

VERNON BASEBALL ASSOCIATION

COVID-19 SAFETY PLAN

All organizations must develop a COVID-19 Safety Plan.

This tool can be used to guide you through the planning process. Currently, there is no standard document for your COVID-19 Safety Plan – you may use this document, or another document that meets your needs, to develop your plan. Other organizations have also developed templates to support Safety Plan development. For example, WorkSafe BC has developed a comprehensive tool all businesses can adapt. This COVID-19 Safety Plan template is adapted from WorkSafe BC to align with the sport sector.

viaSport will not be approving the plans of individual sport organizations, but in accordance with the order of the Provincial Health Officer, this plan must be posted by your organization.

Step 1: Assess the risks at your workplace

Identify areas where there may be risks, either through close physical proximity or through contaminated surfaces. The closer together individuals are and the longer they are close to each other, the greater the risk.

- We have identified areas where people gather

Fields (Marshall, Lakeview, Creekside, Beairsto, Silver Star, Lavington)

- We have identified situations and processes where individuals are close to one another or members of the public.

Spectators at fields – Limit and Social Distance

On field plays – how to limit and/or safely manage?

Umpires – Behind Pitcher

- We have identified the equipment that may be shared by individuals We have identified surfaces that people touch often

Bats, Balls - Clean

Catchers Equipment – Clean and limit sharing

Umpire Equipment – Clean and limit sharing

Step 2: Implement protocols to reduce the risks

Select and implement protocols to minimize the risks of transmission. Look to the following for information, input, and guidance:

viaSport sector guidelines and your sport-specific guidelines.

You may need to identify and implement additional protocols if the posted protocols don't address all the risks to your workers.

Illness Policy

First Aid Plan Policy

Outbreak Plan

Waiver Form

Orders, guidance, and notices issued by the provincial health officer and relevant to your industry. Updates will also be posted at www.viasport.ca

Municipality or facility guidelines

a) First level protection (elimination): Limit the number of people and ensure physical distance whenever possible

We have established maximum program numbers for our program that meets facility requirements

Outdoor limitations of 50 people and strict practice of social distancing

We have established and posted occupancy limits for common areas such as meeting rooms, change rooms, washrooms, and elevators (if applicable).

No use of dugouts

We have implemented measures to keep participants and others at least 2 metres apart, wherever possible.

Social distancing to be strictly enforced. No team meetings, no use of dugouts

Measures in place

List your control measures for maintaining physical distance in your environment. If this information is in another document, identify that document here.

- 2m physical distance required between participants

- Every event to include reminders to participants regarding 2m physical distancing and include no spitting, no face touching, no contact between the athletes.

- No team huddles before, during or after the practice for coaching or teaching purposes unless 2m physical distancing requirements are adhered to.

- All drills to be created and implemented ensuring 2m physical distancing requirements are adhered to.

- No dugout use permitted. Athletes must be set up outside of the dugout with 2m physical distancing requirements adhered to.

b) Second level protection (engineering): Barriers and partitions

This section may only apply to facility owners and operators

We have installed barriers where workers can't keep physically distant from co-workers, customers, or others.

Measures in place

Describe how barriers or partitions will be used in your environment (if appropriate). If this information is in another document, identify that document here.

None

c) Third level protection (administrative): Rules and guidelines

We have identified rules and guidelines for how participants, coaches, volunteers, spectators should conduct themselves.

We have clearly communicated these rules and guidelines through a combination of training and signage.

Measures in place

List the rules and guidelines that everyone is required to follow. This could include things like using one-way doors or walkways, no sharing of equipment, and wiping down equipment after use. If this information is in another document, identify that document here.

- Anyone displaying ANY illness symptoms **MUST NOT** attend.
- Disinfectant wipe down of all surfaces athletes can be exposed before every event.
- Reminder to all participants daily to avoid touching of eyes, nose or mouth
- No sharing of water bottles.
- No sharing of food of any kind.
- No spitting.
- No chewing gum or sunflower seeds.
- No sharing of any personal equipment or items
- Ride sharing to be discouraged whenever possible.
- All participants will be encouraged to disinfect their equipment after each event.
- All participants will be encouraged to wash all clothing and selves after each event.

- Verbal symptom screening must be performed at every session to ensure all participants are symptom free.
- All government expectations and requirements to be met, including viaSport Phase 2 guidelines
- All Baseball BC Personal Health and Hygiene Recommended Guidelines to be reviewed and enforced as outlined above.
- 2m physical distance required between participants
- Every event to include reminders to participants regarding 2m physical distancing and include no spitting, no face touching, no contact between the athletes.
- Attendance must be taken and kept at every event for all people in attendance including parents (drivers). These records must be kept for 30 days before being destroyed.
- No team huddles before, during or after the practice for coaching or teaching purposes unless 2m physical distancing requirements are adhered to.

- All drills to be created and implemented ensuring 2m physical distancing requirements are adhered to.
- No dugout use permitted. Athletes must be set up outside of the dugout with 2m physical distancing requirements adhered to.
- No shared use of personal equipment.
- Baseballs should be sanitized prior to every event and every effort given to limit the number of athletes using one ball in a practice environment.
- Any team issue bats should be sanitized prior to every event and between every use by different athletes. No other team equipment should be shared.
- No indoor events (practice, cage) permitted.
- No changing or dressing rooms permitted.
- All field prep equipment to be disinfected and cleaned after every use.

d) Fourth level protection: Using masks

(optional measure in addition to other control measures)

We have reviewed the information on selecting and using masks and instructions on how to use a mask.

We understand the limitations of masks to protect the wearer from respiratory droplets. We understand that masks should only be considered when other control measures cannot be implemented.

We have trained individuals on the proper use of masks (if applicable).

Measures in place

Who will use masks?

What work tasks will require the use of masks?

How have workers been informed of the correct use of masks?

If this information is in another document, identify that document here.

At this time masks will be encouraged but not required to participate

Reduce the risk of surface transmission through effective cleaning and hygiene practices

We have reviewed the information on cleaning and disinfecting surfaces.

Our sport facility has enough handwashing stations on site for our participants.

Handwashing locations are visible and easily accessed.

We have communicated good hygiene practices to participants, coaches, volunteers, etc.

We have implemented cleaning protocols for all common areas and surfaces.

Workers who are cleaning have adequate training and materials.

We have removed unnecessary tools and equipment to simplify the cleaning process

Cleaning protocols

Provide information about your cleaning plan. Specify who is responsible for cleaning, the cleaning schedule, and what the cleaning protocols will include (e.g., which surfaces, tools, equipment, etc.). If this information is in another document, identify that document here.

- Hand washing stations/wipes to be available in all dugouts
- All participants will be encouraged to disinfect their equipment after each event.
- All participants will be encouraged to wash all clothing and selves after each event.
- No shared use of personal equipment.
- Baseballs should be sanitized prior to every event and every effort given to limit the number of athletes using one ball in a practice environment.
- Any team issue bats should be sanitized prior to every event and between every use by different athletes. No other team equipment should be shared.
- All field prep equipment to be disinfected and cleaned after every use.

Step 3: Develop policies

Develop the necessary policies to manage your sport.

Policies developed: COVID SAFETY PLAN, FIRST AID PLAN POLICY, ILLNESS POLICY, OUTBREAK PLAN, and PARTICIPANT WAIVER FORM.

Our policies ensure that workers and others showing symptoms of COVID-19 are prohibited from participating in sport activities

Anyone who has had symptoms of COVID-19 in the last 10 days. Symptoms include fever, chills, new or worsening cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, and new muscle aches or headache. Anyone directed by Public Health to self-isolate.

Anyone who has arrived from outside of Canada or who has had contact with a confirmed COVID-19 case must self-isolate for 14 days and monitor for symptoms.

Our policy addresses individuals who may start to feel while participating. It includes the following:

Sick individuals should report to first aid (or designated individual), even with mild symptoms. Sick workers should be asked to wash or sanitize their hands, provided with a mask, and isolated. Ask the worker to go straight home. [Consult the BC COVID-19 Self-Assessment Tool, or call 811 for further guidance related to testing and self-isolation.]

If the worker is severely ill (e.g., difficulty breathing, chest pain), call 911. Clean and disinfect any surfaces that the ill worker has come into contact with.

Step 4: Develop communication plans and training

You must ensure that everyone participating in the sport activity knows how to keep themselves safe while participating:

We have a communication and training plan to ensure everyone is trained in policies and procedures.

All policies will be displayed on the VBA website and will be shared with all members via email prior to starting the season. Follow up emails will reinforce and communicate progress and updates.

All participants have received the policies for staying home when sick.

We have posted signage at the sport location, including occupancy limits and effective hygiene practices.

The city has posted social distancing reminders on all parks and common areas where events will occur.

We have posted signage indicating who is restricted from participating, including visitors and workers with symptoms.

Coaches or safety volunteers have been trained on monitoring participants to ensure policies and procedures are being followed.

All coaches must attend a coach meeting to be held prior to the start of the season to review all policies and procedures for the season.

Step 5: Monitor and update your plans as necessary

Things may change as your business operates. If you identify a new area of concern, or if it seems like something isn't working, take steps to update your policies and procedures.

We have a plan in place to monitor risks. We make changes to our policies and procedures as necessary.

Individuals know who to go to with health and safety concerns.

When resolving safety issues, we will involve designated health and safety representatives

Step 6: Assess and address risks from resuming operations

If your workplace has not been operating for a period of time during the COVID-19 pandemic, you may need to manage risks arising from restarting your programming/business.

We have a training plan for new staff, coaches, volunteers.

We have a training plan for staff, coaches, volunteers taking on new roles or responsibilities. We have a training plan around changes to our business/programming.

We have identified a safe process for cleaning and removing things that have been out of use.