**TC Prep Baseball**

**COVID-19 Return to Play Guidelines for Timber Creek Prep**

**The information below are best practices for our organization. These best practices are designed to help coaches with ideas and plans for operating activities post COVID-19.**

**Recommended Guidelines and Best Practices for Field of Play:**

1. Allow players to wear PPE items if they choose, while on the field of play, as long as items do not compromise the player’s safety.
2. Masks will be encouraged for players on the bench during games while remainder of team is in field of play. Masks are encouraged for coaches, but not required.
3. Encourage parents to supply players with their own hand sanitizer for cleaning in between practice segments or as needed.
4. Practices: Groups to adhere to CDC guidelines for groups no larger than 10 and proper distancing for drills.
5. Dugouts will be open and available for use by players and coaches only. Players may extend outside of the dugout at the discretion of the umpire, as determined by pre-game meeting.
6. In dugouts, discontinue use of water coolers that may be provided. Players should bring their own, personal water cooler or drinks for practices and games.
7. Coaches to limit post game/team discussions in order to minimize player gathering.
8. Strongly discourage sharing of equipment (bats, batting gloves, helmets)
9. Foul balls are to only be retrieved by players or by designated team volunteer.
10. No post game handshakes. Teams will tip their hat to acknowledge the opposing team at the end of each game.
11. Once the player enters the dugout for practice and games, there shall be no intervention/entry into the dugout by parents for drinks, sanitizer, etc.
12. No sunflower seeds to be allowed.
13. Fans/Spectators are expected to maintain self-awareness for social distancing guidelines.

**Recommended Guidelines for Attendance:**

1. Any player or family member exhibiting cough, fever, or any other symptoms associated with the virus are asked to please not attend practice/games. Please notify the head coach so that a point of reference date may be established.
2. Any player that displays these signs or symptoms, during practice or the course of a game, will be asked to leave.
3. A return to team participation date will be determined between the impacted parents and coaches for the player.

We have established the above guidelines with the interest of the safety of all players and coaches in mind. **While safety is paramount for all involved, the primary focus for the coaches is on the field of play. We will continue to regularly ask that the players self-police at all times**. If regular violations are observed by any coach, (i.e. regular spitting near players, goofing around with intent to violate COVID guidelines) the coach shall immediately act to attempt to obtain voluntary compliance with the established guidelines, but may include removal from that particular practice or game.