

Gentlemen,

The 1st week of the 2021 season is in the books.

We all knew and expected there to be hiccups but there weren't as many as I expected to be honest, but there are some things I need to address. The executive has busted our asses to get this season going and I am going to be very frank and maybe not so politically correct right now.

Let's start first with the Ontario Regulation for Step 2, which states:

(7) A facility for outdoor sports and recreational fitness activities, including a facility for indoor sports and recreational fitness activities that has such outdoor facilities, may be open if it complies with the following conditions:

6. The person responsible for the facility, or, where there is no such responsible person, the person holding a permit for the use of the facility, must,

i. record the name and contact information of every member of the public who enters the facility,

ii. maintain the records for a period of at least one month, and

iii. only disclose the records to a medical officer of health or an inspector under the *Health Protection and Promotion Act* on request for a purpose specified in section 2 of that Act or as otherwise required by law.

7. The facility must actively screen individuals who participate in team sports or fitness or exercise classes in accordance with the advice, recommendations and instructions of the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health before they enter the facility.

8. Prior to permitting any players in an organized sports league to practise or play the sport in the facility, the facility must ensure that the league has prepared a safety plan in accordance with section 3.3 of Schedule 1.

SCREENING TOOL

Read section 6 and 7 above. We have put in place a screening tool and pushed everyone that was on a current SPO roster, an invite to the SportsHeadz app which allows players to complete the screening tool prior to coming to the diamonds. The app records who completed the screening and at what date/time, so if the need arises, we can supply the list to the Medical Officer of Health. Spectators are also responsible for completing a screening tool prior to coming to the park.

Let me be clear, if you do not complete the screening tool, you are NOT ALLOWED to enter the facility.

I am still waiting on coaches from 6 of the teams to log onto the SportsHeadz app so I can transfer the ownership of the team to them. Once this is done, they can add and delete players from their roster. If the coaches have not logged in by Sunday, I will assign one of your players full access rights and they can change the rights to the coaches later.

The SportsHeadz app not only allows players to complete the screening tool, it also allows players to confirm or deny their attendance for each game.

ROSTERS

The SportsHeadz app is different from the SPO site. Each coach must log onto the SPO site and add their players to their roster. Once this is complete, each player must register with SPO and pay for their own insurance to be able to play in the league. If you have issues with the SPO site, call SPO at 905-646-7773 and they will be happy to help you. **Rosters lock on Aug 1st at 11:59:59pm.**

If you are not on the SPO roster, or have not paid your insurance, you are not allowed to play in the RCMSPL until you have completed both steps.

SCORE REPORTING

It is the responsibility of the home team to report the score within 72 hours of the game commencing. Failure to do so will result in a \$25.00 fine. Teams have been great at doing this so far. If you need a reminder on how to submit a score, [here](#) is the link.

BASES

It is the home team's responsibility to put out the bases for the early game. When the home team for the late game puts the bases away, make sure you use the base plugs to block the holes. These will be found along the base line or in the base bunker. Failing to do this causes a struggle the following night in finding the base peg holes as the diamonds are graded each day and the holes fill in without the base plugs in place.

BALLS

We will continue that the defensive team will supply the ball (Umpire approved) for their inning in the field. If a ball goes out of play, then it needs to be replaced by the defensive team.

An out of play ball should be sanitized before returning to play (if retrieved by anyone not on the defensive team).

SLIDING AND TAGGING

SPO revised their return to play rules from May 25th. The rules in section 3 now states:

Tag Plays and Sliding

- Incidental contact, such as tagging or sliding into a base, is considered part of the game and is permitted.

Link to the entire document is [here](#).

With this information, the RCMSPL is removing the no sliding/tagging rule we had in place this week and will revert to allowing sliding and tagging.

With all of this being said, I will say that I have received some encouraging words from many of you in regard to the work the executive has put in to get the league running this year. To those people I say Thank You.

It's the smartass comments that are not appreciated. If you have something you want to say to me or an issue with the rules or how the league is run, be an adult and come talk to me. If you feel you can do a better job at running this league, nominations are open for the November meeting. Feel free to step up.

Jon

RCMSPL President

519-841-8203