



Roadmap to Reopening – Step: 1 for Sports Fields Effective: June 11, 2021

Key details to be aware of include:

- There are no exceptions to these new restrictions; we require all users of our facilities to abide by these rules.
- At this point, there is no end date for the Step: 1 Reopening Guidelines, but these new restrictions will be in effect for a **minimum** of 21 days. During this time restrictions could increase, but will not be relaxed/decreased for this period.
- As per regulations, there will be NO access to any changerooms.
- User groups remain responsible to ensure everyone who uses a facility for their rental (participants, coaches, trainers & spectators) **completes and submits a health screening form. User groups must keep these documents for a minimum of 30 days.** If anyone in your rental group answers “yes” to any of the questions on this form then they **MUST NOT** use the facility.

➤ For Baseball Diamonds

- Skill development and training **ONLY** – No scrimmages, game play or modified play that encourages sharing of equipment or activity that leads to less than 3 metres distancing at any time.
- Coaches and instructors are not included in the maximum of 10. We ask that you limit your number of coaches to ensure physical distancing and avoid overcrowding on the fields.
- You are permitted to divide the fields as per the following guidelines:
 - Baseball diamonds = divided in halves – 2 groups of 10
 - Infield 10 + Outfield 10
- O. Reg 82/20 requires 3 metres between participants at all times.
- If two groups are on a diamond, the groups must be separate and distinct (no mixing, no changing, no shared coaches or equipment), and that there is enough space to keep the different groups physically separated.
- Additional considerations – safety concerns (sport balls from one team hitting the other team causing injury), logistics of moving the different groups between the parking and their area while maintaining the physical distancing, congregating in the parking lots. Some of this could be minimized by staggering start times.

- Each rental must submit in advance to the Municipality of Thames Centre a “Return to Play Plan” outlining their COVID-19 safety protocols.
- Each rental must have in place and complete contact tracing (list of first & last names with phone numbers) for all participants, coaches, and parents that may be on the sidelines.
- Contact tracing for parents that stay in their vehicles or not on the sidelines would not be required.
- Players must be masked if sitting on the bench or while waiting to enter the field of play.
- Masks are not needed on field due to mandated 3 metre distancing.

➤ For Soccer Fields

- Skill development and training **ONLY** – No scrimmages, game play or modified play that encourages sharing of equipment or activity that leads to less than 3 metres distancing at any time.
- Coaches and instructors are not included in the maximum of 10. We ask that you limit your number of coaches to ensure physical distancing and avoid overcrowding on the fields.
- You are permitted to divide the fields as per the following guidelines:
 - Full-size soccer fields = divided in quadrants – 4 groups of 10 (ORC #1 & #2)
 - Intermediate soccer fields = divided in halves – 2 groups of 10 (ORC #4 and community center soccer field)
 - Small soccer fields = 1 group of 10 (ORC #3 & #5)
- O. Reg 82/20 requires 3 metres between participants at all times.
- If more than one group are on a soccer field, then the groups must be separate and distinct (no mixing, no changing, no shared coaches or equipment), and that there is enough space to keep the different groups physically separated.
- Additional considerations – safety concerns (sport balls from one team hitting the other team causing injury), logistics of moving the different groups between the parking and their area while maintaining the physical distancing, congregating in the parking lots. Some of this could be minimized by staggering start times.
- Each rental must submit in advance to the Municipality of Thames Centre a “Return to Play Plan” outlining their COVID-19 safety protocols
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- Contact tracing for parents that stay in their vehicles or not on the sidelines would not be required.
- Players must be masked if sitting on the bench or while waiting to enter the field of play.
- Masks not needed on field due to mandated 3 metre distancing.