

Livonia Storm Summer Bash 2020

Exposure Prevention, Preparedness, and Response Plan



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Forethought

United States Specialty Sports Association (hereinafter “USSSA”) takes the health and safety of our participants very seriously. With the spread of the coronavirus or “COVID-19,” a respiratory disease caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus, USSSA must remain vigilant in mitigating the outbreak.

In order to be safe and maintain operations, we have developed this COVID-19 Exposure Prevention, Preparedness, and Response Plan to be implemented, to the extent feasible and appropriate, throughout tournaments and at all of our venues. Our best practices are based on exposure as defined by the CDC as: Prolonged contact with an individual at less than 6ft distance for longer than 15 minutes. We believe that by limiting the exposure risk through proper social distancing, PPE, housekeeping, and additional precautions; we can safely engage our participants, staff, volunteers, and spectators in organized game play.

USSSA has also identified a task force to monitor the related guidance that U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”). Local tournament directors are expected to follow additional guidance from Michigan Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (“LARA”), Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (“MDHHS”), Oakland County Health Division, and Occupational Safety and Health Administration (“OSHA”) continue to make available.

This Plan is based on information available at the time of its development and is subject to change based on further information provided by the above organizations, and other public and private officials. USSSA may also amend this Plan based on operational needs.

Responsibilities of Supervisors and Coordinators

All Facility and Site Supervisors and Coordinators, must be familiar with this Plan and be ready to answer questions from employees, volunteers, participants, and spectators.

Supervisors and Coordinators must always set a good example by following this Plan. This involves practicing good personal hygiene and safety practices to prevent the spread of the virus. Supervisors and Coordinators must encourage this same behavior from all employees and volunteers.

Responsibilities of Employees, Volunteers and Contractors

USSSA is asking every one of our employees, volunteers and contractors to help with our prevention efforts while at work. In order to minimize the spread of COVID-19 in our programs, everyone must play their part.

As set forth below, USSSA has instituted various housekeeping, social distancing, and other best practices at our programs. All employees, volunteers and contractors must follow these.

In addition, employees, volunteers and contractors are expected to report to their Supervisor or Coordinator if they are experiencing signs or symptoms of COVID-19, as described below. If you have a specific question about this Plan or COVID-19, please ask your Supervisor or Coordinator. If they cannot answer the question, please contact David Word, USSSA Tournament Director.

Our resources have provided the following control and preventative guidance for all staff and volunteers, regardless of exposure risk:

- Frequently wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. When soap and running water are unavailable, use an alcohol-based hand rub with at least 60% alcohol.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Follow appropriate respiratory etiquette, which includes covering for coughs and sneezes.
- Maintain 6ft of social distancing where possible.
- Wear a mask or face covering when 6ft of social distancing is not possible or when using public facilities that put you in contact with individuals for longer than 5 consecutive minutes or while traveling through common areas with individuals who are not a part of your household .

In addition, staff and volunteers must familiarize themselves with the symptoms of COVID-19, which include the following:

- Coughing
- Fever of greater than 100.3 degrees
- Shortness of breath, difficulty breathing; and

- Early symptoms such as chills, body aches, sore throat, headache, diarrhea, nausea/vomiting, rosy cheeks, and runny nose.

If you develop a fever and symptoms of respiratory illness, such as cough or shortness of breath, DO NOT LEAVE HOME and call your supervisor or coordinator and healthcare provider right away. Likewise, if you come into close contact with someone showing these symptoms, call your supervisor and healthcare provider right away.

Programming Protective Measures

We have instituted the following protective measures at all locations.

Daily Screening

- Participants will receive a daily health check prior to participation.
- Participation that is longer than 4 hours will require additional screening during the tournament performed by coaches of each team.
- Responses to screening questions for each person should be recorded and stored so that there is a record of everyone present in case a participant develops COVID-19 (see pg. 8 for USSSA daily screening form).
- Any person with positive symptoms reported should not be allowed to take part in activities and should contact his or her primary care provider or other appropriate health-care professional.
- Vulnerable individuals should not oversee or participate in any activities at this time.

During the tournament

- Gathering sizes will be regulated as determined by Government and Health Departments officials.
- If changing rooms or meeting rooms are used, there must be a minimum distance of 6 feet between each individual at all times, when using indoor spaces or traveling through common areas that individuals typically spend 5 minutes or more occupying, masks or face coverings are recommended and if any contact is made with surfaces hands should be washed for at minimum 20 seconds or a sanitizing solution should be used.
- Contact between participants and staff will be limited to the greatest extent possible during activities.
- PPE is encouraged to be used by staff, volunteers, and participants.
- Activity times will be staggered to allow proper cleaning and reduce the number of participants at venues. The schedule will be produced in a sufficient amount of time for review by the venue owners.

- Pool play and bracket play will be organized to allow for one team to stay at the field for back to back games as much as possible to reduce traffic throughout the park.
- The plate umpire will maintain the maximum distance possible to call balls and strikes and view fair balls.
- No team/player handshakes, no team/player high fives, and no group gatherings between teams on the field. At the end of each game teams will line up on the base path and give a unique show of sportsmanship to the other team.
- The managers meeting at home plate should include just one coach from each team plus the umpires. No players at the plate meeting and the plate meeting should always be conducted to allow social distancing.
- The dugout area will be expanded down the sideline when room permits and only if player and coaches safety is not compromised and will extend 6ft behind the player bench area. Player bags will be organized with a minimum of 6ft distance between each player. If the dugout area cannot be expanded, players and coaches will be advised to wear a face covering or return to their families when not actively participating in the game.
- Parents should supply their players with wipes and hand sanitizer for disinfecting shared playing equipment and cleaning hands between innings.
- Players and coaches are encouraged to wear PPE items as long as the items do not compromise the safety of the game.
- Teams will clean their dugout of all trash and other items after each game, anything brought into the dugout area will be taken with the players. Teams are encouraged to disinfect hard surface areas (benches, bat racks, etc.) upon first arriving at a dugout.
- Players should bring their own, personal cooler instead of using a team cooler. No sharing of water bottles. Each player must have their own water container, or teams should provide disposable cups for their players and coaching staff.
- Gum, spitting, and sunflower seeds are prohibited during all activities.
- Spectators will be positioned around the field to the largest extent possible to exceed social distancing requirements.

Additional Safety Precautions performed by Storm Volunteers

- Livonia Storm will have areas around the fields cautioned taped off, so all spectators stay 10ft away from fields.
- We will have all bleachers cautioned taped off to allow no bleacher seating.
- Livonia Storm will disinfect all bathroom handles (inside and out) hourly.
- Livonia Storm will be disinfecting the dugout area before/after each game.
- Livonia Storm will have hand washing stations and hand sanitizer tables set up at different locations in the park.

- Livonia Storm will be in charge of raking all fields.
- We will recommend that immediate family will only attend the tournament.

Use of Equipment

- There should be no shared towels, clothing or shoes between participants.
- Participants should wear their own appropriate workout clothing (do not share clothing), and individual clothing/towels should be washed and cleaned after every workout.
- All equipment, including balls, should will be cleaned intermittently during activities. Balls will be provided by the defensive team, there will be no sharing of balls.
- Hand sanitizer will be available at all activities.
- Athletic equipment such as bats, batting helmets and other gear should be cleaned between each use with approved disinfectant if they are shared between teams.

Participant or Employee Exhibits COVID-19 Symptoms

Contact your local health department to notify them about the participant or staff with COVID-19 symptoms and determine if their close contacts should be sent home as well. They will provide guidance regarding how to determine who should be considered a close contact. They will likely require that you isolate close contacts and send them home as soon as possible.

If an employee or participant exhibits COVID-19 symptoms during participation, the employee or participant must remain at home until he or she is symptom free for 72 hours (3 full days) without the use of fever-reducing or other symptom-altering medicines (e.g., cough suppressants).

USSSA will similarly require an employee or participant who reports to a tournament with symptoms to return home until he or she is symptom free for 72 hours (3 full days).

To the extent practical, employees and participants are required to obtain a doctor's note clearing them to return.

Participant or Employee Tests Positive for COVID-19

An employee or participant who tests positive for COVID-19 will be directed to self-quarantine away from USSSA.

Employees or participants that test positive and are symptom free may return to work when at least seven (7) days have passed since the date of his or her first positive test and have not had a subsequent illness.

Employees or participants who test positive and are directed to care for themselves at home may return to work when:

- (1) at least 72 hours (3 full days) have passed since recovery; and
- (2) at least seven (7) days have passed since symptoms first appeared.

Employees who test positive and have been hospitalized may return to work when directed to do so by their medical care providers.

USSSA will require an employee or participant to provide documentation clearing his or her return to work or play.

Employee or Participant Has Close Contact with a Confirmed Positive Case of COVID-19

Employees or participants who have come into close contact with an individual who has tested positive for COVID-19 will be directed to self-quarantine for 14 days from the last date of close contact with that individual. Close contact is defined as less than six (6) feet for a period of time greater than 5 minutes.

If USSSA learns that an employee or participant has tested positive, USSSA will conduct an investigation to determine who may have had close contact with the confirmed-positive employee or participant in the prior 14 days and direct those individuals who have had close contact with the confirmed-positive employee or participant to self-quarantine for 14 days from the last date of close contact with that employee or participant.

If applicable, USSSA will also notify any sub-contractors, vendors/suppliers or spectators who may have had close contact with the confirmed-positive employee or participant.

If an employee or participant learns that he or she has come into close contact with a confirmed-positive individual outside of USSSA, he/she must alert a manager or supervisor of the close contact and self-quarantine for 14 days from the last date of close contact with that individual.

Confidentiality/Privacy

Except for circumstances in which the USSSA is legally required to report occurrences of communicable disease, the confidentiality of all medical conditions will be maintained in accordance with applicable law and to the extent practical under the circumstances.

When it is required, the number of persons who will be informed that an unnamed employee or participant has tested positive will be kept to the minimum needed to comply with reporting requirements and to limit the potential for transmission to others.

USSSA reserves the right to inform other employees or participants that an unnamed person has been diagnosed with COVID-19 if the other employees or participants might have been exposed to the disease so the employees may take measures to protect their own health.

USSSA also reserves the right to inform sub-contractors, vendors/suppliers or visitors that an unnamed person has been diagnosed with COVID-19 if they might have been exposed to the disease so those individuals may take measures to protect their own health.

