:

Attendance Coordinator: a person assigned by the Local Softball Organization (LSO) 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.

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

In Charge Person (Injury attendant): a person (could be a coach or 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.

Sanitizing Champion: a person assigned by a team to be responsible for sanitation of the Facility and equipment during a given softball activity.

Screeener: 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.

Softball plan:

Phase 1 (Inning 1 in the Softball BC RTP): June to July 1 at earliest. Controlled Practices and Skill Development:

We will follow the Local Softball Organization guidelines for the Facility and diamond protocols:

- No more than 50 per diamond or as per the guidelines for attendance as outlined by the respective Municipality. (assigned to the Attendance Tracker)
- Please take into account shared spaces as well as entrances and exit requirements.
- Frequent hand sanitizing or washing must be scheduled.
- Controlled practices and skill development will take into account minimizing shared use of equipment and maintaining physical distance wherever possible.
- Water bottles and food items are not to be shared.
- No spitting, sunflower seeds or gum allowed.
- Where possible, each player should have their own personal equipment, including batting helmets, bats, catchers gear, etc.
- 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.

- 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 to the injured player. Everyone else must maintain physical distancing.
- Bleachers should be closed or used only in a way that physical distancing is maintained.
- Under no circumstances will there be games or scrimmages.

Phase 2 (Inning 3 in the Softball BC RTP): July to August: Controlled practices/skill development and Controlled inter-park games and scrimmages (only with prior approval from Softball BC)

- Continue with controlled practices, skill development and adding games or scrimmages with teams within Strawberry Vale Minor Fastball Association or between local association with permission from Softball BC.
- No more than 50 per diamond or as per the guidelines for attendance as outlined by the respective Municipality.
- Please take into account shared spaces as well as entrance and exit requirements (to be marked at Rosedale Park)
- Bleachers should be closed or used only in a way that physical distancing is maintained. ("safe" sitting areas will be delineated with tape)
- Pre-game meetings will take place at home plate while respecting distancing of at least 2 metres.
- Only one coach per team and umpire (s) 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, everyone else must maintain physical distancing.
- Face coverings for virus contagion are **recommended** for all participants and each participant must have one on hand; 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/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 metres 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 metres away from the catcher, and the batter is to move 2 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 (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.

In addition, the following are to be completed and approved by the Strawberry Vale executive prior to any Return to Play activities.

1. COVID-19 Safety Plan (Annex A);
2. Wellness Screening (Annex B);
3. Illness Policy (Annex C)
4. Outbreak Plan (Annex D);
5. First Aid Plan (Annex E)

Authorities: The LSO has the authority to amend and update the plans in accordance with Provincial, viaSport, and Softball BC guidelines as the situation develops.

Annexes:

Annex A COVID-19 Safety Plan

Annex B Wellness Screening

Annex C Illness Policy

Annex D Outbreak Plan

Annex E First Aid Plan

Strawberry Vale Minor Fastball Association COVID – 19 Safety Plan – Phase 1 Softball

As Strawberry Vale Minor Fastball Association is preparing to resume play we must develop plans to reopen safely, which includes assessing the risk of COVID-19 transmission, and developing measures to reduce these risks.

Purpose and Scope:

The procedures below will serve to eliminate, reduce and or control the hazards likely to be encountered by players, coaches, volunteers, and spectators when participating at an event.

- 1) **Assess Risk:** The COVID 19 virus causes infections of the nose, throat and lungs. The closer together individuals are and the longer they are close to each other, the greater the risk.

The virus is most commonly transmitted by an infected person through:

- a) Respiratory droplets generated when they cough or sneeze;
- b) Close personal contact, such as touching or shaking hands; and
- c) Touching objects or surfaces with the virus on it, then touching your mouth, nose or eyes.

In order to limit the risk to all players, coaches, volunteers, and spectators, the Strawberry Vale Minor Fastball Association has identified areas where people gather, situations and processes where individuals are close to one another or members of the public. We have identified the equipment that may be shared by individuals and those surfaces that people touch often. In order to ensure a safe environment for all, a Distancing Monitor and Sanitizing Champion will be identified to support the implementation of the following protocols.

- 2) **Implement Risk Reduction Protocols:** To reduce the risk of the virus spreading, the following protocols may need to be implemented to protect against the risk of COVID-19.

- a) **First level protection (elimination):** Limit the number of people and ensure physical distance whenever possible.

i) Limitations:

- (1) No more than 50 people (athletes, coaches, parents, spectators) at any softball activity

ii) Actions:

- (1) All practices (and games if permitted) will be scheduled for team use of the permitted venues;
- (2) Where there is more than one event, staggered start times are encouraged to limit the number of people coming and going at one time;
- (3) Each event will be allocated sufficient time for diamond or sport field preparation and clean up;
- (4) Activities open to individual participants will be managed through pre-registration; no drop-in activities will be held;
- (5) Teams and groups are to be instructed to arrive and depart at a specific time;
- (6) Players will fully vacate a field before new players may arrive. Players must also respect the complications that occur by coming late and therefore make all efforts to arrive on time;
- (7) No post-practice (or post-game if games are permitted) meetings should take place, all participants should leave the playing area promptly at the end of the practice (or game if permitted) or when time has expired;
- (8) No team huddles before, during or after the practice for coaching or teaching purposes all team or group meetings must ensure 2m physical distancing requirements are adhered to;
- (9) All drills to be created and implemented ensuring 2m physical distancing requirements are adhered to with appropriate indicators for players whenever possible;
- (10) Spectators in attendance at practices (or games, when permitted) must remain off the field and only spectate from the outfield (beyond the fence) or with safe distancing in the bleachers (where use is permitted);
- (11) Parents are not permitted to coach or interact with their players during practices (or games if permitted) and will adhere to Provincial Health Guidelines with respect to social / physical distancing thus maintaining safe distance from each other, coaches, and game officials at all times;
- (12) Players, coaches, volunteers, and spectators are to quickly vacate the facility after events maintaining physical distancing;

b) Second level protection (engineering): Barriers and partitions

i) Limitations:

- (1) No use of the dugout;
- (2) No indoor events (practice, cage) permitted; and
- (3) No changing or dressing rooms permitted.

ii) Actions:

- (1) At each event each player will be given a measured and marked section inside of one of the two foul line fences for equipment, water, etc; and

- (2) The Distancing Monitor will identify these areas spaced 2m apart and ensure players set up within their own designated section.

c) Third level protection (administrative): Rules and guidelines

i) Limitations:

- (1) All government expectations and requirements to be met, including viaSport Phase 2 guidelines; and
- (2) All Baseball BC Personal Health and Hygiene Recommended Guidelines to be reviewed and enforced as outlined.

ii) Actions:

- (1) Rules and guidelines will be sent to all participants, and posted;
- (2) Every event to include reminders to participants regarding 2m physical distancing and include no spitting, no face touching, no sunflower seeds, no contact between the athletes;
- (3) A Screener will be assigned to perform verbal symptom screening at every session to ensure all participants are symptom free;
- (4) Players and parents will be reminded prior to each event of the necessary protocols;
- (5) Coaches will hold copies of the rules and guidelines;
- (6) Signage advising and educating on COVID-19 wellness, hygiene, and social/ physical distancing measures will be posted at facilities prior to all events; and
- (7) Attendance must be taken by the Attendance Tracker and kept at every event for all people in attendance including parents (drivers). These records must be kept by the Attendance Coordinator for 30 days before being destroyed.

d) Fourth level protection:

i) Masks:

- (1) Each player and coach will be required to have a P.P.E. mask at all practices (and games if permitted) to be worn at times when physical distancing can not be assured;
- (2) Information on selecting and using masks and instructions on how to use a mask will be disseminated.

ii) Cleaning and Disinfecting Protocols:

- (1) All players and coaches will wash their hands before and after each event;
- (2) Handwashing and hand sanitizing stations will be set up prior to each event in sufficient numbers;
- (3) Players will be responsible for ensuring they always sanitize their hands and maintain a safe distance from other players and coaches;
- (4) No shared use of personal equipment;
- (5) All players will have their own glove, which must be cleaned prior to every game or practice;
- (6) Each player will be required to bring a P.P.E. mask, appropriate footwear, baseball socks (provided by association), baseball pants, designated team shirt or jersey, left and right batting gloves if ever using team bat, team hat (provided by association), and a batters helmet;
- (7) To minimize equipment sharing each player is strongly encouraged to have their own bat;
- (8) All gear and clothing must be washed immediately after practice or games and remain unused (or re-cleaned) prior to each practice (and game if permitted), this includes hats;
- (9) All equipment with exception of bats may not be shared or touched by anyone other than its designated player / family member;
- (10) Any player who is without any of the above listed equipment (exception of a bat) will not be permitted to practice (or play);
- (11) There will be no use of a team bag. The only team equipment that will be brought and shared for practices (or games if permitted) will be bats, balls and safety equipment like L-Screens, protective netting etc., and PPE / sanitizing materials;
- (12) All team equipment / gear is to be sanitized prior to and after any practice (or game if permitted);
- (13) Any team provided bats should be sanitized prior to every event and between every use by different athletes. No other team equipment should be shared;
- (14) Shared bats must be sanitized immediately after player use and before any other player is permitted to use said bat;
- (15) Baseballs should be sanitized prior to every event and every effort given to limit the number of athletes using one ball in a practice environment;
- (16) Each team will be given sufficient sets of catcher's gear (one helmet, one glove, one pair shin guards, and one chest guard) to players who are interested and capable of playing that position. The catcher's gear will remain in that player's possession for the season. Players and their families take full responsibility of cleaning and maintaining gear until returned to the association. This catchers gear is not to be shared or used by anyone other than designated player. Additional catchers may be added if players have their own personal catchers set;
- (17) All field prep equipment to be disinfected and cleaned prior to and after every use.

e) Policies and protocols:

Each team will have the following Safety Positions:

Attendance Coordinator: a person assigned by the Local Softball Organization (LSO) 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.

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.

In Charge Person (Injury attendant): a person (could be a coach or 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.

Sanitizing Champion: a person assigned by a team to be responsible for sanitation of the Facility and equipment during a given softball activity.

Screeener: 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.

(1) Screening of players, coaches and volunteers

- (a) Screening will be conducted in accordance with Annex B; and
- (b) Illness Plan is outlined in Annex C.

(2) Communication and training plans

- (a) All policies and protocols are provided to all players, coaches, and volunteers and posted on the Strawberry Vail Fastball website;
- (b) All players and coaches are reminded and updated at each event by the Distancing Monitor;
- (c) All updates to the policies and protocols will be sent to all players, coaches, and volunteers by email, verbally at each event, and posted on the Strawberry Vale Fastball website;
- (d) Signs will be posted at the facility to include occupancy limits and effective hygiene practices;

- (e) Signs will be posted indicating who is restricted from participating, including players, coaches, and spectators with symptoms; and
- (f) Coaches or safety volunteers have been trained on monitoring participants to ensure policies and procedures are being followed.

(3) Continue to develop and Update Policies

- (a) As the COVID-19 pandemic evolves, any amendments to this plan will be disseminated to all registered participants;
- (b) Safety Personnel are to identify risks and suggest changes to policies;
- (c) Any health and safety concerns can be raised to the Safety Personnel;
- (d) When resolving safety issues, designated health and safety representatives will be engaged; and
- (e) All new staff, coaches, volunteers or those taking on new roles or responsibilities.

In accordance with the order of the Provincial Health Officer, this plan must be posted.

Wellness Screening

Team Name: _____ Screener Name: _____ Facility: _____ Date: _____

[illegible]

ILLNESS POLICY

Inform an individual in a position of authority (coach, Safety Personnel, program coordinator) immediately if, you feel any symptoms of COVID-19 such as 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.

Assessment

- 1) Team members must review the self-assessment signage located throughout the facility each morning before their shift/practice/activity to attest that they are not feeling any of the COVID 19 symptoms;
- 2) Team Screener/coaches will visually monitor team members to assess any early warning signs as to the status of their health and to touch base on how they are regarding their personal safety throughout the workday/practice/activity;
- 3) If Team Members are unsure please have them use the self-assessment tool <https://bc.thrive.health/covid19/en> or through the COVID-19 BC Support App self assessment tool;
- 4) If a Team Member is feeling sick with COVID-19 symptoms
 - a) They should remain at home and contact Health Link BC at 8-1-1;
 - b) If they feel sick and /or are showing symptoms while at practice (or game if permitted), they should be sent home immediately and have them contact 8-1-1 or a doctor for further guidance; and
 - c) No Team Member may participate in a practice/activity if they are symptomatic.
- 5) If a Team Member tests positive for COVID-19
 - a) The Team Member will not be permitted to return to the field/practice/facility until they are free of the COVID-19 virus;
 - b) Any Team Members who play closely with the infected Team Member will also be removed from the field/practice/facility for at least 14 days to ensure the infection does not spread further; and
 - c) Close off, clean and disinfect their field/practice/facility area immediately and any surfaces that could have potentially be infected/touched.
- 6) If a Team Member has been tested and is waiting for the results of a COVID-19 Test
 - a) As with the confirmed case, the Team Member must be removed from the field/practice/facility;
 - b) The Public Health Agency of Canada advises that any person who has even mild symptoms to stay home and call the public health authority of B.C.;
 - c) Other Team Members who may have been exposed will be informed and removed from the field/practice/activity for at least 14 days or until the diagnosis of COVID-19 is ruled out by health authorities; and

- d) The field/practice/activity space will be closed off, cleaned, and disinfected immediately and any other surfaces that could have potentially been infected/touched.
- 7) If a Team Member has come in to contact with someone who is confirmed to have COVID-19
- a) Team Members must advise their team Screener/coach if they reasonably believe they have been exposed to COVID-19;
 - b) Once the contact is confirmed, the Team Member will be removed from the field/practice/activity for at least 14 days or as otherwise directed by public health authorities. Team Members who may have come into close contact with the Team Member will also be removed from the field for at least 14 days; and
 - c) The field/activity area will be closed off, cleaned, and disinfected immediately and any other surfaces that could have potentially been infected/touched.
- 8) Quarantine or Self-Isolate if:
- a) Any Team Member who has travelled outside of Canada or the province within the last 14 days is not permitted to enter any part of the facility and must quarantine and self isolate;
 - b) Any Team Member with any symptoms of COVID-19 is not permitted to enter any part of the facility and must quarantine and self-isolate;
 - c) Any Team Member from a household with someone showing symptoms of COVID-19 is not permitted to enter any part of the facility and must quarantine and self-isolate; and
 - d) Any Team Member who is in quarantine or self-isolating as a result of contact with an infected person or in families who are self-isolating, is not permitted to enter any part of the facility.

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.

1. The Team Screener or other Safety Personnel is to immediately inform the Board President in the event a case or outbreak is reported.
2. The board president will convene the Board to modify, restrict, postpone or cancel activities.
3. If coaches, players, or volunteers report they are suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19 and have been at the field or facility, implement enhanced cleaning measures to reduce risk of transmission. If Strawberry Vale Minor Fastball Association is not the facility operator, notify the facility right away.
4. Implement illness policy and advise individuals to:
 - a. self-isolate;
 - b. 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;
 - c. 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;
 - d. Individuals can contact 8-1-1 if further health advice is required and 9-1-1 if it is an emergency; and
 - e. Individuals can learn more about how to manage their illness here: <http://www.bccdc.ca/healthinfo/diseases-conditions/covid-19/about-covid-19/ifyouare-sick>
5. In the event of a suspected case or outbreak of influenza-like-illness, immediately report and discuss the suspected outbreak with the Medical Health Officer (or delegate) at your local health authority. Implement Illness Policy and enhanced measures.
6. If Strawberry Vale Minor Fastball Association is contacted by a medical health officer in the course of contact tracing, cooperate with local health authorities.
7. Further resources:
 - a. For more information on cleaning and disinfecting: http://www.bccdc.ca/HealthInfoSite/Documents/CleaningDisinfecting_PublicSettings.pdf
 - b. Regional Health Authorities: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/about-bc-s-healthcaresystem/partners/health-authorities/regional-health-authorities>

First Aid Procedures

Injury / Event Safety Strategy:

In the unfortunate event that a player is injured, the following protocols should be considered.

General First Aid Protocols

- Universal approach – assume all victims are COVID-19 positive.
- For all issues, only the In Charge person (Injury Attendant) should initially have contact with the victim.
- At each focal point, provide a dry container including hand sanitizer and PPE for In Charge person, victim, and parent.
- Post rescue (resuscitation or first aid with bodily fluids): Hand hygiene, shower, change clothes, bag clothes to be washed, disinfect first aid equipment.
- Provide the parent or caregiver with PPE appropriate for the injury.
- Provide guidance to the parent or caregiver performing first aid.

Scene Assessment

1. Ensure scene is safe.
2. Assume universal approach – all victims COVID-19 positive.
3. Minimize the number of rescuers in contact with the victim. Only the In Charge person is permitted to approach the injured player. (If more than one player is injured at the same time a coach will approach that player.)
4. 2m physical distancing at all times.
5. Don appropriate PPE (self, victim, bystander)
6. If the injury requires attention the parent will take over for the In Charge person only after being invited to do so. Parents are not permitted to come onto the field unless they are indicated to do so by the In Charge person
7. If a parent is not present the In Charge person will remain with the player until the parent or medical attention arrives.

Post-Rescue Procedures

1. Take care to remove and dispose of PPE in a safe manner.
2. Disinfect all surfaces that were in contact with either the victim or rescuer during treatment (chair, pen, clipboard, etc.).
3. Practice hand hygiene and disinfection if required.