

# 2020-21 R.I. INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE RETURN TO EDUCATION-BASED ATHLETIC COMPETITION

## Modifications and Guidelines for Baseball & Softball

*In addition to complying with all guidelines and restrictions listed in pages 2-14 of this document, the subsequent sport-specific modifications must also be followed.*

### General Considerations:

- Hand sanitizer and wipes must be available at the field.
- No one touches the score sheet except the scorer.
- Disinfect the bench/dugout and bases before and after each practice/game.
- Each ball must be sanitized before it is put into play.
- Equipment (helmets, bats, gloves, catches gear, etc.) should not be shared. All equipment must be sanitized between uses.
- Practices should be conducted outside whenever possible.
- No seeds, gum or spitting.

### Guidelines for Student-Athletes:

- Each student is responsible for his/her own equipment.
- Students-athletes must wear their own appropriate workout clothing (do not share clothing), and individual clothing/towels should be washed and cleaned after every workout immediately upon returning home.
- Students must come dressed appropriately to compete in running events. Sweats or other non-essential equipment will not be allowed at the start line.

### Guidelines for Coaches:

- Coaches are responsible for ensuring social distancing is maintained between players as much as possible. This means additional spacing between players while playing catch, changing drills so that players remain spaced out, and no congregating of players while waiting to bat.
- Conduct workouts in “pods” of same students always training and rotating together in practice to ensure more limited exposure if someone develops an infection.
- No dugouts are to be used during practice. Players’ items should be lined up against a fence at least six feet apart.
- Use of dugouts are permitted during games only. Players should spread out as much as possible unless they are actively participating in the game. NFHS rules allow for dugouts/media areas to be extended down the foul lines, outside of the playing area. Additionally, bleachers can be placed directly behind the dugouts for additional seating for team personnel.

- Essential personnel only are permitted on the field of play. These are defined as players, coaches, trainers and umpires. All others, i.e., ball/bat boys, managers, statisticians, pitch count designees, media, photographers, etc., are considered non-essential personnel and are not to be in the dugout or extended dugout area.
- Game Day Roster Size: 20 players maximum
- Coaches must maintain social distance (6 feet) when interacting with an umpire or any other individual on the field. Substitutions and a general rules interpretation conversation can occur at any distance.
- **Pre-game meeting:** One coach from each team and umpires shall meet at home plate.
- Teams shall not exchange handshakes.
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### **Guidelines for Officials:**

- Don't share equipment.
- Clean equipment after each game.
- Follow social distancing guidelines. Consider six feet minimum distance when talking to others (players, coaches, other umpires) at plate meeting.