



Ladner Minor Baseball

Return to Play - COVID-19 SAFETY PLAN

LMBA recognizes and abides by the Provincial Public Health Orders, viaSport's *Return to Sport Guidelines for BC* and Baseball BC's General Health and Personal Hygiene Guidelines (as adopted by BC Minor Baseball).

LMBA has created resources and policies based on the information provided by:

- viaSport sector guidelines and Baseball BC Guidelines
- Orders, guidance, and notices issued by the provincial health officer and relevant to your industry
- City of Delta and venue guidelines

Ladner Minor Baseball Association is committed to ensuring our members understand the procedures for Phase 2 – Return to Play and the COVID-19 safety protocols as described in this document. The following steps have been taken to ensure our organization and its' members are prepared to return to play safely:

- All protocols, regulations and requirements for return to play are published on the LMBA website together with full mail-out to all members through email.
- Mandatory virtual (Zoom) meetings to present protocol to executive, volunteers, and coaches where all must attend if they are wishing to participate in the 2021 baseball season.
- Mandatory signed waivers and agreements from all members, volunteers, and coaches that wish to return, agreeing to abide by all regulations and new protocols for participation.

[viaSport – Return to Sport](#)
[Baseball BC Return to Play 2021](#)
[BC Minor Baseball Association – Return to Play](#)

- This Safety Plan will be updated as new guidance is provided by Public Health, ViaSport and Baseball BC

LMBA Covid-19 Resources, Policies and Guidelines:

1. COMMUNICATION: Plans and Training

LMBA will communicate all policies and protocols to team members (team members include players, volunteers, parent, spectators) via:

- Member Communication letter to all LMBA members

- Mandatory Zoom meetings for all coaches and managers to review the processes and resources related to mitigating risk related to COVID 19, including:
 - Review guidelines and policies
 - Physical distancing requirements
 - Player attendance and Health Check tracking process
 - Symptom screening & Health Checklist Completion & Submission
 - Hygiene protocols and cleaning practices for equipment
 - First Aid Protocols
 - Outbreak protocols

- Regular contact will be maintained with Division Managers throughout the season to provide updates and share concerns as they arise.

2. COMPLIANCE AND WAIVERS

Players/parents/coaches are responsible to sign and return the four required documents noted below to LMBA Registrar prior to their first LMBA event:

- *BCMBA Youth Participant Waiver*
- *BCMBA Adult Participant Waiver*
- BCMBA Declaration of Compliance
- LMBA Participant Agreement

Waivers can be accessed, according to Division, on our website – under **LMBA Covid Information** tab:

<https://www.ladnerminorbaseball.com/>

3. LMBA ILLNESS POLICY

LMBA Illness Policy has been developed to ensure that participants and others showing symptoms of COVID-19 are prohibited from participating in our baseball activities and to ensure that all members know the process to follow in the event of player illness or exposure to COVID 19

- The Illness policy outlines:
 - i. Self-assessment tools and visual monitoring of team members
 - ii. What to do if a team member is feeling sick
 - iii. What to do if a team member tests positive for Covid-19
 - iv. What to do if a team member is tested and waiting for results
 - v. What to do if a team member comes in contact with someone confirmed to have Covid-19
 - vi. When a team member needs to quarantine or self-isolate

[LMBA Covid Illness Policy](#)

4. LMBA FIRST AID PLAN

The LMBA First Aid Plan sets out what to do in the event that first aid is required to be administered during an activity, including instructions on gathering information and putting on and removing protective equipment.

[LMBA First Aid Plan](#)

5. LMBA OUTBREAK PLAN

LMBA Outbreak Plan identifies the roles and responsibilities of volunteers should a case or outbreak be reported.

An '**outbreak**' is two or more cases; a '**case**' is a single case of Covid-19.

In the event of a **suspected or confirmed** case of COVID-19 among any team member, team member's family or spectator at an LMBA activity, the **Coach/Manager** must refer the affected participant or parent to **LMBA's Illness Policy**, and refer them to the information about isolation and self-monitoring.

The **Coach/Manager** must then report to the following three LMBA personnel:

- i. **Division Manager**
- ii. LMBA **Secretary** (secretary@ladnerminorbaseball.com)
- iii. LMBA **President** (president@ladnerminorbaseball.com)

LMBA Secretary is to:

- Report to the Medical Health Officer at Fraser Health Authority (call 811)

For a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19 LMBA will:

- Initiate cleaning protocols, as set out in the Safety Plan
- Cooperate fully with the City and local health authorities in the event LMBA is required to modify, restrict, postpone, or cancel activities

[LMBA-Covid-Outbreak-Plan](#)

6. SIGNAGE

- Signage will be posted at all ball parks (Dugald, Bell, Maple, Cromie) clearly stating:
 - Physical distancing guidelines
 - Stay home if ill
 - Effective hand hygiene
 - Entrance/exit points to the diamond

7. REGULAR MONITORING AND UPDATING OF COVID-19 PROTOCOLS AND PROCESSES

As the season progresses there may be challenges or new areas of concern that arise. LMBA is committed to ensuring all protocols and processes remain current.

Coaches/volunteers are asked bring any concerns forward to their Division Manager for review by LMBA Executive. If needed, edits or updates to the policies and guidelines will be made by LMBA Executive and communicated to appropriate stakeholders.

When resolving safety issues, Division Managers and coaches/managers will involve LMBA Executive.

A. FIRST LEVEL PROTECTION (Elimination): PHYSICAL DISTANCING

The number of players and coaches on the field is limited and all members are required to follow appropriate physical distancing.

MEASURES IN PLACE:

- All LMBA activities occur outside, with ample space to ensure appropriate physical distancing between players and coaches
- Team members must maintain a physical distance of 3 metres from one another at all times
- Dugouts cannot be used by players or coaches
- Bleachers/stands are closed for use by all
- **Check in point near the entry gate (alongside third base):**
 - All team members must complete a Health Check on the TeamSnap platform prior to each event. The coach (or a volunteer designated by the coach) will confirm at the check in point near the entry gate that only team members who have completed their Health Check will be permitted to attend the event. The LMBA registrar will have access to the TeamSnap Health Checks in the event that Public Health requests attendance records for contact tracing purposes.
- **Arrival protocol:**
 - Players will enter the field of play through the gate alongside third base. Players will cross the diamond and place their bags beside the fencing along the first base line (nothing should be touching the fence), spaced 3 meters apart.
 - Members are to arrive no earlier than 15 minutes prior to event and to wait in a socially distance manner as they complete their Health Checklist prior to event.
- **Inside the field of play:**
 - Full team practices are permitted
- **Washroom breaks:**
 - Each field has a public washroom. Players must observe capacity limits for washrooms and must wash their hands with warm soapy water for 20 seconds after being in the washrooms; where there is no soap and water, players must use hand sanitizer.
- **Exit protocol:**
 - Players must gather their belongings, sanitize their hands and exit the field through the gate alongside first base.
- **Scheduling** of practices will be managed by Division Managers. Practices will be scheduled with a 30-minute gap between two teams to allow for the earlier team to vacate the field prior to next team arriving.

**B. SECOND LEVEL PROTECTION (Engineering): Barriers and partitions
MEASURES IN PLACE:**

- No physical barriers or partitions are required on the fields.
- All LMBA concessions are closed for business.
- Signs will be mounted at all diamonds noting: Physical distancing guidelines, Stay home if ill, Effective hand hygiene, Entry/exit points.
- Washroom facilities are managed by the City of Delta – LMBA will remind players and volunteers to follow capacity limits.

**C. THIRD LEVEL PROTECTION (Administrative): Rules and guidelines
MEASURES IN PLACE:**

- Players/parents/coaches are responsible to sign and return all waivers and agreements to LMBA Registrar:
 - BCMBA Youth Participant Waiver
 - BCMBA Adult Participant Waiver
 - BCMBA Declaration of Compliance
 - LMBA Participant Agreement
- Players/coaches/volunteers will abide by all LMBA Covid Policies.
- Players/coaches will be instructed not to arrive at the field earlier than 15 minutes prior to their scheduled time and to leave the park/parking lot immediately following practice.
- Only players and coaches are permitted on the field.
- Players/coaches are expected to perform hand hygiene prior to entering and when exiting the ball field.
- Only coaches are permitted to access lock boxes to retrieve field equipment
- All members must stay home if they are sick.
- All team members must complete a Health Check on the TeamSnap platform prior to each event. The coach (or a volunteer designated by the coach) will confirm at the check in point that only those team members who have completed and passed their Health Check will be permitted to attend the event. The LMBA registrar will have access to the TeamSnap Health Checks in the event that Public Health requests attendance records for contact tracing purposes.
- **Spectators** - In Phase 2, **NO** spectators are permitted at any baseball activities. Parents/caregivers are expected to wait in or at their vehicle. There can be no tailgating or gathering in the parking lots. If and when spectators are permitted, LMBA will track attendance.
- Parents/caregivers must follow physical distancing guidelines when dropping off and picking up players.

D. FOURTH LEVEL PROTECTION: Masks and Hygiene

i. MASKS - MEASURES IN PLACE:

LMBA coaches do not require the use of masks at practices as our events are all outside, and we are able to maintain required physical distance. LMBA has identified that masks are required in the event a player requires first aid. Mask wearing is one measure in addition to other control measures.

- Coaches/ managers will follow LMBA first aid guidelines in the event they need to assist an injured player.

ii. CLEANING AND HAND HYGIENE - MEASURES IN PLACE:

. Hand Washing:

- Coaches will have the hand sanitizer available for coaches and players to perform hand hygiene prior to both entering and exiting the field.
- There are washroom facilities at Dugald, Bell, Maple and Cromie Parks with sinks available for hand washing.
- Players and coaches are encouraged to add their own hand sanitizer to their bags.

High touch surfaces:

- There are limited high touch surfaces at the field. Storage boxes will only be accessed by coaches and lock boxes used to access will be cleaned after each use.

Shared equipment:

- Shared equipment is limited to baseballs, team bats, and catchers gear
- LMBA owned catchers gear will only be used by one player per practice session and cleaned after each practice
- Coaches/managers will wipe down all LMBA issued equipment (i.e. baseballs, whiffle balls, tees, pitching machines and bats)
- Coaches/managers will clean any equipment used for field preparation (i.e. L Screens, rakes etc.)
- Coaches/managers will clean the lock box after securing field equipment

Additional requirements:

- No sharing of water bottles
- No sharing of food of any kind
- No spitting
- No sunflower seeds or gum permitted at the field
- Players will not share their personal equipment (bats, gloves, etc.) with others.
- Players will be encouraged to clean/disinfect their personal gear after each practice
- No team huddles before, during or after practice.