



JACK BARRY LITTLE LEAGUE

COVID-19 PROTOCOL

TO BE DISTRIBUTED TO ALL LEAGUE FAMILIES & PARTICIPANTS

Introduction

This document will serve as the regulations for the modified operation of the Jack Barry Little League (Jack Barry) for the 2020 season during the COVID-19 pandemic. All league volunteers and player families must read this document. Families shall also share these requirements with other individuals who may attend event(s) at our facility.

The 2020 season is being conducted during the phased re-opening of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The restarting of league activities will be in accordance with the phases set by the Commonwealth in its recommendations for Youth Sports. No league activities shall be held prior to authorization by the Commonwealth and the City of Worcester. The 2020 season will be occurring during a period of time where the COVID-19 virus has not been eradicated nor is there a commercially available vaccine to prevent infection with the virus. As such, all league players, coaches, volunteers, and spectators will be assuming some level of risk by participating in the 2020 season or attending activities at Jack Barry facilities. The level of risk will be dependent on an individual's level of involvement and own personal health situation. Individuals who are considered to be at a higher health risk should carefully assess their involvement in our league for the 2020 season. **By participating in or attending league activities during the 2020 season, all participants and spectators are agreeing that they accept that they are exposing themselves to some risk.**

This document has been developed with guidance from Little League, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the City of Worcester. It has not been reviewed or approved by any medical organization. We cannot guarantee adherence to these guidelines by all participants at all times. Families should make their own decision on participation for this season.

While this document lays out many requirements for operation of the league, there are two main requirements that are of the highest importance for the safest operation possible for our league. These two requirements must be adhered to at all times by everyone participating in or attend Jack Barry activities:

- 1.) Social distancing by maintaining a 6-foot distance from others must be practiced whenever possible.**
- 2.) No one shall attend a league activity if that person is actively showing symptoms of potential COVID-19 infection or has knowingly been exposed to an individual who is or may potentially be infected with COVID-19.**

While the league will be following the best recommended practices and requirements outlined in this document, safely operating our baseball and softball programs for the 2020 season will require the cooperation of everyone involved. This includes players, coaches, volunteers and spectators.



REGULATIONS

ISSUED 06/22/20

General

- All players, coaches, volunteers, officials and spectators should practice social distancing of six feet wherever possible from individuals not residing within their household.
- All individuals should measure their body temperature to ensure that no fever is present prior to participating in league activities. **Anyone with symptoms of fever, cough or worsening respiratory symptoms, or any known exposure to a person with COVID-19 should not attend any league activities until cleared by a medical professional.**
- Any individual, including players, at risk for severe illness or with serious underlying medical or respiratory condition should only attend league activities, including games, with permission from a medical professional.
- All players and coaches should practice good general health and hygiene habits. All participants and spectators should thoroughly wash hands just prior to travelling to the facility for league activity.
- All individuals shall comply with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Order requiring face coverings when social distancing is not possible.
- These guidelines are to be provided to the appropriate point of contact at other local leagues that will be playing games at our facilities for distribution to the applicable teams.

League Preparedness

- Distribute League COVID Protocol to all league families electronically and post on league website; share plan with other local leagues participating in activities at our facility
- Dugouts will be expanded to include restricted areas around the dugout reserved for players and coaches only. Players should maintain six-foot spacing while in the dugout and reserved area. Spectators shall stay a minimum of 6 feet from reserved area regardless of whether it is behind a fence. Refer to park maps.
- Provide regular cleaning of restrooms and sanitizing of high-touch areas including fence gates.
- Post a restroom cleaning log in a visible location
- Restrooms shall only be opened for use if properly cleaned and sanitized in accordance with *Outdoor Recreation Facility Restroom Cleaning Best Practices* prior to the day's activities
- Provide social distancing signage
- Establish park spectator areas. Refer to park maps.
- Conduct mandatory coach and volunteer training on League policies
- Game and practice times to be spaced out to avoid overlapping groups or groups arriving/departing at the same time at facility to the extent possible

- Players and spectators shall wait outside a field and the area immediately surrounding a field, particularly the entry/exit points, until all participants from the previous activity have cleared the field
- Concession stand will not be open. If allowed later in the season, the concession stand may open to sell prepackaged snacks and drinks only.
- Remove picnic tables
- Close bleachers
- Fixed park benches should only be shared by members of same household
- Additional game balls shall be provided to limit individual contact.
- Practices will be scheduled by league officials; coaches wishing to schedule additional practice time must have the time approved by league officials
- Practices must be held at league-approved facilities

Player & Coach Guidelines

- Each Manager should have hand and equipment sanitizer at practices and games.
- Players should have their own batting helmet, glove and bat.
- Players should only bring the minimum required equipment into the dugout area. Each player's equipment should be kept together and away from other equipment.
- Player's equipment should be disinfected after each use at home.
- Each team shall enter and exit their dugout/reserved area from their side of the field. Home team occupies the first base dugout, visiting team occupies the third base dugout. If unsure of home or visitor, the first coach to arrive shall select a dugout, and teams shall proceed accordingly. Teams should not swap dugouts to "make it right". Refer to park maps.
- Players and coaches should take measures to prevent all but the essential contact necessary to play the game, including refraining from handshakes, high-fives, fist-bumps, etc.
- All participants should bring their own personal drinks to the activity. Drinks should be labelled with the person's name. All containers, whether disposable or not, will be discarded at the end of the day. Non-disposable containers will NOT be held by the coach or league to be returned to their owner.
- Only pre-packaged food should be brought to the facility. Snack consumption by players and coaches at the facility should be minimized or consumed away from the field of play.
- On-field coaches and umpires shall wear cloth face coverings. Players should wear cloth face coverings when prolonged close contact cannot be avoided. Players may elect to wear face coverings while on the field of play, though game-play safety should also be considered.
- No sunflower seeds or gum in the park.

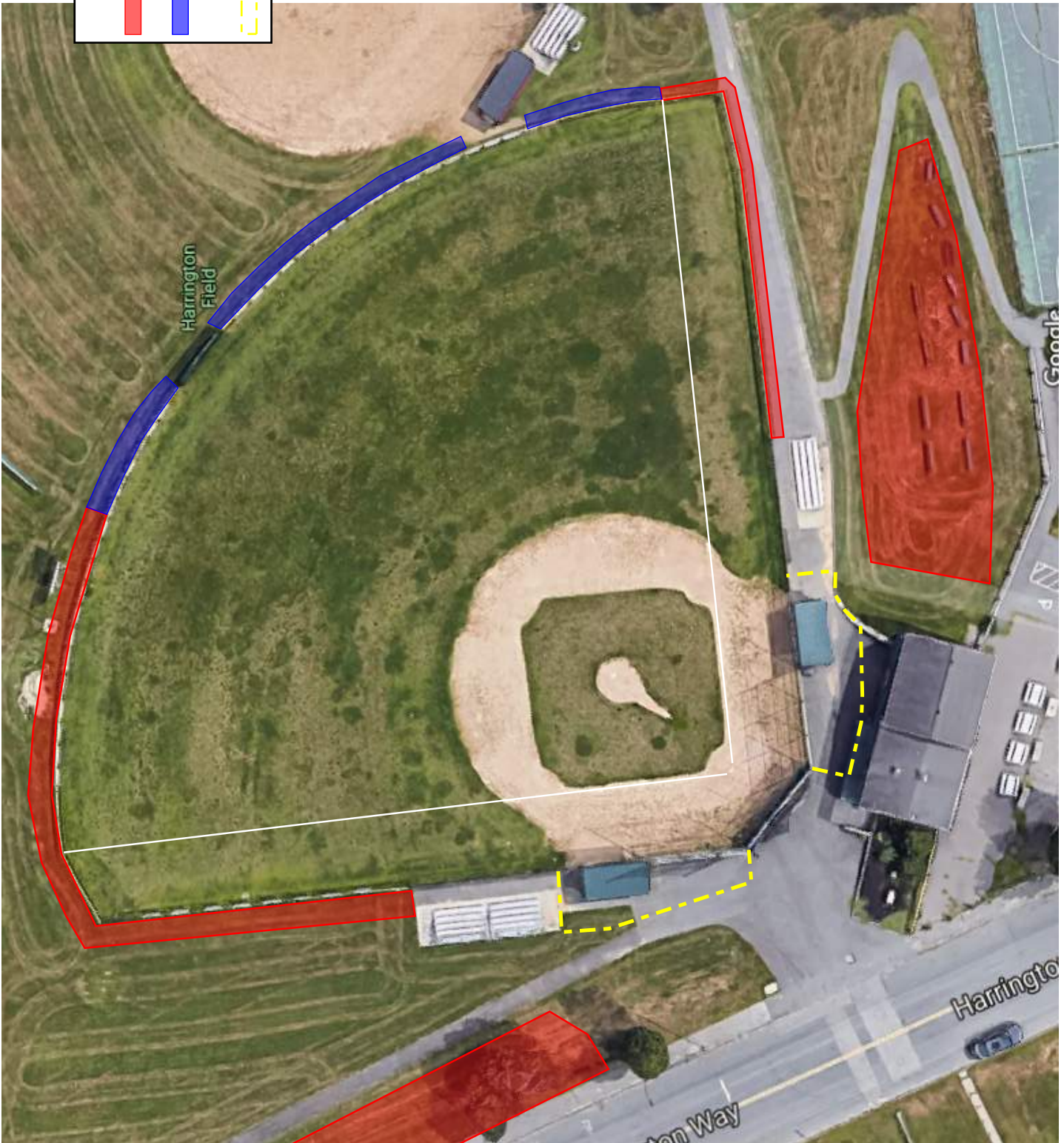
- Base coaches shall not be allowed to hold batting gloves, elbow pads, or other equipment for a runner reaching base. The player shall wear or pocket such equipment while on the bases.
- No postgame handshakes. In lieu of handshake line, each time shall line up outside their dugout and conduct a “tip of the cap” as a show of good sportsmanship.
- Coaches should not award “game ball” to player(s) at the conclusion of game. Used game balls should be left in designated receptacle at the facility to be sanitized and stored for 1 week. Balls will later be redistributed to coaches as practice balls. Coaches should sanitize their practice bucket after each use.
- No team parties/social activities shall be held at the facility, a coach’s/volunteer’s home, or local restaurant/entertainment venue. Post-season gatherings may be held when local government recommendations allow gatherings of such size.

Spectator Guidelines

- Parents/guardians of older players are encouraged to drop off or remain in vehicle at practices. Parents/guardians of younger players shall watch practice from appropriate distance.
- Minimize the number of family members attending games, particularly grandparents and individuals with underlying health conditions.
- Parent/guardian shall not enter the dugout/reserved player area to converse with player, bring missing gear, provide water/snack, etc. Parent/guardian should get attention of coach to request that the player exit the dugout at an appropriate time to meet the parent/guardian away from the dugout/reserved player area.
- Players and families should vacate the field/facility as soon as reasonably possible after the conclusion of the game/practice to minimize unnecessary contact with the next group arriving at the facility.
- Foul balls landing outside the field of play should be retrieved by participating players, coaches or umpires. No spectators should retrieve a ball exiting the field.
- Spectators are encouraged to park in the parking area nearest the field they will be visiting
- Spectators are encouraged to bring their own lawn chair if desired



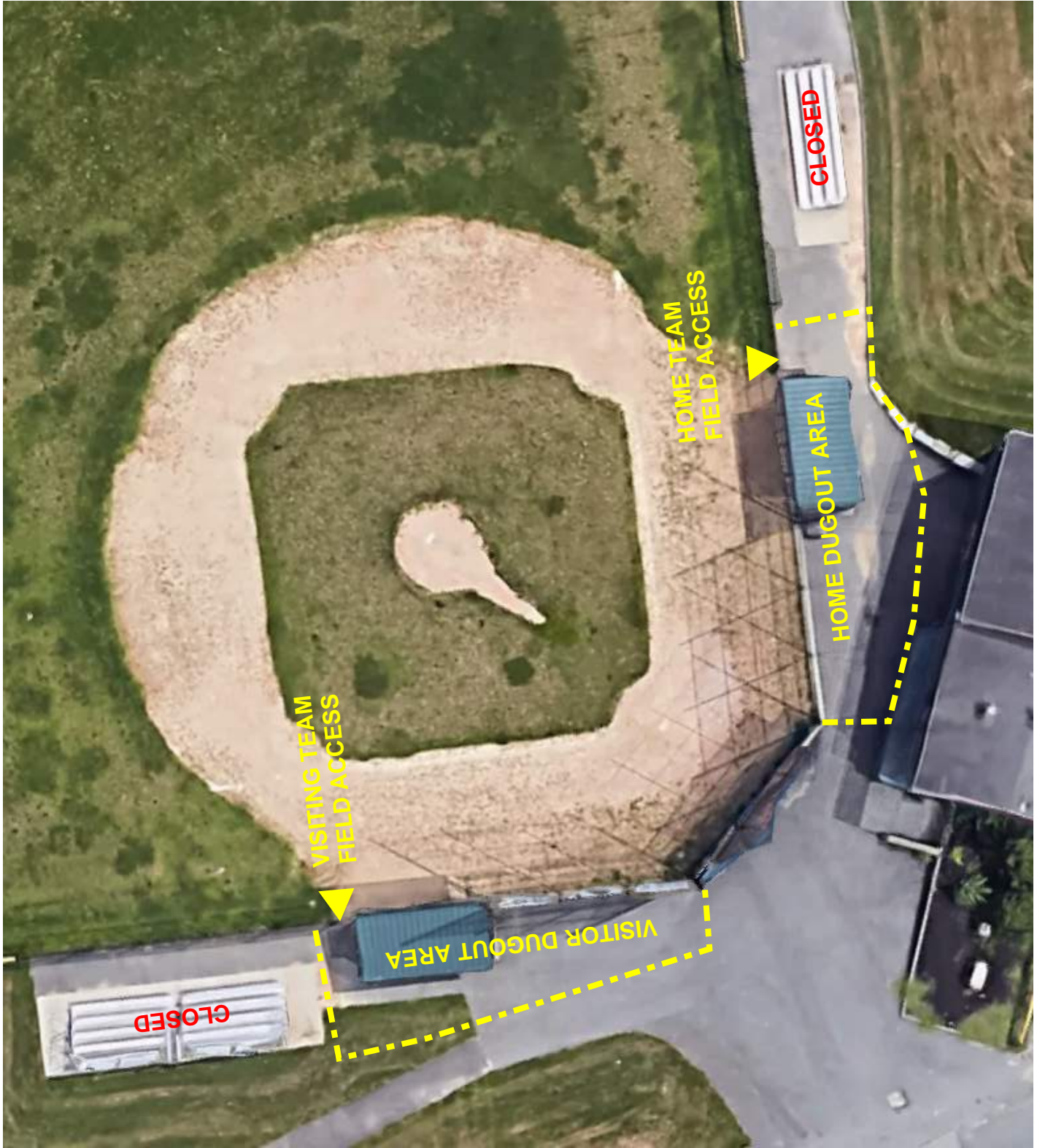
PARK MAPS



KEY:

- █ SPECTATOR AREAS
- █ SPECTATOR AREA WHEN NO GAME ON ADJACENT FIELD
- EXPANDED DUGOUT AREA

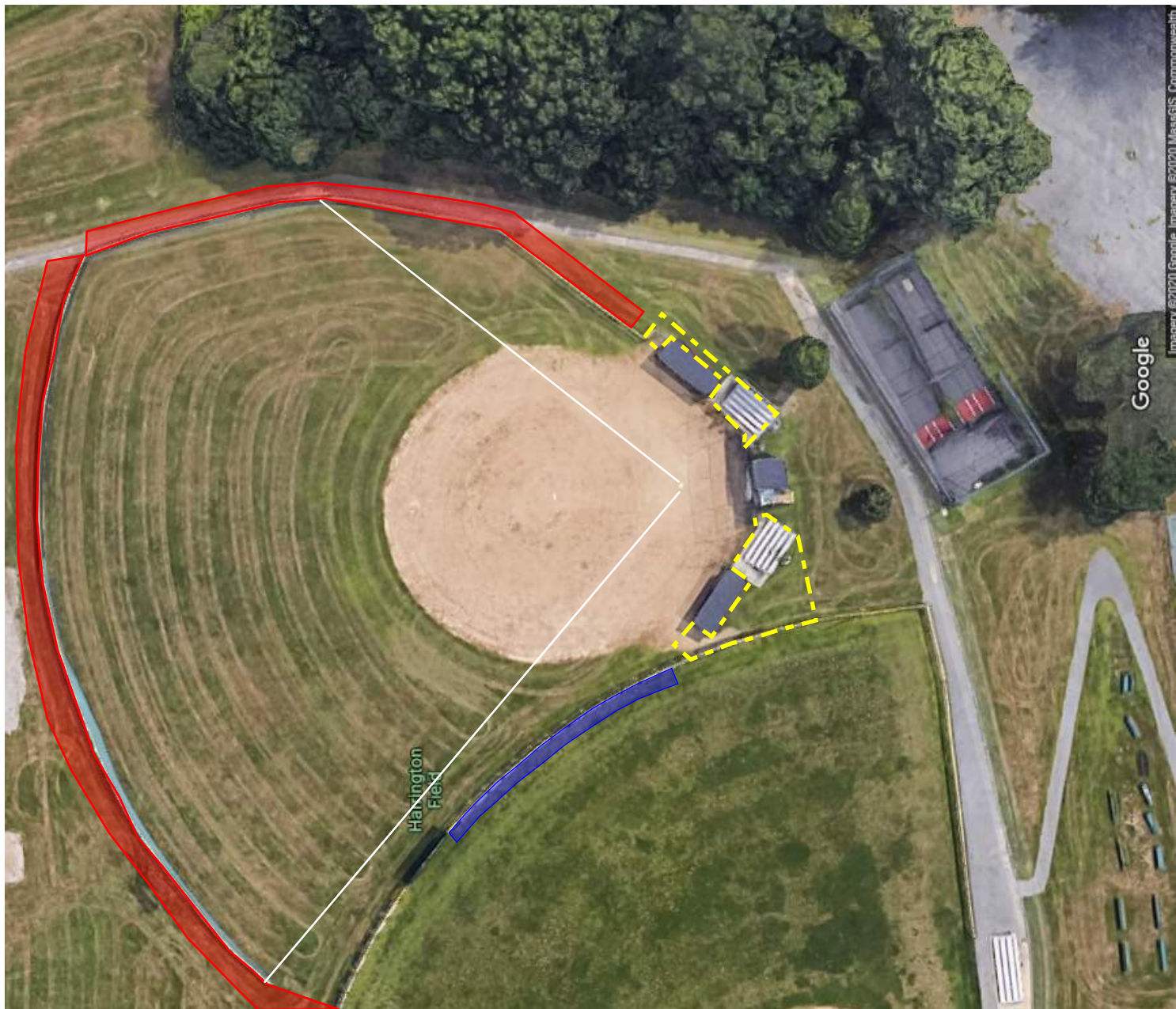
BASEBALL FIELD - SPECTATOR AREAS



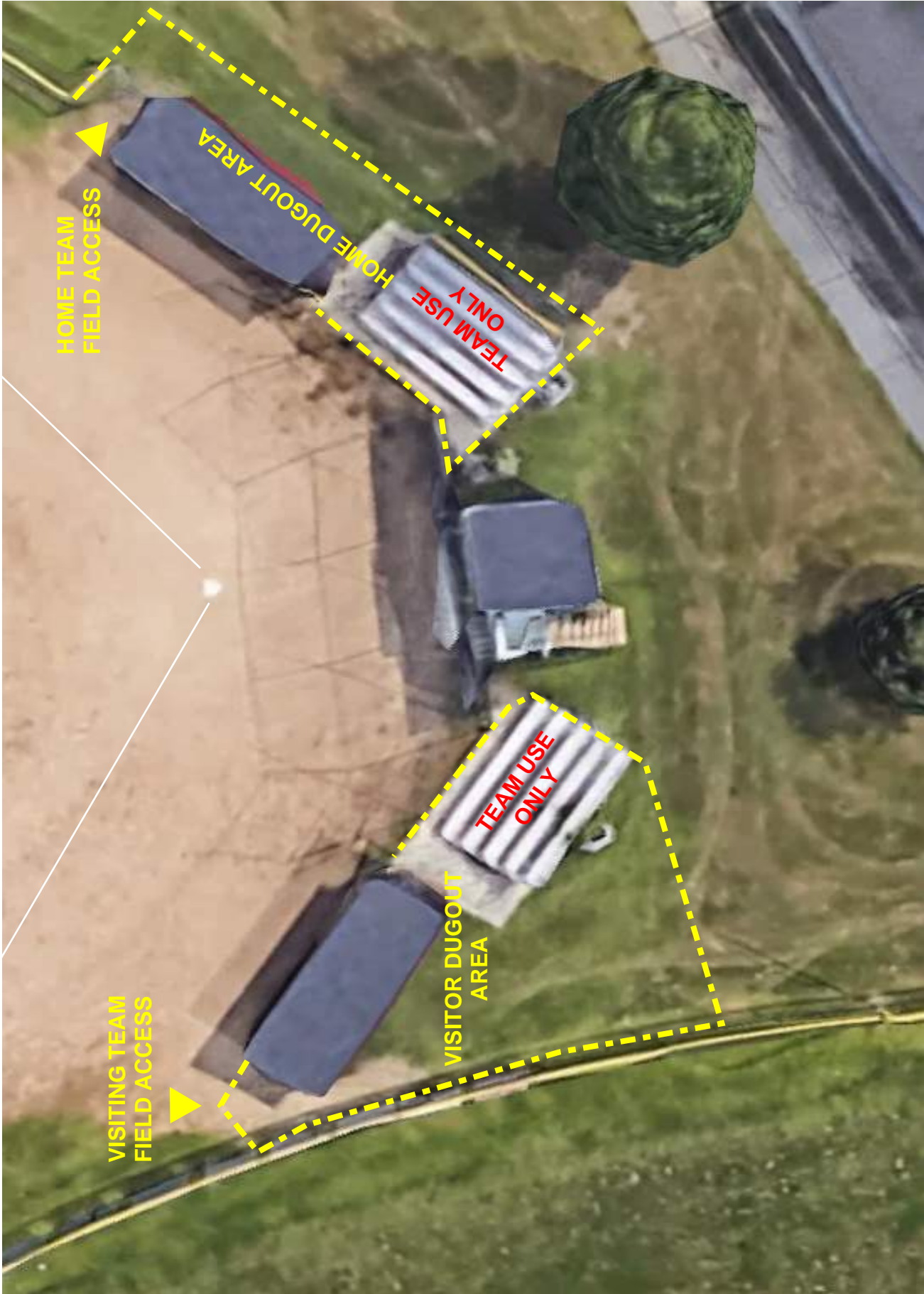
BASEBALL FIELD - ENLARGED VIEW - TEAM AREAS

KEY:

- SPECTATOR AREAS
- SPECTATOR AREA WHEN NO GAME ON ADJACENT FIELD
- EXPANDED DUGOUT AREA






SOFTBALL FIELD - SPECTATOR AREAS

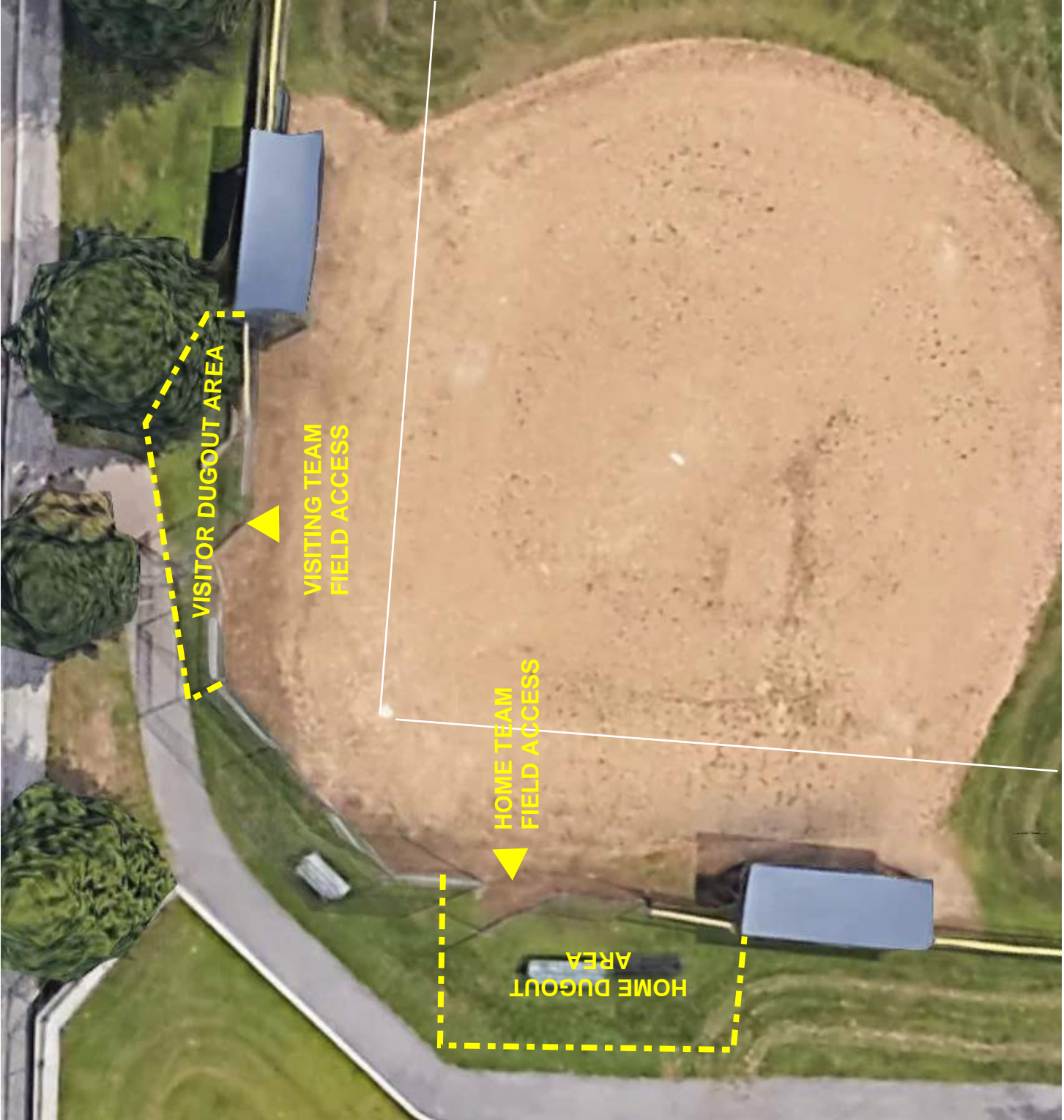


SOFTBALL FIELD - ENLARGED VIEW - TEAM AREAS



KEY:		SPECTATOR AREAS
		SPECTATOR AREA WHEN NO GAME ON ADJACENT FIELD
		EXPANDED DUGOUT AREA

TEE-BALL FIELD - SPECTATOR AREAS



TEE-BALL FIELD - ENLARGED VIEW - TEAM AREAS