

# **Return to play plan**

## **Social distancing guidelines**

### **New Brunswick**

#### **All attendees**

- **Social distancing of 2 meters is required whenever possible**
- **No sharing of any food or beverage**
- **No sunflower seeds or chewing gum**
- **Do not attend if you are sick or showing signs of sickness**
- **Do not attend if you have had contact with anyone that is sick or showing signs of sickness**
- **Ride sharing is discouraged whenever possible**
- **No sharing of personal items ie: phones, wallets, etc.**
- **Masks are recommended**
- **Wash / sanitize as often as possible**
- **Each individual is responsible for following all social distancing guidelines**
- **PLEASE shower and wash all clothing used as soon as you return home**

#### **All players**

- **Arrive no more than 15 minutes before your game time**
- **Return immediately upon the completion of your game to your vehicle**
- **Everyone with a team must sign the waiver (see below) before being permitted to play.**
- **When waiting for your game, players must remain a safe distance from the diamond and maintain social distancing.**
- **Teams will not be permitted to take the diamond until both teams from the previous game have completely cleared the diamond**
- **Upon completion of the game all players must dispose of any garbage and sanitize areas that may be common.**
- **All personal equipment must be kept outside the fenceline**
- **No sharing of personal equipment (with a possible exception of bats. See guidelines below)**
- **Players are not permitted to visit other diamonds for any reason in order to ensure that gathering limits are maintained**

#### **Captains**

- **Team captains are responsible for supplying enough sanitizer and wipes for the team for the full day. (They may designate someone else to be responsible)**

### **Conveners**

- **Registration / merchandise tables must have pilons or other markers in place to ensure 2 meter distancing. Convener and customer must remain on opposite sides of the table and 2 meters apart**
- **Whenever possible, communication between convener and captains will be done via text**
- **If pens must be shared, they must be sanitized between each use**
- **Any merchandise sold will be non-returnable**
- **If needed, depending on the number of teams, teams may be split into mini divisions to encourage minimal crossover of players/teams**
- **Whenever possible cash is discouraged. Although we do not have a debit/credit machine on site conveners can accept electronic money transfers**
- **Appropriate signage concerning social distancing guidelines and the affects of Covid 19 MUST be posted**
- **Schedules will include a 15 minute break between games to ensure that teams have time to completely clear the diamond before the waiting teams approach**
- **All guidelines and rules will be posted on our Facebook event pages as well as our website before the day of ([www.slopitchforautism.net](http://www.slopitchforautism.net)). There will also be print copies distributed to each captain with their registration package.**
- **If a convener observes players/teams not observing social distance guidelines they will warn the people involved as well as the team captain. If a second occurrence happens the player(s)/team will be suspended from the tournament**
- **Upon completion anything that may have been touched must be sanitized. These places should also be sanitized after each use whenever possible**

### **Umpires**

- **Umpires will keep a 2 meter distance from both the catcher and the batter.**
- **We advise that the umpire does not go onto the field to make a call but instead makes the call from their original position. Some movement from that position can be made to get the proper angle provided social distancing can be maintained.**
- **It is recommended that umpires wear masks**
- **The umpire will supply 2 sanitized game balls to each team at the start of each game and will get back the balls, sanitized at the end of the game.**

### **Game Play**

- **Each team will receive 2 balls at the start of their game. The defensive team will take their own ball on the field at the start of their inning. Balls will then be taken off of the field when they move to offense and sanitized. When the game is complete the team will return them to the umpire, sanitized. (replacements for damaged balls will be provided)**
- **When a ball is hit out of play, it will be retrieved by the offensive team, then sanitized and returned to the defensive team**

- **Teams will not use dugouts but will instead stay behind the fenceline with appropriate social distance maintained**
- **The catcher must keep 2 meter distance from the batter. In the event of a pop up that is being fielded by the catcher the batter must step out of the box and attempt to keep 2 meter distance.**
- **Base coaches are discouraged but if required a face mask is recommended and they MUST maintain 2 meter distance at all times**
- **The only people on the diamond should be the defensive team, batter, base runners and base coaches and umpire. An on deck batter may be on the field as well provided there is room to social distance**
- **Any pre-game conference / coin flip should ONLY include 1 captain from each team and an umpire. Social distancing of 2 meters must be kept. We suggest that rock/paper/scissors may be an easier way to determine home team than a coin flip**
- **No on field warmups are permitted including the pitcher.**
- **Bat sharing is discouraged but if it is needed the handle of the bat MUST be sanitized before each use**
- **Batters that do not get on base must retrieve and sanitize their own bat. If the batter does get on base then the bat can be retrieved by another player but it should be picked up by the barrel, then have the handle sanitized, before returning it to it's owner**
- **End of game congratulations can only be done from a 2 meter distance. No high-fives, handshakes or any form of contact is permitted**

## **Waiver addendum**

# **Player's Release and Indemnity**

I, a player, coach or manager listed on a registered roster, in my being allowed to attend at or participate in any way in any slo-pitch related activity, warrant that I am physically fit to participate and of legal age and competent to acknowledge and agree that a benefit is realized by me through attendance at the Slo-pitch For Autism event and I hereby for myself, my heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns release from liability for all personal injuries, including death and or pandemic/contagion diseases including Covid-19 and agree to indemnify and hold blameless Awareness Athletics Inc, Slo-pitch For Autism, its promoters, all other participants, officials, sponsors, advertisers, league executive, owners and/or operators of any premises and/or facilities, and each of them and any of their agents, employees or representatives or otherwise, during my participation and/or attendance at the event. In addition, I agree to, at all times, inspect equipment, playing fields, premises and event-related facilities for possible risk and determine for myself that conditions are acceptable for me to commence or continue participation and/or attendance. I also agree my participation and/or attendance, commencing or continuing, indicates acceptance of equipment, fields, premises, et al, and I knowingly and freely assume all risks and full responsibility for my participation and/or attendance, commencing or continuing. I also hereby grant Awareness Athletics Inc., Slo-pitch For Autism and their agents the irrevocable right to use my name, face or other likeness for any and all purposes. I certify that all players are at least 18 years of age or have had a parent/guardian sign on their behalf if the tournament rules allow for it.

I am aware that failure to abide by the tournament rules may result in disciplinary action being taken against me in the way of suspension(s) from the tournament offered by Awareness Athletics Inc or Slo-pitch For Autism, and such suspension(s) may be for any duration decided by Awareness Athletics Inc or Slo-pitch for Autism.