

Below is the SABL COVID-19 Return to Play Protocols. These protocols are based upon [Baseball Ontario's Return to Baseball COVID-19 Guidelines](#). In the event of any conflict between these SABL protocols and those of Baseball Ontario, Baseball Ontario's protocols will supersede those of the SABL. Compliance with these protocols will be mandatory. Failure to abide by the protocols outlined below, will result in disciplinary action as outline in the SABL constitution.

Member Protocols

1. Prior to attending an in-person team activity you must self-screen for COVID-19 symptoms <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/self-assessment/> . If you fail a screening you CANNOT attend the activity.
2. Any participant diagnosed with COVID19 or who has been in contact with any person having COVID-19 in the previous 14 days MUST not attend any in-person team activity and MUST notify their local public health authority.
3. Any participant diagnosed with COVID-19 must be cleared by the appropriate medical authorities prior to attending any in-person baseball activity. Evidence of the clearance MUST be provided to SABL Executive Board.
4. Only required participants (players, coaches, umpires) may attend an SABL in-person activity in 2020. Spectators (non-participants such as family or friends) may NOT attend.
5. If you show to up the park and there is a prior event happening on the field, you must remain either in your car or a designated waiting area safely away from the prior user group until they vacate the field area. If another event is scheduled right after yours, you MUST vacate the field area as soon as possible to allow for the next user group.
6. Maintain a minimum of 2 metres distancing during all in-person activities wherever possible, including warmups, pre-game, during game, and post-game. Teams cannot warm-up on the field while another team is taking infield/outfield.
7. Dugouts should only be used for access to the playing field, no equipment should be left in the dugout except for bats. Participants MUST not sit the dugout in order to maintain adequate physical distancing. It is recommended that all players setup their own portable chair in safe areas outside of the field of play to create a personal bubble with their own equipment.
8. Each player should have their own bat, helmet, mitt, batting gloves, catcher's equipment, etc. and store these items inside their personal bag when not in use. Equipment that must be shared or is touched by someone other than the owner MUST be cleaned/sanitized between player use. DO NOT share a catcher's masks used during pre-inning warmups.
9. If a player or coach must handle a team members bat who reached base, they must do so by the barrel ONLY. Any batter who was retired MUST handle their own bat. Defensive players may NOT pick-up an opposing players bat.
10. Players must retrieve their own hat, mitt, etc prior to taking their defensive position (i.e no "picking me up").
11. Participants MUST clean hands at least every inning for games, every 30 minutes at practices, or after handling shared equipment or equipment that does not belong to them.

12. The defensive team will need to chase all foul balls. Members of the offensive team CANNOT touch the baseballs of the defensive team. Game balls cannot be thrown “around the horn” after defensive outs.
13. No spitting, chewing tobacco, sunflower seeds, chewing gum, handshakes, fist/chest bumps, high fives, or hugs. No sharing of water/energy drink bottles or food, water jugs, coolers or drink dispensers. Player should not lick fingers, blow on hands or otherwise go to mouth.
14. All garbage and/or potentially infected waste must be properly disposed of in garbage cans.

General Team Management Protocols

1. Teams must supply either their own hand sanitizer (70% alcohol or greater), soap and water, or cleaning wipes for use. As well as microfiber cloths, masks and protective gloves for cleaning.
2. Attendance for EVERY in-person activity must be tracked on your scoresheet. It must list all participants--players, coaches, and umpires. This information should be submitted with your stats within 24-hours.
3. Frequently touched areas of the dugouts, including benches, bat/helmet racks door handles, fence/gate latches, or any other spaces that come into frequent touch MUST be sanitized by BOTH teams before AND after every in-person activity. Bleachers will also need to be sanitized if used (hence recommendation for portable chairs).
4. Any general field equipment (eg. L-screens, maintenance equipment, etc) that is used MUST be sanitized after use by your team.
5. Each team MUST supply their own game baseballs.
6. Home plate meeting must ONLY be between one coach from each team and one umpire.
7. Lineup cards CANNOT be exchanged, the opposing scorekeeper must take a picture with their phone.
8. Mounds visits are limited to ONLY one player or coach plus the pitcher.