



NATIVITY OF OUR LORD
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Nativity Baseball & Softball COVID-19 Preparedness Plan

The following is a detailed description of the Nativity Baseball & Softball COVID-19 Preparedness Plan. All coaches, parents and students must review, understand and adhere to this plan for Nativity.

Details of the plan are outlined below:

- A. Catholic Athletic Association (CAA) COVID Requirements
- B. Nativity COVID Waiver Forms
- C. Expectations for Drop off and Pick Up at Games
- D. Expectations for Group Size and Social Distancing
- E. Expectations for use of Equipment

A. Catholic Athletic Association (CAA) COVID Requirements

- a) 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>
 - a. Specific issues addressed in this most recent Sportsguide include:
 - b. 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". (This includes FANS at games).
 - c. 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.
 - d. 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.
 - e. 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.
- b) All players, coaches and referees must complete a Release and Liability Waiver prior to participation.
- c) Coaches must provide a Coaches' Gameday Affirmation and Representation form for at each game. A link to this form can be found at the following site:
https://stpaulcaa.org/forms/data/form_18274/files/element_5_c398e64bbcedfa558d9a3cdf45cce027-53-CAA%20Coach's%20Gameday%20Affirmation%20and%20Representation%2011Jan2021.pdf

B. Nativity COVID Waiver Forms and Attendance Logs

- a) **Player** Release and Liability Waiver - All Nativity student athletes/parents must complete prior to participation.
- b) **Coaches/Referee** Player Release and Liability Waiver - All Nativity coaches must complete prior to participation.
- c) **Coaches' Gameday Affirmation and Representation** form – provide to the umpire at each game. These have been provided to the coaches. NOTE:
 - a. ***STUDENT ATHLETES CAN ONLY PARTICIPATE IN PRACTICES AND GAMES ON THE DAYS THEY HAVE MET THE ATTENDANCE PROTOCOL FOR NATIVITY SCHOOL AND ATTENDED SCHOOL.***
- d) **Nativity Gameday Attendance Log** – Nativity has created a Gameday Attendance Log for each team to document those players and coaches in attendance. These have been provided to the coaches and it is expected that these will be completed at every game. (It is not the expectation that these will include FANS.)

- e) **VISITING TEAMS** – Nativity is expecting all visiting teams including fans to adhere to the protocols listed above including a gameday attendance log for all players and coaches who were in attendance for each game. ***Each team is responsible for their fans and adhering to the protocols.***

C. Expectations for Drop off and Pick up

- a) As noted with the recommendation from the CAA, students **should not arrive more than 30 minutes prior to game time**. Upon arrival, please social distance and players on the field should plan on warming up on opposite sides of the field, ie; Team A is using the infield while Team B is using the outfield.
- b) Plan on pick up immediately upon the completion of games and practices to minimize contact between players, coaches and fans.

D. Expectations for Group Sizes and Social Distancing

- a) Teams are responsible for social distancing and limiting interactions with the opposing team's players/coaches/referees. **Exceptions include:**
- a. Players in the batter box
 - b. Players on the bases
- b) **FANS** should not go onto the field for any reason, should wear a mask and social distance.
- c) **Dugouts** – Players and coaches are only allowed in their own dugout.
- d) **Hydration & Food** - Players should have their own dedicated labeled water bottle and any nourishment kept in their own separate backpack.

E. Expectations for Use of Equipment

- a) **Baseballs & Softballs** – Nativity is expecting each team to provide their own dedicated balls for use in warmups and the games.
- a. **Game Ball Rotation** – Each team should use a sanitized ball for each inning of play. Upon completion of the inning of play, that ball should be placed in a separate container for used balls and will need to be sanitized prior to returning to the field of play. (Disinfecting wipes, sprays, etc.)
 - b. **The players and coaches for the team on defense are only allowed to touch the ball while in play.**
 - i. Batters are not allowed to pick up a ball while in the batter's box.
 - ii. Umpires are not allowed to touch the ball.
 - iii. **Foul Balls** – **Only players or coaches of the defending team are allowed to retrieve a foul ball.**
 1. ***FANS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO RETRIEVE FOUL BALLS.***

- b) **Gloves, Helmets, Bats and Catcher's Gear** – Players should limit and/or minimize contact with equipment such as gloves, helmets and bats. If a player uses another player's bat, the bat should be sanitized prior to use.
- a. Teams are not allowed to use the opposing team's equipment.
 - b. Catcher's Gear – All catcher gear should be wiped down and sanitized each time a different player on the same team needs to use the same equipment.

Signed:

Kate Wollan

April 14, 2021

Kate Wollan (Principal)

Date

Tim Dietz

4/14/21

Tim Dietz (Athletic Director)

Date