



NW PHASE 2 REOPENING PLAN

Baseball is BACK! We will reopen the ballpark for practices for our Travel (May 25) and Rec leagues (June 1) assuming no changes to the state guidelines. We will begin where we left off in the spring season: practicing for a few weeks, then resuming games once the limitations on crowds and gatherings are lifted. *It is our priority to get to playing games as quickly as possible!*

Getting back to baseball and back in the park will require everyone's flexibility to ensure the safety of our NW families. We have all missed baseball, and especially our ballplayers. Getting outside and playing ball is more important than ever during these times - we can't think of a better place to be than on the field! We thank you for your continued support and patience as we navigate through these challenging times. Please continue to stay safe and baseball fit and ready. We look forward to seeing you all soon at the ballpark.

- To comply with the Phase 2 reopening effort, there will be hard and fast rules to ensure that we are keeping our players and families safe. Our plan structure may not look and feel like a "normal" baseball season at first, but we are working within the guidelines in order to reopen.
- Games will be our priority when Phase 3 hits. Restrictions will be significantly lessened to allow games to resume (*slight chance we could resume games during Phase 2*).
- A 4-week schedule will be in place as of June 1. We will be monitoring the guidance by the state to be ready to publish an updated schedule with games and practices.
- Our intention is to get the rest of our season in, starting where we left off. We will need to abide by the Phase 2 restrictions and guidelines of no more than **25 people** gathered; therefore, practices will take place until Phase 3 begins when we can allow games to resume.
- Player safety is our number one priority and we will be making every effort to ensure it remains that way!

We will adjust our timeline based on the NC Phased Reopening Plan. We will not reopen unless we feel 100% confident that our ball players, coaches, and families will remain safe and healthy as we relaunch our spring season. We are doing our best to take everything into account based on the information we have from our state leaders.

TIMELINE ACTION PLAN

- May 25** Travel Team practices begin
- May 27** Mandatory Online Coach Meeting
- June 1** Rec team practices begin
- June 12** Raffle tickets DUE
- June 22** Games resume
- July 1** Fall Registration begins
- July 31** Season ends

RULES, RESTRICTIONS & GUIDELINES

- No use of dugouts during practices
- The ballpark playground is closed until further notice
- Bathroom usage: One in at a time, unless for small children that need to be accompanied by an adult. Please wash your hands.
- Player bags/equipment placed outside of dugouts
- Only **25 people** total, inclusive of ballplayers, coaches, and family members can be on and around any particular field at one time – no exceptions!
- We recommend that parents stay in cars and one parent walk their child into the facility
- Players **MUST** use their own equipment, no sharing of equipment of any kind
- No snacks/drinks provided by parents; each player bring their own
- No gathering or socializing while on ballpark property for the safety of all families
- No high fives, shaking hands or close contact with players and coaches during practice
- Keep hands away from the face at all times if at all possible
- No team meetings to be held at the field, practice time slots used for workouts/drills only
- No scrimmages/games will be allowed until such time as changes are made in the state's phased approach
- If your player, sibling, or other household member has any COVID-19 symptoms during the past 21 days, including the following, please **do not** enter the baseball facility: current or recent fever, headache, cough, sore throat, nasal congestion, shortness of breath or other symptoms of respiratory tract infection or exposure to any person known or suspected of having COVID-19 symptoms.

If in doubt about the above guidelines, please play it safe and keep your child at home. Remember, it is the collective responsibility of all families to keep our entire North Wake Baseball community safe and healthy.

PRACTICE GUIDELINES

- Each team will be given a 2-hour time slot for your practice, 2 practices per week
- Teams will be scheduled with hard start/hard stop times to ensure we move teams through for the next round of teams coming in. No exceptions.
- Teams will be scheduled solo during their practice, no team sharing of field and cage like we have done in the past.
- Only one team (players/coaches) per field at one time. For cage usage maintain social distancing guidelines at all times due to close proximity.
- We prefer parents stay in their cars during practice. Remind those who choose to enter the ballpark to use caution and abide by social distancing guidelines of no more than **25 people** per field/stands area.
- It is our coach's responsibility to monitor and direct your players to practice social distancing. Parents, please support your coaches in making this very clear to your child of this important guideline.

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

- Hand sanitizer pump stations will be provided at all 6 fields, located in 3rd base dugout and at concessions for team use.
- Restrooms will be cleaned and sanitized daily.
- Enforced social distancing by parents and coaches.
- Stay 6 feet apart at all times.
- Only coaches will retrieve baseballs in the batting cages. Players will not pick up baseballs in close proximity
- Maintaining social distancing with the younger ballplayers will be more challenging. Assistance from parents may be needed.

NW PHASE 2 FAQs

1. **When does North Wake Baseball Phase 2 begin?** May 25 for Travel and June 1 for REC
2. **How long will Phase 2 last?** Gov. Cooper announced yesterday, May 20th, approximately 5-week timeframe for modified Phase 2.
3. **Can my child begin practice at the start of Phase 3 if we are not comfortable beginning in Phase 2?** Yes. Please make sure your coach is aware of your participation desires.
4. **What if I have a COVID-19 question?** Please contact your local health department or find information from www.cdc.gov to answer any medical related questions.
5. **Are the NW Phase 2 guidelines compliant?** We have best practices in place in accordance with the CDC to keep our players and families safe that wish to participate during Phase 2. We also reviewed other sports organizations in order to be as comprehensive as possible.
6. **Why are we opening in Phase 2? Should we wait until Phase 3?** We believe that the combination of a comprehensive plan and adherence to and feedback from our families enables us to restart the league safely. We can and will adjust to the ever-changing environment we are all living through, ensuring we stay within the rules and restrictions of the state mandated phased plan.
7. **Will we play games this year?** Yes, but It is dependent on the governor's order on amount of people allowed for mass gatherings in an outdoor environment.
8. **With vacation overlaps, there could be challenges fielding 9 players on a given week. Can we waive "forfeit rules" so the kids that do show get to play the game?** Yes. We will publish modified guidelines in order to accommodate games. We will be reviewing them in partnership with the Commissioners and Coaches within each league.
9. **Will the raffle still take place?** Yes, our season raffle will take place. Raffle tickets are due on June 12. Place your tickets in the raffle ticket box, labeled "RAFFLE" located at the front of the ballpark.
10. **Will there be a requirement for players/parents to sign a waiver giving protection to the league and coaches in case someone catches the virus?** All families and players have a waiver in place that occurs upon registering for the season.
11. **Will we be able to have team meetings and parties?** Not at this time.
12. **Will there be an End of Season Tournament and All-Star Game?** At this time, we are planning for both an end of season tournament and an All-Star celebration and game. This is subject to many things, so we are not yet able to confirm it. However, we know this is a highly valued and fun part of the season that we hope to include.
13. **My child and/or family member is a high-risk individual, should they attend practices during Phase 2?** That decision is entirely up to the family, but we advise that high risk individuals stay home until the CDC recommended, they are able to attend any gatherings during this time or as directed by your doctor.
14. **Will my child be on the same team or will that change?** We do not expect every player will remain on the same team. We will need to do some balancing based on the number of coaches and players that will be coming back and playing summer baseball.
15. **Is the summer season a continuation of the spring season or are we starting over with a brand-new season?** This is a continuation of the spring season, keeping our teams together as best we can based on participation.
16. **Will concessions be open for families?** We will follow the state and county guidelines. We hope to get our concessions open but the timing and how it would be managed is to be determined.