FROM: Archbishop Bergan Catholic School

DATE: March 18, 2021

RE: BERGAN BASEBALL COVID PROTOCOL

**Location: SCHILKE FIELDS, FREMONT, NE**

* Attendance will be restricted to 75% capacity.  No attendance lists will be needed from visiting teams.  All visiting teams and patrons should self-screen prior to traveling to attend games at Schilke Fields.  Temperature scans will not be performed at the admittance gate.
* Active participants in the game and outside the dugout are permitted, but not required, to wear face coverings during competition/performance. Players and coaches in the dugout must wear face coverings.
* **Spectators are required to wear face coverings for entrance to all activities. Face coverings may be removed after admittance if outside and 6 feet of physical distance can be maintained.** Face coverings must cover the nose and mouth.
* Spectators are required to maintain social distance when seated in the bleachers and are encouraged to bring their own chairs to help maintain social distance.
* Concessions will be available. Patrons should maintain social distance while unmasked and consuming items from the concession stand and then re-mask immediately after. **Absolutely, NO outside food or drink will be allowed in by patrons.**
* Coaches, players, and patrons unwilling to abide by the recommended guidelines will be removed from the facility.

**NSAA Baseball Rules Modifications:**

* Facial Coverings: Players are not permitted to use white facial coverings and they cannot be distracting. Facial coverings should not have designs other than the school mascot/logo.
* Offensive helmets do not need to match.
* Pregame conferences: Limit attendees to one coach from each team plus the umpires. Coaches should stay outside the width of the batter’s box at home plate, maintaining six feet of distance between each person.
* Lineups should be handed to the umpire, and the umpire will verbally approve or ask any questions about the lineup. It is recommended that lineup cards be exchanged team to team and teams to scorekeeper to be shared via photo or text.
* Pitch Counts should be exchanged verbally after each game at each level of play.
* Substitutions/Coaching: The verbal exchange should occur six feet from the coach to scorer and opposing team when making lineup changes. Coaches who wish to discuss a rule or a ruling on the field must maintain at least six feet of distance from the umpire.
* Bench & Field Conduct: Players are not permitted to leave the dugout area to congratulate players when scoring or after home runs. Players and coaches should maintain six feet of social distance when possible. If extending the dugout, rule 1-2-4 shall be followed and the dugout extension should be outside of the field.
* Conferences: Conferences shall be limited to one coach attending with all persons involved maintaining at least six feet of social distance.
* Press Box: Limit the number of non-essential personnel who are in the press box throughout games.

**General Considerations:**

* Have hand sanitizer and wipes available at the field.
* Wash stations or sanitizer at each dugout.
* No one touches the score sheet except the scorer.
* Disinfect the bench/dugout prior to competition.
* Stagger seating of fans.
* The home team should provide the game balls.
* Provide a clean/dirty bucket.
* Clean/sanitize as needed.

**Considerations for Coaches:**

* Wear masks on and off the field.
* Eliminate handshakes post-game.
* Maintain six feet distance between players and umpires.
* Limit and shorten visits with Home plate umpires between innings.
* No seeds, gum or spitting.
* Coaches are responsible for ensuring social/physical distancing is maintained between players as much as possible.

**Considerations for Players:**

* No seeds, gum or spitting.
* Players should clean and sanitize equipment after each game.
* Social distancing on the bench and/or dugout.
* No sharing of water bottles, helmets, catcher’s equipment, or bats.
* Sanitize all equipment after each game.
* Eliminate handshakes post game.
* Eliminate handshakes with coaches/umpires pre-game.
* Carry hand sanitizer.

**Considerations for Umpires:**

* Wearing of facial coverings. Facial coverings should be one solid color and not distracting.
* Bring personal hand sanitizer. Wash hands frequently
* Don’t share equipment.
* No touching of baseballs.
* Clean equipment after each game.
* Follow social distancing guidelines. Consider six feet minimum distance when talking to others (players, coaches, other umpires) at plate meeting.
* Do not shake hands and follow pre and post-game ceremony guidelines established by state associations.
* Consider facility size and spacing within umpire dressing rooms. They should be cleaned and sanitized.
* If umpires must enter the field through the dugout, the dugout should be empty with no players/coaches/team personnel.