



Miracle League of Ottawa

Covid – 19 Return to Play Protocol

Updated February, 2021



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INTRODUCTION

The Covid – 19 return to play information in this document is geared to protect our athletes, parents or legal guardians, coaches, volunteers, and spectators. The document has been prepared using the most up-to-date Provincial public health guidelines, our best practices from the 2020 season, as well as the Return to Play guidelines issued by Softball Canada on June 10, 2020 (version #3).

Provincial and Municipal reopening regulations will be consulted on a regular basis to ensure that the Miracle League of Ottawa meets or exceeds. The information below is based on a minimum of a Stage 3 reopening.

Miracle League Covid – 19 screening and assumption of risk document

The Miracle League of Ottawa has prepared a revised screening and assumption of risk document. We ask that you complete one for each member that will be in attendance at a Miracle League of Ottawa activity. This includes the athlete, parent(s) or legal guardian(s), coaches, volunteers, and spectators. It is preferable that this be completed online the day before the event, however, we will have hard copies available. Anyone not completing the screening form, will not be allowed to enter the facility.

The purpose of the screening form is to assist Ottawa Public Health case management team in tracing contacts.

Masking/Face Covering

We ask that all athletes, parents or legal guardians, coaches, volunteers, staff, and spectators wear a mask at all times while attending a Miracle League of Ottawa event (unless you have a letter from a medical doctor), and especially if you are on the field. Should you remove your mask, please ensure you follow the 2 metre social distancing rule.



Pre-Game

- It is recommended that athletes, parents or legal guardians, coaches, volunteers, and spectators are familiar with the Miracle League of Ottawa Covid – 19 Return to Play protocol.
- It is recommended that athletes, parents or legal guardians, coaches, and volunteers arrive no more than 15 minutes prior to the start of the activity.
- Miracle League of Ottawa board members or staff will ensure that everyone entering the facility has completed or completes a screening and an assumption of risk document.
- Hand sanitizer will be made available at the facility entry point.
- Field entry will occur through the gate located by first base.

Field of Play – Bench area dugouts

- Miracle League of Ottawa board members, staff, or volunteers will ensure that the benches will be sanitized prior to game play.
- Athletes (if they are able to) should space themselves 2 metres apart.
- Athletes should have their own water bottle. No other liquids or food are allowed on the field of play or in the dugouts.

The Game

- Athletes are encouraged to wear a mask during the game (unless they have a letter from a medical doctor)
- Athletes are also encouraged to hand sanitize each half-inning. Sanitizer will be provided.
- Game balls will be sanitized prior to the start of the game, and at regular intervals throughout by the on-field coaches.
- Athletes are encouraged to bring their own bat(s) and ensure that they have been sanitized prior to the game.



The Game (continued)

- These bats will be sanitized prior to the game and at regular intervals throughout.
- Any equipment (bats, gloves, hats, etc) should not be shared with other athletes.
- All plays at the bases will be force plays. Eliminating tag plays reduces the risk of potential contact.
- Post game handshakes and after game practicing as discouraged. Athletes should exit the bench areas and field of play through the gate located by third base.
- Athletes are encouraged to sanitize their equipment and shower once they get home.

Miracle League of Ottawa Play Structure

The play structure at the Miracle League of Ottawa facility is property of the City of Ottawa. Depending on Ottawa Public Health regulations, it is hoped that the play structure will be open and available for public use. According to the City of Ottawa website: *play structures are not cleaned frequently and care should be taken to practice good hygiene including washing and disinfecting your hands before and after coming in contact with touch-point areas.*

Miracle League of Ottawa Canteen

Unless otherwise allowed by Ottawa Public Health, only packaged products will be offered at the canteen. Our board members or staff will sanitize high-touch areas such as fridges, freezers, counters, and drawers between uses. We will strive to only have one person operating the canteen on any given day.

Our canteen staff will:

- Wear a mask;
- Wash or sanitize their hands between each transaction and avoid touching their face;
- Maintain a 2 m distance between themselves and the customer.



Miracle League of Ottawa Canteen (continued)

Due to the lack of internet service at the Miracle League of Ottawa facility, we do not have the ability to accept debit or credit card transactions. While we encourage e-transfers whenever possible, we will accept cash payments. A safe and sanitized method will be put in place to reduce the amount of contact between staff and customers.

Taps and water re-fill stations will not be in use.

Miracle League of Ottawa Family Washrooms/Changerooms

The Miracle League of Ottawa will open their family washrooms only. Mask use is required indoors in public areas throughout the City of Ottawa, including our washroom facilities. Washrooms are cleaned on a regular basis when the Miracle League of Ottawa is not hosting activities. During our activities, we will ensure to maintain a regular cleaning schedule.

Resources

Province of Ontario Covid – 19: <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/>

Ottawa Public Health – Covid – 19: <https://www.ottawapublichealth.ca/en/public-health-topics/novel-coronavirus.aspx>

Softball Canada Return to Play Guidelines: <https://softball.ca/returntoplay>

Ottawa Sport Council Return to Play Roadmap: <https://www.ottawareturntoplayroadmap.ca/>