**CSE, Inc. COVID-19 Event Protocols**

**ENTRY/EXIT OF FACILITIES**

Please be mindful as you enter and exit these facilities to keep appropriate social distance from others entering and exiting the facility. Please note that by entering any facility you are doing so at your own risk. CSE, Inc. bears no responsibility or directional control of the venues we play on.

**TEAM WARM-UPS AND DUGOUT DESIGNATION**

All teams will warm up in the designated warm up area specified by tournament management.

Designated warm up areas are marked with signage at each venue.

The team listed on the top of the bracket game will automatically take the THIRD BASE dugout and will warm up in the designated area assigned to them. The team listed at the bottom will take the FIRST BASE dugout and will warm up in the designated area assigned to them.

Teams will be asked not deviate from this area and choose a warm up location of their own.

 When your warm up is complete, please collapse and store all portable nets and other training/warm up equipment and make sure it is taken with you. PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE EQUIPMENT ASSEMBLED IN THE WARM UP AREA.

 If the prior game is still underway - teams will then walk from their warm up area to the designated team staging area until the game is concluded. This will help contribute to social distancing as well as crowd management. All teams will remain in their designated area until the previous game is concluded.  Please do not congregate outside the fence of their particular field while waiting for the current game to finish.

Teams will enter the field through the area identified either by gate next to staging area or tournament management direction.

 In the event the particular field you are playing on does not have temporary fencing, a tournament official will show you the designated warm up area upon your arrival at your field.

**COACHES/TEAM PRE-GAMES MEETINGS / TEAM REPRESENTATIVES**

Again - teams will NOT congregate outside the fence of their particular field while waiting for the current game to finish.

Each team will make an essential coach available 20 MINUTES prior to game time for pregame conference with officials and the coin flip, only ONE person from each team please. This is to practice social distancing and limit group congregation as much as possible.

Pregame meeting location will be marked at each field.

During pregame, the essential coach will be asked to VERBALLY verify that to the best of your knowledge all of your players are healthy and are not showing any symptoms of COVID-19 or any other illnesses that would prevent them from playing or put others at risk.

 Please make sure all coaches and players have plenty of sanitation items such as:

- Hand sanitizers

- Anti-bacterial Wipes

- Any additional items to aid in efforts for personal hygiene/ cleanliness

**DUGOUT ETIQUETTE**

At the conclusion of every game, each team will be responsible for COMPLETELY cleaning their dugout and picking up every last bottle, piece of paper, and other form of trash and putting them into the trashcan inside the dugout. Please do this quickly and expediently.

Please exit the field immediately following the cleaning of your dugout and conduct your after game team meeting outside the gates of the facility again to allow for no accidental "crowd gathering".

**DEFENSIVE CONFERENCES**

Only the coach, pitcher, and catcher will be allowed in a defensive conference, and will practice social distancing.

If additional information needs to be conveyed to the other infielders, a second coach can speak with the left side infielders, and a third coach can speak with the right side infielders down the first and third base lines respectively, this can take place simultaneously. There will be no high fives or mound player groupings between recorded defensive outs. There will be no “team meetings” of coaches and players as a group between ½ innings.

**SPORTSMAN ETIQUETTE**

All players will refrain from hand to hand contact such as high fives, however high waves are encouraged.

At the end of each game, teams will line up down the first and third base lines and respectively wave across the field to their opponents.

**PLAYERS**

Pitchers will NOT be allowed to lick their fingers AT ALL.

Neither defensive nor offensive players will be allowed to spit into their hands or on the ground for any reason.

The first violation of this will constitute a warning. – Additionally, f pitching, a new ball will be required from the pitching team.

Any second violations will bring an infraction. – Pitching – Ball on the batter, Hitter – Strike on the batter, Defensive player – Ball of the batter

All catchers and offensive hitters are highly encouraged to clean their defensive/offensive helmets after every use or inning.

Players are highly encouraged to not practice head-first sliding into bases to minimize close contact on a tag play, however this is a suggestion and NOT a mandated rule.

Players are encouraged to sanitize their hands every inning upon returning to the dugout

**Sunflower seeds will not be allowed in any facility.**

Players will NOT be required to stay inside the dugout if they feel more comfortable outside the fence, however, all essential coaches will remain inside the fence and in the dugout during the course of their game.

There will be ABSOLUTELY NO warm up swings with a bat, by a player, outside the fence.

Players must be ready to take the on deck circle when the previous play is completed.

Extra time will not be awarded to a batter who is outside the fence and not ready to play.

**PARENTS - There will NOT be an instituted spectator limit per player as we believe if everyone follows the guidelines below, we can accommodate everyone and give all family/friends the best opportunity to watch some great softball and have a wonderful experience - all the while being mindful of and adhering to social distancing.**

All parents are strongly encouraged to bring their own chairs vs. sitting in the bleachers to allow for distance seating.

Pop up tents are not only encouraged but recommended as shade is a premium.

Face coverings for spectators and other individuals outside the field of play are not mandatory, but encouraged.

All families are highly encouraged to bring their own food and drinks to the ballpark.

All ice chests whether team or personal will be allowed.

There will be NO alcohol or glass containers allowed into the facilities.

Please refrain from entering the facility until the previous game on the field your team is set to compete on has concluded.

When your game is finished **- please exit the facility through the designated area.  Please DO NOT congregate and wait for your team to join you.** Exit quickly after your game is complete to allow others to enter the facility to view their upcoming game. This will allow for less “crowd-forming” as again - we all remain mindful of social distancing and allow for the next groups of spectators to enter the facility to enjoy their game.

Please wait for your team member OUTSIDE the gates of your facility when leaving the complex.

**CSE TOURNAMENT STAFF - OUR PROMISE TO YOU**

 In an effort to be responsible and sensitive to all potential health concerns, all CSE staff will have their temperature taken upon entrance to their facilities each morning and verbally affirm that they are healthy and are not feeling symptomatic of COVID-19 or any other illness that could potentially affect themselves or others.

If any staff is found to have symptoms of COVID-19 or other illnesses, they will be asked to leave the facility immediately and will not return for the duration of the event.

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