



8400 N. Orange Prairie Rd. - Peoria, IL - 61615 - SluggerPeoria.com

Returning to Play at the LSSC

The Louisville Slugger Sports Complex (LSSC), in response to the Covid-19 pandemic, has drafted best practices for operating the facility and returning to play ball during this time. Guidelines include and follow national softball/baseball affiliations recommended playing practices during this time.

In order to get on the field this summer, following certain restrictions, procedures and policies from various governmental agencies are necessary to ensure play returns in a responsible way. The safety of all event attendees and the prevention of the further spread of COVID-19 is the highest of priority.. Because of this, compliance is required for all event attendees. In order to ensure events will be able to continue through the summer, we will need to enforce all stated rules. Please understand that your attendance and participation in this event is optional and not mandatory and is under the discretion of the LSSC and it's partners.. If attendance and/or participation is revoked due to non-compliance, refunds will not be provided. We appreciate your cooperation to help ensure a safe & responsible event for all those involved.

Liability Waiver- Consent to attend is required of each team, player and parent in agreement of all playing conditions. Anyone in attendance must consent to said rules before entering park. Simple 4 min. electronic waiver that will be sent to coaches and players and also part of any gate pass purchase online or at the park.

Event Procedures-

However inconvenient, the rules are necessary and mandated. If any party feels uncomfortable competing under these conditions at this time, refunds will be processed with a total understanding. Games will be governed by the applicable rule book with the following modifications:

Communication- All teams and individuals competing at the complex are notified of all conditions to play in advance of entering the park.

Sanitization- LSSC enhanced cleaning practices. The LSSC cleaning staff will be seen throughout the park cleaning and sanitizing during all events. Restrooms hourly, dugouts, counters and railings during and after each game.

- Face coverings are highly encouraged.
All indoor or confined spaces require a face covering.
- Hand sanitizer is provided in the dugouts, concession and restroom areas.
- All LSSC staff will wear face coverings when addressing guests.
- All LSSC staff will do self-assessment and be temperature checked before each shift.

Game Play Instruction

- Game formats have been modified to pool play and single elimination. The amount of time between games has been increased to minimize overlap and traffic flow.
- There will be no plate meeting. Rules review and pregame will be handled with a check-in video or Zoom call with all coaches before arrival.
- Game balls will be provided to each team to use when they are in the field. Team will be responsible for sanitizing and returning balls back into play as needed. Balls given to teams **MUST** be the ones used in the game. Umpires will monitor brand, model and condition. Damaged game balls will be replaced.
- Award ceremonies will be modified and limited to coach collecting awards and dispersing to the teams.



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Coach-

- Modified check-in procedures- Rosters and insurance must be provided electronically before arrival.
- Players and coaches must constantly strive to maintain social distancing and stay at least two strides away from any other player or coach. PPE is highly encouraged.
- Coach should be doing self-assessment before arriving.
- Essential team personnel only!
Maximum of 3 coaches allowed with each team, no exceptions.
- Teams should arrive at the ballpark no earlier than 60 mins before their game. Schedules will be staggered to keep movement between games as minimal as possible.
- All warm-up areas are specified for each field. Follow all guidelines on the practice map to continue to social distance during warm-up. This is all about traffic flow. It is mandatory to use areas outlined, unless using an offsite location.

Players-

- Players should carry and maintain their own personal equipment and keep contents contained inside when possible.
- No sharing of any personal equipment is allowed.
- Players and coaches must constantly strive to maintain social distancing and stay at least two strides away from any other player or coach. PPE is highly encouraged.
- Players must provide their own PERSONAL water jug/bottle. Water cannot be provided by the LSSC. Personal water jugs must be no larger than 8" in diameter. Bottles of water can be purchased for \$2.
- No physical celebrations should be performed between players and teams.
Tip of the cap, or quick bow- *Be creative*, just maintain distancing.
- PPE items are allowed to be worn and are encouraged.
- Parents are encouraged to supply their players with antibacterial wipes and hand sanitizer for disinfecting shared playing equipment and cleaning hands between innings.

Dugouts- Sanitized after each game. Bench, cubby's and all railings.

- Dugouts are 30' long with two openings – up to 4 team personnel (catcher mandated) will be allowed.
- Dugout Extensions- 50' x 10' area down the outside of the fence, just outside the dugouts. Remaining players will be socially distance. Gates will remain open. Player's bags will remain separated along fence. Dugouts and extensions, should be clean of all trash and all other team items before leaving.
- Home and Visitor dugouts will be pre-determined on the pool schedule.
3B dugout will be listed as the 2nd team on schedule. In bracketed tournament play, highest bracket seed will dictate home dugout.



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Gate & Vending- Contactless payment using Google Pay, Apple Pay now accepted

- Pre-paid weekend gate admission option is now provided and highly recommended
- Drive-thru pick up at the park
- On-site Sales will only be at one location
- Pre-order Tournament shirt sales picked up by one contact per team

Spectators- BYOC- Bring Your Own Chair

- Limiting additional attendees by each team is encouraged at this time
- All events utilize SluggerPeoria.TV- All games are streamed-live. For the price of a gate fee, additional fans, including grandparents, can watch from home.
- Bleachers have been removed -
Designated spectator, socially distanced seating area is located behind each backstop. Any remaining larger bleacher seating must maintain a social distance of 3 rows and 3 seats from the closest group.
- Stadium 1 & 2 and Field 2 have permanent bleachers- seating must be every 3rd row and each group separated by 3 seats in the rows.

Umpires-

- Umpire staff will do self-assessment and have temp taken each day before starting their day.
- Step-back mechanics used in calling balls and strikes.
- Game balls will be held and cleaned by each defensive team. Balls will be thrown into the catcher to be visually inspected by the plate umpire for brand and condition, per affiliation.
- Positioning or mechanics will not otherwise change. Game rules are not modified.

Patron flow/parking-

- Q 1-4** Games staggered one hour from each pair of fields
- Playing on Field 1 & 2- Enter and exit through **Gate C**
 - Enter gate 60 min before game
 - Playing on Field 3 & 4- Enter and exit through **Gate B**
 - Enter gate 60 min before game
- Q 5-8** Games staggered one hour from each pair of fields
- Playing on Field 5 & 6- Enter and exit through **Gate E**
 - Enter gate 60 min before game
 - Playing on Field 7 & 8- Enter and exit through **Gate E**
 - Enter gate 60 min before game

Stadium

- Play on Stadium 1 & 2- Enter & exit through **Stadium Gate**