

South Dayton S.W.A.T. Amateur Baseball Club

Fall 2020 Baseball Season: COVID-19 Operations Proposal

Proposal:

To ensure the safety of players and spectators while decreasing opportunities for the transmission of the COVID-19 virus, the organizers and coaching staff of the *South Dayton S.W.A.T. Amateur Baseball Club* intend to implement safety protocols based on guideline recommendations obtained from the Ohio Department of Health (ODH), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the Centerville/Washington Township Parks District (CWPD). If there are conflicting standards among the above stated organizations, the most stringent standard will be adopted. The following proposal is established to identify safety protocols, allowing players, coaches, and families of the *South Dayton S.W.A.T. Baseball Club* and their opponents to safely navigate through the fall baseball season (2020).

Social Distancing Requirements:

Prior to arrival on game day:

- The coaching staff will contact opposing team's coaches to notify them and their players/parents/spectators of social distancing requirements, wearing facial mask coverings while in the dugout area, and maintaining social distancing of 6-foot spacing (minimum) around the baseball diamond/field prior to the game, and sitting only in close proximity with family members.
- If any player, coach or family member (spectators) exhibit symptoms or known exposures to COVID-19, they are not to attend the game and will be asked to self-quarantine. Additionally, any individual (player/coach/family member) having known symptoms or exposure to COVID-19 will be reminded that he/she/they cannot attend that day's game.
- The head coach will identify the arrival time for game day; this time will be communicated to S.W.A.T. players/families and the players/families of that day's opponent. (Additionally, the head coach will notify all potential spectators that they are required to bring/wear masks for moving toward and away from the game field and must bring their own seating—foldable chairs, etc.—to that day's contest.

Upon arrival at field/during game:

- Upon exiting cars, walking to field, and returning to car after the game, all players, coaches, and spectators must wear a mask or other facial covering (unless possessing a medical condition/unable to do so given current ODH and CDC guidelines).
- All family/guardians/spectators will be required to: bring own seating; adhere to 6 feet social distancing along fenced sidelines and outfield fence (marked with orange athletic cones); responsibly place chairs into family groups; distance at least 6 feet from other families/spectators around the field of play.
- While physically present inside the dugout, all players/coaches---*South Dayton S.W.A.T.* and opposing team--- must wear masks/facial coverings. (*Masks/facial coverings are not required while on the field of play.)
- If bleachers are accessible, 6 feet of physical distancing will be marked for spectators; however, the *South Dayton S.W.A.T. Baseball Club* will strongly encourage all spectators to bring their own seating and position themselves along fence down baselines and in the outfield.
- There will be NO SEATING behind the dugout or behind home plate; these areas will be roped off to ensure social distancing between players/coaches/umpire and spectators.
- No social gatherings (ex. large group meetings including families or other spectators) may take place before or after a game.

Practices:

- Social distancing, COVID-19 screening questions, temperature check, mask requirements, and hand sanitization will be enforced for any practices.

Screening:

- Prior to practices and each game, a coach/designated parent (of the *South Dayton S.W.A.T. Baseball Club*) will perform a symptoms check and temperature evaluation on each player and parent/guardian/family.
- The opposing team will be required to complete a symptom check of their player roster and conduct screening (which will aid in contact tracing, if it becomes necessary); if a player, coach, or spectator is positively for COVID-19 symptoms, he/she/they will be expected to follow the previously-described protocols and immediately leave the playing field/designated spectator areas and initiate quarantine protocol. (Quarantine protocols will adhere to CDC recommendations/follow up with health care provider, as indicated.)
- Questions for symptoms for COVID-19 include:
 - *Are you aware of your own exposure to anyone currently known to be positive for COVID-19, or anyone who is in quarantine for COVID-19 symptoms?*
 - Note: Any individual positive for COVID-19 may present symptoms over a period of 2-14 days.
 - *Do you currently exhibit symptoms of COVID-19?*
 - Those exhibiting the following symptoms may be positive for COVID-19:
 - fever or chills
 - persistent cough or shortness of breath/difficulty breathing
 - fatigue/muscle or body aches/headache
 - loss of taste or smell
 - sore throat; congestion or runny nose
 - nausea or vomiting; diarrhea
 - This is not an exhaustive list of all possible symptoms.

Sanitation:

- Each dugout (“home”/“visitors”) will be wiped with an approved sanitizing agent prior to and after the game.
- Hand sanitizer will be provided in each dugout (“home”/“visitors”) for players/coaches.
- Player equipment bags will be spaced both inside and outside of dugout to limit congregation.
- Players will not share food, drinks (not limited to water bottles), clothing, towels or other personal equipment (including bats and helmets).
- Each team must provide its own baseballs, only to be used/handled by that team’s players (to reduce likelihood of cross-contamination between teams).
- Coaches will sanitize hands, per CDC guidelines, after coming into contact with the jersey/helmet of any player.

Enforcement/Education:

- A designated team representative (Ken Sobecki – see contact information below) from *South Dayton S.W.A.T. Amateur Baseball Club* will ensure compliance of the above stated. He will perform temperature checks and symptom evaluation of players. The designated team representative will ensure spectator social distancing, and compliance with masks/gators in and around the field.

- Team Enforcement Representative (Contact):

Ken Sobecki
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- The coaching staff will supply hand sanitizer for players and frequently encourage its use.
- Each team will play only 1 game in a 24-hour period to decrease likelihood of exposure near the ballfield and its surrounding area and will assist in contact tracing, if needed.
- Players, coaches, family members, and spectators will be educated on following mask guidelines while outdoors. Information will also be shared on the need to wear masks/facial coverings when social distancing cannot be achieved at the outdoor venue (ex. congregation during rain delays).
- Each player and his parent/guardian will read the *South Dayton S.W.A.T. Fall 2020 Baseball Season COVID-19 Operations Proposal* and sign a written agreement representing his/her intent to obey all protocol regulations.

Response to suspected/positive case:

- If any player (or household member of a player) becomes aware of any symptoms of COVID-19 symptoms prior to a game or practice, the player and household members are not to report for any practice/game until they have been medically evaluated/quarantined as directed by ODH/CDC.
- If any player or coach from the home or opposing team should become ill during the course of a game or practice, or display any symptoms of COVID-19 (per CDC), that person(s) will be immediately removed from the venue.
- Any individual who fails the COVID-19 screening due to exposure, symptoms or temperature level should continue to wear a face covering and will be sent immediately to a designated area for isolation; at this time, arrangements will be made for parent pickup and the individual will be transported from the venue. (Anyone who stays with/cares for the potentially infected person while in the isolation area must wear a face cover.)
- If positive symptoms/exposure is suspected, recommend following up with health care professional for further treatment/recommendations.
- Anyone considered exposed per ODH guidelines is to be quarantined for 14 days and, if no symptoms, may return to practice/games.
- Any player who has a household member that has tested positive for COVID-19 must quarantine for 14 days, and if no symptoms, may return to practice/games.
- Any player who is positive for COVID-19 must quarantine immediately, and information will be collected on positive exposures per ODH regulations. Any player, coach, or family exposed to a player discovered to be positive for COVID-19 must quarantine for 14 days per ODH guidelines. In the event the location of exposure is unknown and the duration is unclear, the entire team must be quarantined for 14 days, and not participate in games/practice until asymptomatic/clear of symptoms.
- In the event a player has a positive COVID-19 test, and is no longer symptomatic and completed recommended quarantine, the player must be evaluated by a medical professional for a return to play. (Special Note: This clearance must include a cardiac-specific risk assessment.)
- ODH will be notified of a positive COVID-19 case, and all players, coaches, and families of the *South Dayton S.W.A.T. Baseball Club* will work with agency as needed for purposes of contact tracing.
- If a COVID-19 positive case arises, all team members/parents/guardians/coaching staff will be notified of the positive result (per HIPPA guidelines).
- If any additional game was played which may have resulted in additional exposures, then the other team will be notified to begin/facilitate contact tracing.