



# DIXIE YOUTH BASEBALL, INC.

## Implementation of the 2020 Regular Season

Dixie Youth Baseball is continuing to monitor the latest guidance on the COVID-19 virus from federal and state authorities and the U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). We are hopeful that circumstances will allow for the 2020 season to begin in the near future.

When local leagues are permitted to resume activities by their state, county and city governments, Dixie Youth Baseball will implement this plan for the orderly resumption of regular season play.

- The Franchise Renewal deadline is June 1, 2020.
- The deadline for submitting Regular Season Player Rosters to be eligible for any potential postseason play is June 15, 2020.
- It is recommended that each team play a schedule of twelve (12) regular season games.
- The respective state organizations will determine the minimum number of games each team must play.
- Health and safety measures will be implemented by each league in accordance with municipal, county, state and CDC guidelines.
- All participants in Dixie Youth Baseball events should be aware of the risk and take the necessary precautions to avoid exposure to germs. This includes maintaining good hygiene practices. We strongly recommend washing your hands often, using soap and water for at least 20 seconds each time, using an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available, covering your mouth and nose with a tissue, if possible, when coughing or sneezing.
- Until further notice, at a minimum each league will –
  - Ensure that each coach, player, parent and other attendees practice responsible social distancing;
  - Limit the use of team-shared equipment and encourage the cleaning and sanitizing of such equipment after each use;
  - Recommend all employees, umpires and coaches to wear appropriate PPE;
  - Encourage the use of facemasks by players in close contact areas.
- Dixie Youth Baseball is immediately instituting a precautionary “**no-contact, no-handshake policy**” to be observed at every level (league, district, state and national play). This includes all physical contact and extends to customary game-related activities, such as pre-game coaches’ handshakes, umpire-coach-player introductions, and post-game handshakes between members of opposing teams. Instead, officials, players and coaches should use verbal queues, such as saying “good game,” without shaking hands, high-fiving or fist-bumping.
- Local leagues may want to consider having each participating player and parent sign a COVID-19 waiver/release. A sample of this agreement can be found on the Dixie Youth Baseball page on the Sadler Insurance Co. website (<https://www.sadlersports.com/dixie/>) and is entitled “*Waiver/Release For Communicable Diseases Including COVID-19*”.
- The scheduling of post season play will be determined by the respective state organizations.