



# CATHOLIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

Spring Sports Season  
Coaches Zoom Meeting (April 11, 2021)

# Introductions

- Jim Blaney. President of the CAA
- Mark Courtney. CAA's Athletic Director
- Other Board members are on the call.
- You can see all of the other participants in Zoom's "Participants" feature.
- Please remain muted during the call.
- If there is time remaining at the end of the presentation, we will take questions/comments.

# Reminder: CAA Spring Sports – 2021

- **Baseball – Yes**
- **Softball – Yes**
  
- **Track & Field – TBD**
- **Golf - Probable**

# COVID-19 – The Youth Sports Reality

- The Minnesota Department of Health’s most recent guidance for youth sports was published March 14, 2021. It can be found at: <https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/sportsguide.pdf>
- Specific issues addressed in this most recent Sportsguide include:
  1. **Face coverings must be worn by all people at all times, including practices and games, with only a few exceptions. Please note that the exceptions apply to “individual outdoor sports”.**
  2. **Counties experiencing increased activity or clusters of B117 should consider pausing sports for two weeks. The CAA may pause sports in the event there is an increase in B117 cases in our area.**
  3. **The decision to participate in sports does not mean engaging in sports is without risk. Any time you gather with other people, you are putting yourself and others at risk of exposure to SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19. COVID-19 can lead to serious medical conditions and even death for people of all ages.**
  4. **All businesses (sports facilities, gyms, associations, sports clubs/teams, etc.) are required to develop a program-specific plan. All schools with baseball/softball fields that will be used for the CAA games must provide the CAA with their program-specific COVID-19 plan.**

# Requirements for Participation

- **Waiver Forms.**

- Coach and player waiver forms (posted on CAA Website). Submit all waiver forms as one .pdf document.
- School facility specific protocols (posted on CAA Website). All teams must be review and comply with facility specific COVID-19 protocols posted on the CAA website.

- **Game Day Coach Affirmation.**

- Each coach must provide the game official with a signed game day affirmation form.
- All CAA coaches are required to affirm and represent by their signature that each player and coach for the team has reviewed and can answer YES to each of the COVID-19 screening statements listed on the form before play begins on each game day. A copy of this form **must** be signed before each game and provided to the official. The form can be found on the CAA's website.

# Schedule

- **Softball games begin Wednesday, April 14, 2021.**
  - NOTE: Game schedules have been posted on the CAA website.
- **Baseball games begin Thursday, April 15, 2021.**
  - NOTE: Game schedules have been posted on the CAA website.
- **Softball and baseball rules are posted on the website, under each respective sport, under the "Athletic Teams" drop-down menu (see "General Info")**
- **Potential Playoffs. Playoffs dates are TBD.**
- **Potential Track & Field Meet – TBD**
- **Potential Golf tournament - TBD**

# Coach Responsibilities – Game Day

- Provide game official with:
  - Signed affirmation that all players participating in the game are (a) properly rostered, (b) properly equipped, and (c) can answer YES to the COVID screening statements. Form is on the CAA website.
  - Coaches **MUST** sign the above form prior to each game and give the signed form to the referee.
- Students who are not on the team roster form that was required to be submitted to the CAA and students who have not submitted the necessary release forms may NOT play in any game.
- Manage spectators and compliance with site-specific facility protocols. All site-specific facility protocols are posted on the CAA website. Review and understand the protocols of the facility where you play. Please distribute these protocols to parents/guardians of each player.
- If there is no site-specific facility protocol, comply with all state regulations.
- Manage team arrival and departure from facilities to avoid congestion between games.

# Post-Game COVID-19 Protocol

- **Schools are to advise the CAA immediately in the event a participating player, coach or family/household member of a player/coach is discovered to have been COVID-19 positive on a game day. CAA contact is Mark Courtney. Contact information on website.**
- **Any team with a COVID-19 positive player will NOT be allowed to play any game for 14 days after the date of the player's positive test for COVID-19.**
- **The CAA continues to monitor how the MN Department of Health and the Minnesota State High School League are handling COVID-19 issues and will consider MSHSL's protocols and procedures for teams that experience positive COVID-19 cases.**



# COVID Related Rule Changes

- No pre-game or post-game handshakes or contact between the players or the game official.
- All participants (players, coaches and officials) **must wear masks at all times**. No exceptions.
- Spectator attendance must comply with facility specific COVID-19 protocols.

# Questions/Comments

- We will take questions or comments during the remaining time.

# Questions and Comments

- Please send any questions or comments that you were not able to ask during the Coaches Meeting to:
  - [Mark.Courtney@stpaulcaa.org](mailto:Mark.Courtney@stpaulcaa.org)