



## **SACHSE BASEBALL 2021 SPRING LEAGUE**

In response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, Sachse Baseball has set up an advisory panel of the Board of Directors to outline the procedures that will be implemented for the 2021 Spring League. We have followed both the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Governor Greg Abbott's outlines for the safety protocols that must be adhered to for the youth sports in Texas. Outlined below are the recommendations that have been approved for all players, coaches, spectators, umpires, and Board members. We are doing everything we can to keep Sachse Baseball safe from spreading COVID-19, and still allow a sense of normalcy to include the great game of baseball.

Sachse Baseball reserves the right to adjust these rules as we proceed through the 2021 Spring League for any potential changes caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Waiver:** All parents, coaches, umpires, and Board members will be required to complete the prescribed waiver acknowledging that they take responsibility of the inherent risks involved with the current pandemic.

**Positive test for COVID-19:** If any player or coach on a team tests positive for COVID-19, it is the head coach's responsibility to notify Sachse Baseball immediately. That team will be asked to quarantine for 14 days and will be removed from the schedule for that same time period.

**Player Self-Assessment:** Every player is required to do a self-assessment before participating in a Sachse Baseball event. If you answer yes to any of the below questions you are not allowed to participate in any practice or games until you answer no to all or cleared by a medical expert.

1. Do you have a new or worsening fever of a temperature of 100.0 degrees F or greater?
2. Are you experiencing any new or worsening COVID-19 symptoms (please reference CDC guideline for COVID-19 symptoms <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>)
3. In the past 14 days, have you had a known close contact with any person with a lab confirmed case of COVID-19?

**Concessions:** A limited menu will be served in the concession stand consisting of mainly pre-packaged foods and snacks, hot dogs that will be pre-wrapped, cotton candy that has been pre-packaged, and popcorn. There will be only one line formed with spaces marked on the ground to maintain social distancing for those patrons in line. A plexiglass shield will be installed at the concession stand window to protect both the patrons and concession workers. We have purchased a Square® reader to facilitate less physical contact for transactions. We will keep the side door closed to keep foot traffic to a minimum inside the concession stand. Sunflower seeds, chewing gum and related items will not be sold at this time, nor are they allowed at the park until further notice. Children under the age of 8 need a parent or guardian with them to order from the concession stand.

**Spectators:** Following the Governor's guidelines, all spectators will maintain a six-foot social distance both from each other, and the players. We recommend that all spectators wear a protective face mask, but it is not a requirement. We also recommend that only one spectator per player be at the fields to watch the games.

**Restrooms:** The public restroom facilities are controlled by the City of Sachse and we request that those be cleaned the next day after games have ended.

**Playground:** Our request is for the City to disinfect the playground when the public restrooms are cleaned.

**Dugouts:** All players will remain inside the dugouts that are not playing on the field. We ask that each team do as much as they can to keep the players as close to the six-foot social distance apart as possible. Our suggestion is that there be a row of players sitting on the bench against the back of the dugout, and then a second row of players bring their own chairs to sit against the fence closest to the field. It will be the job of the coaches to do their best to maintain this order with the players to keep everyone as safe as possible.

**Sanitization:** Each dugout will be provided a bottle of hand sanitizer that can be used at any point by the players or coaches during the games. These bottles will be collected at the end of each day's games and put back out for the next day. Sachse Baseball will provide disinfectant spray and/or wipes to clean the dugout bench, bat rack, and helmet cubbies between each game.

**Baseball equipment:** Each team will be responsible for supplying their own game ball to be used exclusively by their team when on defense. Sachse Baseball strongly encourages each player to have their own equipment and not share with other players, including bats, helmets, batting gloves, or baseball gloves. Each player and coach must bring their own water, no sharing is allowed.

**No contact coaching:** Sachse Baseball mandates that no contact be made between the players and coaches as part of the social distance guidelines. Coaches must remain six feet away from any players, other coaches, and umpires at all times during the games. This will include high-fives between the players and coaches, team huddles, post-game meetings, challenging calls to the umpire, etc. For a mound visit to discuss strategy, the coach must wear a mask and limit to the coach, pitcher, and catcher. For a pitching change, the coach must wear a mask to change the pitcher and retrieve the ball for the next pitcher. No other players will be allowed at the mound.

We at Sachse Baseball are aware that these new rules will be cumbersome for the time being, but the safety of everyone involved is of the utmost priority to allow us the opportunity to play baseball. Please do your part to help follow these new rules and keep everyone as safe and healthy as possible.