

# VILLAGE OF NEW GLARUS



## **New Glarus Baseball and Softball Recreation Program Policy and Procedures**

The New Glarus Baseball and Softball Recreation programs will begin Monday, June 8<sup>th</sup>. Due to the ongoing Covid-19 Pandemic, additional policies and procedures have been put in place.

### **Coaches**

The Parks and Recreation Director will provide the Village Administrator with a full list of coaches and other volunteers, including names, addresses and team they are coaching.

### **Waiver of Liability**

The waiver of liability attached to these guidelines must be signed and turned in before a child may participate. There are no exceptions to this policy. The Parks and Recreation Director will have a record of the waivers received and will notify the coaches of any registered participants who have not completed the form. If any participants on their team have not submitted a waiver, the coach will not allow them to participate or observe the practice.

### **Refunds**

After the Beginning of the season, no refund will be given for any reason, including cancellation of the season due to Covid-19.

### **Practices**

Only practices will be held from June 8<sup>th</sup> through July 5<sup>th</sup>. There will be no games. Inter-squad scrimmages are prohibited during this time.

To minimize risk and promote health and safety, the following procedures must be followed:

- The Parks and Recreation Director will provide coaches with a list of health questions to ask each participant before each vehicle regarding Covid-19. Coaches will send players home if they answer “yes” to any of the questions.
- Coaches are required to explain social distancing to players. Players and coaches must follow these team rules:
  - If players fail to follow social distancing guidelines:
    - Upon 1<sup>st</sup> offense of breaking social distancing guidelines, the player will be given a verbal warning that they will not be allowed to continue to practice if rules are not followed.
    - Upon 2<sup>nd</sup> offense a parent/guardian will be called and the player will be asked to leave.
- Practices will be scheduled 15 minutes apart to limit the number of people in one area at a time. Coaches and players may not congregate following practices
- Coaches and Players will be instructed not to arrive early and all practices must end on time.
- Practices will be split into a minimum of two groups. One will practice in the outfield and one will practice in the infield.
- Coaches will disinfect all possible touch points and clean up any trash following practice
- When arriving for practice, any area used to gather should be disinfected.
- No sunflower seeds are allowed.
- Parents may not stay to observe practice.
- When possible, equipment should not be shared. If equipment must be shared, it should be disinfected between uses.

- Congregation in the dugouts is prohibited.

The following rule changes are in place:

- No leading off/ holding runners on
- Coaches will umpire from behind the pitcher's mound.

### **Parks and Recreation Director Supervision**

Other restrictions may be necessary as determined by the Parks and Recreation Director. The Parks and Recreation Director will perform random checks of practices to determine if these guidelines are being properly enforced. If the Director determines adequate safety and health precautions are not being properly enforced, the team's practice may be cancelled for the day. The Parks and Recreation Director will keep the Parks and Recreation Committee or Village Administration apprised of any violation.

### **Games**

Games are scheduled to begin July 6<sup>th</sup>. After this date, inter-team scrimmages are allowed. To minimize risk and promote health and safety, the following procedures must be followed at New Glarus Fields. The Village cannot control the conditions or rules of games played in other communities. Games will be scheduled accordingly to allow for these new rules and regulations:

Umpires and Coaches

- Managers meeting at home plate will be limited to one coach from each team and the umpires. Distancing of 6 feet should be maintained.
- Balls and Strikes will be called from behind the pitcher's mound.
- There will be no bat checks or bat testing by umpires.
- Only the scorekeeper may sit at the scorekeeper's table and it will be disinfected if the scorekeeper changes.
- Coaches may not write in the scorekeeper's book. They must verbally convey the lineup or show them a sheet to copy.
- Mound visits will be limited to the pitcher, catcher and one coach. Distancing should be maintained.

Equipment:

- Teams will be given their own game balls to be used while their team is pitching.
- Umpires, fans and the batting team may not touch the baseballs
- If possible, players will have their own helmets, bats and other equipment. If not possible, the equipment will be disinfected prior to sharing.
- Coaches may not write in the scorekeeper's book. They must verbally convey the lineup or show them a sheet to copy.

Spectators:

- Bleachers will be removed. Spectators should bring their own chairs and sit in family groups with 6 feet of distance between another group.

Players:

- Players cannot lick their fingers or spit on their hands.
- Teams scheduled to play after an ongoing game will not be allowed near the fields until the previous teams have left.
- Teams will have ten minutes to leave the field following the conclusion of the game
- No handshake lines will occur.

- All teams must clean the dugout area prior to leaving

Concessions:

- There will be no concessions for the 2020 season.

#### **Parks and Recreation Director Supervision**

The Parks and Recreation Director will randomly attend games to ensure the guidelines are being followed. If guidelines are not being followed, the Parks and Director may issue a warning to the coaches. If the game is not being conducted in a safe manner, the Parks and Recreation Director may end the game.

Other restrictions may be necessary as determined by the Parks and Recreation Director

Attachments:

**Addendum #1:** Additional Instructions to Coaches and Parents from the Parks and Recreation Director

**Addendum #2:** Waiver of Liability

**Addendum #3:** Health Questionnaire

### **Addendum #1: Additional Instructions from the Parks and Recreation Director**

- Parents
  - To minimize the exposure risk to families we are recommending that attendance at practice be limited to only coaches and players.
  - Parents should not arrive early to the fields for practice. Parents should drop drive in, drop son/daughter off, leave, and return at the conclusion of practice.
- Coaches
  - Ask for a parent volunteer or group of volunteers to assist specifically with social distancing and hygiene measures.
  - Focus on small group practice utilizing stations of 3-4 players at each rotation.
  - Coaches should not groom the fields and should not “put them to bed” even if your team has the last practice of the night.
  - Provide players with a space to place their individual equipment. This should be outside of the dugout and spaced so that they can retrieve equipment while maintaining social distancing.
  - Only coaches and players should be allowed on the field of play.
  - Coaches should set expectations with players on proper hand washing / sanitation as well as social distancing.
  - Coaches should instruct players to sanitize their hands before and after practice as well as any time they touch a piece of shared equipment.
  - Encourage players and families to bring personal sanitizer to keep with the rest of the equipment.
  - Players should bring their own water either in a disposal bottle or a container clearly labeled.
  - Individuals should take their own drink containers home each night for cleaning and sanitation or use single-use bottles.
  - There should be no use of shared or team beverages.
  - Teams should not share any snacks or food. Players should bring individual, pre-packaged food, if needed.
  - Players should bring their own equipment including helmets. If a player does not have a Helmet, each team has 5 helmets that will be sanitized and given out. The player should keep this helmet for the duration of the season and is responsible for sanitizing it regularly.
  - Measures should be enacted to avoid, or minimize, equipment sharing when feasible
  - Some critical equipment may not be able to be obtained by every individual. When it is necessary to share critical or limited equipment, all surfaces of each piece of shared equipment must be cleaned and disinfected. Increased attention should be paid to detailed cleaning of all equipment directly contacting the head and face (catcher’s mask, helmets).
  - Player’s equipment (e.g. bags, helmets, bats, gloves, etc.) should be cleaned and disinfected after each use by a parent/guardian/caretaker, where applicable.
  - Individuals disinfecting equipment are encouraged to use gloves while using disinfectants and follow the manufacturer’s directions for use. All disinfectants should be stored properly, in a safe area, out of reach of children.

- Players should not wear protective medical gloves on the field during game play.
- Players are not required to wear a cloth face covering while on the field during game play.
- Players will be permitted to wear a cloth face covering on the field during game play, if physically able to do so, based on any directive of a medical provider or individual determination of the player/parent/guardian.
- Foul balls landing outside the field of play should be retrieved by participating players and coaches. No spectators should retrieve the ball.
- All players and coaches are to refrain from spitting at all times, including in dugout areas and on the playing field.
- The baseballs should not be sprayed or cleaned with disinfectant during use. Proper hygiene by players is the most important step in preventing spread of viruses.

## **Assumption of Risk and Waiver of Liability Relating to**

### **Coronavirus/COVID-19**

The novel coronavirus, COVID-19, has been declared a worldwide pandemic by the World Health Organization. **COVID-19 is extremely contagious** and is believed to spread mainly from person-to-person contact. As a result, federal, state, and local governments and federal and state health agencies recommend physical distancing and have, in many locations, prohibited the congregation of groups and people.

**The Village of New Glarus, WI** has put in place preventative measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19; however, the Village **cannot guarantee** that you, your children, or any other person, will not become infected with COVID-19. Further, attending Village sponsored activities could increase your risk and your child or children's risk of contracting COVID-19.

By signing this agreement, I acknowledge the contagious nature of COVID-19 and voluntarily assume the risk that my child or children and I may be exposed to or infected by COVID-19 by attending Village activities and that such exposure or infection may result in personal injury, illness, permanent disability, and death. I understand that the risk of becoming exposed to or infected by COVID-19 at Village activities may result from the actions, omissions, or negligence of myself and others, including but not limited to Village employees, volunteers, and program participants and their families.

I voluntarily agree to assume all of the foregoing risks and accept sole responsibility for any injury to my child or children or myself, including, but not limited to, personal injury, disability, death, illness, damage, loss, claim, liability, or expense or any kind, that I or my child or children may experience or incur in connection with my child or children's attendance at Village activities or programming. On my behalf and on behalf of my child or children, I hereby release, covenant not to sue, discharge, and hold harmless and indemnify the Village, its employees, agents, and representatives, of and from any and all claims, including all liabilities, claims, actions, damages, costs or expenses of any kind arising out of or relating thereto. I understand and agree that this release includes any claims based on the actions, omissions, or negligence of the Village, its employees, agents and representatives, whether a COVID-19 infection occurs before, during, or after participation in any Village program.

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Signature of Parent/Guardian

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Date

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Print Name of Parent/Guardian

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Name of Activity Participant

HELP US ALL STAY HEALTHY

# HELLO AND WELCOME!

We are screening all visitors and employees  
before entering the facility.

For your safety and the safety of others, please stay  
home if you have any of the below.

- ☐ Fever
- ☐ New/Worsening Cough
- ☐ Respiratory Distress
- ☐ Loss of Sense of Smell or Taste
- ☐ Contact with someone who is  
positive for or suspected to  
have COVID-19

