

Robson Ranch COVID-19 Protocols For Fall League Games

The goal of being able to play softball games at Robson Ranch now and in the future is to insure COVID-19 protocols are being followed at all times before, during and after each game. The safety of each player and volunteer is of the utmost importance and all protocols will be enforced. If any protocols are not being followed, the game will be stopped and teams will be asked once either to comply or will forfeit the game and be asked to leave the premises. It is upon each player, manager, coach and volunteer to monitor their own health and take the necessary steps to insure the safety of others tracing can be implemented. . If you do not feel well, develop any COVID-19 symptoms or have been exposed to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 please do not show up to play. See a physician right away and follow their recommendations. If you have contracted COVID-19, please notify your manager at once. Managers are to report anyone that has contracted the virus to the league director immediately upon notification so contact.

Social Contact before, during and after games

There will be a “no contact, no handshake policy” to be observed at all times throughout all league games until restrictions are lifted. This includes all physical contact and extends to customary game-related activities, such as umpire-coach introductions, post-game handshakes between members of opposing teams. Instead, staff, coaches and players should verbalize “good game,” without shaking hands, high fiving or fist-bumping.

Players will be required to maintain social distancing before and after the game as well as during the game when possible. Once the game is over, players will be required to leave the facility as soon as possible. As stated above, managers will be responsible for keeping sick players or players in quarantine out of the game and away from the playing facility.

No spectators will be allowed.

We recommend that each player bring their own hand sanitizer and use between each inning.

Dugout

Social distancing of 6 feet apart is required in and out of the dugout.

Players will not be allowed to social distance in front of the dugout on the field of play during game time because of inherent danger of being hit by a foul ball or interfering with a live ball.

Once a game is complete, the team leaving the dugout is responsible to make sure the dugout is rid of all trash, and equipment. It will be the responsibility of each team manager/coach to sanitize the bench, bat rack, glove racks, dugout gates and fence rails along the inside and outside of the dugout. It is the responsibility of each manager/coach to see this duty is performed. Oncoming game managers/coaches should instruct their players to allow the dugouts to remain empty for five minutes after the prior coach

has completed the sanitization procedures to allow the surfaces to dry. There will be disinfectant in the dugout for this function.

Players waiting for a game to be completed are encouraged to wait well away from the playing area, practicing social distance guidelines. Teams can warm up on the grassy area as a team either across from the parking lot or in the grassy area behind the 3rd base dugout, maintaining social distancing guidelines.

Games

The Scorer's Booth will be used by the announcer and scoreboard operator only, with social distancing and the use of a face mask required. The scorekeeper will keep score inside the snack shack.

Offensive players will be required to wear face masks while in the on-deck circle, at bat and while running the bases. All batters are required to wear two batting gloves.

The on-deck batter is responsible to retrieve the previous batters bat and place it in the dugout. It is recommended the bat be picked up by the barrel and not the handle.

Base coaches will be required to stay in their coaching box area and must wear a face mask.

Defensive players, while on the field and the ball is not in play, will remain social distances from one another. When the ball is in play, avoid contact with another player, whether offensive or defensive, if possible.

There will be no tagging of base runners. All plays at the bases will be force outs. Feet first sliding is allowed but not required to avoid contact with a fielder.

The catcher should position him or herself 6 feet or more behind home plate and from the batter. It is recommended the catcher wear a face mask.

One umpire will be used during the game. It is recommended the umpire wear a face mask. The umpire will position him or herself 6 feet or more away from the batter and catcher. During a play in the field, the umpire can position him or herself anywhere on the field he/she feels comfortable maintaining social distancing. If the umpire feels their health/safety is in jeopardy because social distancing guidelines are not being followed, he/she can terminate the game and leave the field. The offending teams, players, managers and/or coaches will be reported to the league.

A new ball will be used for each game and each team will use their own ball(s). Each team manager will be supplied balls at the beginning of the season for this purpose. The defensive team shall supply their pitcher with two balls, the game ball and a backup ball for continuance of play, i.e. a foul ball out of play. Both balls will remain with the defensive team at all times. The pitcher will be responsible to bring both balls onto the playing field before each inning. The backup ball will be placed behind the pitchers screen and will only be used if the game ball is fouled out of play. The defensive team will also be responsible for balls used for warm-up of the infielders and outfielders between innings. All balls should be disinfected between innings.

These protocols have been set in place so everyone can have fun playing this game we love and be safe at the same time. If you feel you cannot abide by these protocols/rules, we ask that you do not play and wait until COVID-19 protocols are no longer necessary or you are willing to abide by the protocols/rules set forth. As we progress with this disease, protocols may change based on current statistics and CDC guidelines. If statistics change either way, we as a club and league will adjust protocols accordingly.