



UPDATE ON COVID-19 – MAY 22, 2020

We all hope that everyone is doing well during this unprecedented time in society dealing with this pandemic. Please find below some updated information of where we currently sit.

What is the status of a Baseball Season in Saskatchewan for 2020?

Baseball Sask still has no plans to cancel the 2020 season at this time. The targeted start of the season is very fluid so we will not state any specific dates yet at this time. However, as we are learning more each day about COVID-19 and how it is affecting society, we will constantly be re-evaluating our plans for the upcoming season as more information becomes available.

As it currently stands, all Baseball Sask sanctioned activities remain in a suspended state. This means that there is no Insurance Coverage for any members until we are able to lift this suspended state.

Yesterday, the Government of Saskatchewan announced that Phase 3 of their plan to “Re-Open Saskatchewan” will begin on June 8th. We are getting closer as baseball would fall under Phase 4 (Outdoor Recreation). I’m sure many of you saw that Baseball PEI announced that they will be able to start on June 1st. Let’s all keep our fingers crossed that we here in Saskatchewan will also be receiving this same good news as well later on in June when Phase 4 is opened up.

The detailed 5-Phase Plan of how this will roll out is detailed below:

Phases of Re-Open Saskatchewan

Re-Open Saskatchewan will consist of five phases. The timing and order of the businesses/workplaces included in each phase is subject to change throughout the process based on a continuous assessment of transmission patterns and other factors.

Phase One

Re-opening previously restricted medical services; opening of golf courses, parks and campgrounds.

Phase Two

Re-opening retail and select personal care services.

Phase Three – June 8, 2020 (target date)

Re-opening restaurants and food services, gyms and fitness centres, licensed establishments and child care facilities; re-opening remaining personal care services; re-opening places of worship; increasing indoor public and private gatherings to 15 people and outdoor gatherings to 30 people.

Phase Four – Date TBD

Re-opening indoor and outdoor recreation facilities; increasing the size of indoor public and private gatherings to 30 people.

Phase Five – Date TBD

Consider lifting long-term restrictions.

As soon as we are given the go ahead that it is safe to our members by the Sask Health Authorities and all Government Agencies, we will let you all know immediately. However, until then, we thank you for your cooperation and patience in this National attempt to flatten the curve.

Insurance Coverage if/when Baseball Resumes?

As with most insurance coverage for many other sports and businesses from now on, there will be no coverage for anything to do with the COVID-19 Pandemic. Also, in order to play again this season, our Insurance Provider has stated that all players, coaches and umpires may be required to sign a waiver.

We are also in the process of finalizing out Return to Play Policy that will be mandatory for all of our members groups to follow if they choose to play baseball this summer. This document will detail items such as social distancing, sanitization and other health safety that will be required by the Government of Saskatchewan. We hope to have this policy completed and approved by our Board of Governors soon.

What is the status of the annual May 15th Baseball Sask Membership Registration deadline for all Rally Cap, 11U, 13U, 15U and 18U?

Baseball Sask will be extending a new deadline for the 2020 season to July 6th for all Rally Cap, 11U, 13U, 15U, 18U, 21U and Senior players and coaches.

If we feel the need to extend this deadline again, we will let you all know ASAP.

How will this affect the June 5th Provincial Team Registration Deadline for 11U, 13U, 15U and 18U and the June 19th deadline for all 21U and Senior Divisions?

Assuming we are still able to hold our Provincial Championships, we will need to extend this deadline to a date to be determined later. Once we have that date set, we will let you all know.

How will this affect the 2020 Baseball Sask Provincial Championships?

This will all depend on when we are able to get back on the field and resume baseball activities in Saskatchewan. We hope that we are able to run our 2020 Provincial Championships, however, there is a very strong possibility that if we are delayed enough in starting the season that all Provincial Championships will be moved to mid to late August or potentially cancelled in order to focus on just getting in some type of a baseball season. These decisions will be made at a later date.

How will this affect the 2020 Saskatchewan Summer Games in Lloydminster?

The Sask Games Council recently announced that the 2020 Saskatchewan Summer Games was being postponed until the Summer of 2021. There will be more details to follow on dates and age classifications.

Is the Baseball Sask office still closed?

Yes. In order to protect the health and safety of all building residents, and to do our part to limit the community spread of Covid-19, Sask Sport has closed Mosaic Stadium Office to the public until further notice. The Baseball Sask staff are currently working remotely and are occasionally stopping into the office to check on the mail and deliveries. Operations will continue as usual, but the best way of contacting staff will be through each staff members email in link below:

<https://www.baseballsask.ca/directory/executive-members>

What is the status of Western Canada and Baseball Canada Championships?

On Thursday, April 23, 2020, it was announced that ALL Western Canada and Baseball Canada Championships would be cancelled for 2020.

This means that there will be no Team Sask Selects attending Westerns (14U Girls) or Nationals (13U Boys, 15U Boys, 16U Girls, 17U Canada Cup, 21U Men or 21U Women).

What is the status of NCCP Coaching Modules?

We are pleased to announce that we have started scheduling online NCCP Modules that can accommodate up to 20 coaches per Module. The first round of Modules in May was extremely successful with most of them being sold out. We have now announced the June Modules and they too are almost all sold out. Should you have interest in becoming certified in attending these, please contact Nolan Bracken at nolan@baseballsask.ca and let him know what modules you need. You can also register directly at <https://www.baseballsask.ca/nccp-coaching-clinics-now-online-2>.

What is the status of Umpire Clinics?

Our Provincial Umpire Committee has opened up online Umpire Clinics for Level 1 & 2. is currently in the process of creating a way to attend an Online Clinic for Level 1 & 2. Details can be found at <https://www.baseballsask.ca/2020-online-umpire-clinics>. Should you have any questions, you can email Scott Mills at scottmills4@gmail.com.

Attention Coaches! – Free Clinics from Coaching Association of Saskatchewan



The Coaches Association of Saskatchewan is offering courses open to all coaches, and CAS members will have their registration fee refunded (training will be free after reimbursement).

To become a member of the CAS there is a \$20 Annual Fee (This is not to be confused with a Baseball Sask membership fee). Please go to <https://saskcoach.ca> for more details.

Also, in addition to the CAS clinics detailed above, during this time of physical distancing due to the COVID-19 outbreak, the Canadian Olympic and Paralympic Sport Institute Network (COPSIN) is now offering free webinars for coaches to give them professional development opportunities and a chance to connect with each other. These webinars are geared towards HP coaches, and are appropriate for coaches working with athletes competing at the National level. Registration is open for the courses remaining in April. Information for May courses will be sent at a later date.

Link to register for Webinars

https://mcusercontent.com/e66bf0b2f8a26f40801434ee9/files/4bca4e8f-d151-46e5-8ce0-3ec52f0647bc/COPSIN_Advantage_Coaches_Webinars_April_EN_04_16_2020.pdf

Parents Asking about REFUNDS in the situation that the 2020 Season is Cancelled?

We have received many messages asking Baseball Sask how they can get refunds for the Registration Fees that they paid their Local Minor Ball Club.

Please be aware that you will need to contact your Local Minor Ball Club for these refunds as they are the ones that collected those fees.

The only fee that Baseball Sask receives is \$25 per player and coach and that is not actually invoiced to the Local Minor Ball Club until June annually.

Therefore, should there not be a season in 2020, Baseball Sask will not be invoicing the Local Minor Ball Club at all unless they plan to run Fall and Winter Programs that requires insurance.

Please stay safe and healthy as we all keep our fingers crossed that we will be able to play some baseball sometime this summer!

