

Special Guidelines for the 2020 Season (Updated as of 6/14/2020)

- 1) We are discouraging spectators at the fields for at least the month of June. Lancaster County (where Armstrong is located) will enter the yellow phase on June 5 and is expected to remain in the yellow phase through at least June 25. The yellow phase restricts gatherings to no more than 25 people, which basically consumes the two teams and the umpire. The bleachers and the playground equipment will be roped off. If spectators do arrive, they will be encouraged to bring a lawn chair and to practice social distancing from the players and other fans.
- 2) There will be hand sanitizing stations (the league hopes to find touch-less stations we can install) near both bench areas on both fields.
- 3) Masks will not be required by players during the game. Players are welcome to wear a mask during game play, but it will not be required. It is recommended that you have a mask available to wear before and after the games.
- 4) Players, including pitchers, will be allowed to (but not required to) wear a glove on their throwing hand while in the field on defense. A regular batting glove will likely limit your grip to throw, however something like a latex glove may provide a better grip.
- 5) Players are encouraged to bring lawn chairs to create additional seating for themselves around the bench area.
- 6) To create more social distance space between the batter, catcher, and home plate umpire, we will use a mat for the strike zone this season rather than have the umpire call balls and strikes. Any pitch that has a 6-12 foot arc that hits either the mat or the plate will be called a strike. Note that this means the plate will be called a strike this season. The catcher can then align themselves at an appropriate distance behind the batter. The umpire can then position themselves further behind the catcher or slightly off-center.
- 7) We will continue to gather for pre-game prayer, however, both teams will lineup along the baselines closest to their bench area and social distance themselves. The player who is offering the prayer should move closer to the area near the pitcher's mound so that other players from both teams can hear the prayer.
- 8) There will be no post-game handshakes or high fives. Players are encouraged to wave from their own bench area and say "good game" or something like that to the opposing players.
- 9) The grassy area near the 3rd base bench on Field 1 is expected to be roped off from parking. This will give teams who are waiting to play more room to social distance and warm up prior to their game. The playground equipment that was located in that space was falling apart and was removed during the off-season. New playground equipment was purchased by the league, but will not be installed this season.