



Youth Excited about Sports
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Dear Y.E.S. coaches and parents

Thank you so much for your willingness to help our youth and ministry. My desire is for all of us together to make this a great year for all of the kids in the baseball program. We will request all parents read and sign the letter below before practicing or getting any individual training for his or her child. A legal guardian will need to sign in order for the athlete to participate. Please print and sign the document below and bring it to the practice. **Indemnify Youth Excited about Sports** and hold harmless against any legal actions stemming from contagion associated with COVID-19 where the **YES organization** has practiced reasonable measures in an attempt to mitigate the spread.

One step in accomplishing this is the "Coaches Playbook." The Coaches Playbook is a constant work in progress designed to help you understand more of the terminology, semantics, and syntax of the drills, plays, and everything that we will be teaching to the young people. We want to make it as easy as possible for the youth to learn. One way to do that is through using the same terminology and instruction, which has been outlined in this Coaches Playbook. To that end, I ask that you NOT deviate from the Coaches Playbook without discussing the changes with YES staff so that we can implement the changes across the board. Our number one concern is safety first we must practice social distancing and make sure we sanitize all equipment.

The playbook is designed to assist the coach in teaching the fundamentals of the sport. Just like in education, different kids will be at different skill levels or abilities. The coach's job is to identify his or her skill level and implement the appropriate drills or skills for the kids to learn. Many of the things outlined in this Coaches Playbook are upper-level skills, so depending on the age group of your players, they may not be ready for the full capacity of the drill. We have to make the correlation between what they have learned and the new techniques they will be learning. The key to being a successful coach is teaching the basics first. For example, four and five-year olds should learn drills that will keep their attention as well as making it fun while learning.

So, please help me help you in helping the youth! In these times let's empower heart, mind, body, and soul so these kids can see **Change We Can Believe In.**

I have drawn out the plays with instruction. Read through it and try to implement it in your mind. Then, make suggestions as they see fit for ways that I might be able to make it more clear for you AND any other coach in the program—now and in the future. . .

Remember, above all else, we are united in our desire to build the youth! **We Are Better Together**, and all that we do is for them!

Thank you very much for helping!

Sincerely,
O.J. Rhone



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Youth Excited About Sports
May 18, 2020

Youth Excited about Sports in cooperation with YES parents and the community, will provide activities for teams using social distancing. Your coach practice times will be 40 minutes allowing 20 minutes for staff to clean between practices. The expectation is for parents to stay in their car while waiting on his or her athlete to finish, unless the sport is parent taught. We will offer the parents the option of one on one training as an alternative. Call for more information. We apologize for any inconvenience but due to the coronavirus we need to make sure we're keeping our kids and family safe. Thanks and God Bless.

GOALS

Johnson County Missouri while allowing participants the opportunity for safe healthy fun. We need parents to adhere to the phase 2 guidelines. We are asking everyone to sign at the bottom of this document stating they have read and understand the guidelines.

1) Indemnify **Youth Excited about Sports** and hold harmless against any legal actions stemming from contagion associated with COVID-19 where the **YES organization** has practiced reasonable measures in an attempt to mitigate the spread.

2) We are asking parents to provide hand sanitizer for their child and make sure they use it before and after practice. Also, we would like to ask parents to make sure they check their child's temperature before coming to practice each and every time to help us stop the spread of the coronavirus. We understand that this is not normal but is a clear expectation that we would like for you to follow to help keep everyone safe. We thank you in advance for your cooperation. Let's work together to continue providing the best care we can during the COVID-19 pandemic.

1) **Youth Excited about Sports will** serve up to a total of 30 children while at practice. Then we will break up into groups no more than 10. We will be observing rigid safety measures associated with disinfection for participants and proper health care modeling.

2) Youth Excited about Sports will utilize trained YES staff and create a positive safe atmosphere for kids.

3) For over 20 years **YES** has been addressing key issues facing our young people through relentless hard work. We have many years of experience working with kids of various backgrounds. We have helped children overcome difficult and trying situations by offering support in the form of physical and educational training and mentor programs.

4) YES will offer 40 minute practices for example 6:00pm - 6:40pm and 7:00pm - 7:40pm allowing time in between practices to disinfect and practice social distancing. The next group needs to stay in their car until a staff member comes and waves the athlete down to the ballfield. Monday through Wednesday (hours may be extended or reduced based on organization capacity.)

5) If possible, only one coach per team and we would like it to be the same coach for that team each day when they are practicing.

6) In an effort to minimize the spread of COVID-19 we ask that you use the bathroom prior to arriving at the facility. The bathrooms at this time will remain closed and the Playground.

For parent or guardian: I hereby certify that the above named child is in normal health and capable of participating safely in the Y.E.S. Youth Sports Program. I also realize that there is an inherent risk of injury in any sport and understand that my child plays at his/her own risk.

Further, I do consent to any medical, we urge you to check your insurance situation prior to the start of the season. All players should be covered by their family hospitalization insurance, as the parents are responsible for costs relating to injuries. Neither Y.E.S., Board of Directors, staff, volunteers, local programs, organizers, sponsors, supervisors, or participants are accountable for any injury at any game, practice, or trip. I also understand that Y.E.S. may use for publicity and promotional purposes my child's name, likeness, pictures, and/or audio/video of him/her participating in this program without obligation or liability to YES.

Indemnify Youth Excited about Sports and hold harmless against any legal actions stemming from contagion associated with COVID-19 where the **YES organization** has practiced reasonable measures in an attempt to mitigate the spread.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Print Parent/Guardian Name _____ Child's name _____



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YES.....Say YES to Safety and Social Distancing Safety Requirements, Guidelines, and Protocols for safe practices, games, and tournaments.

Intent--The following are guidelines & recommendations for participating in our events until the time comes when we can resume normal activities. The purpose of this information is to provide as best as possible, a safe environment at the ballpark and to comply with local government mandates.

All Parents/Guardians of players, as well as Coaches, Volunteers, Officials, Workers & any person actively involved in the Operation of the games, practices, or Tournament-Event, **MUST** sign a Liability Waiver & Acknowledgement of Risk before being allowed to participate.

Recommendations/Guidelines 1) Players, Coaches, Umpires & Staff are encouraged (but not required) to wear a face covering at the ballpark. Face coverings may be homemade or store bought. Umpires & Staff must have & use their own hand sanitizer. 2) Wash your hands & equipment after each game & use hand sanitizer. 3) Social distancing is recommended whenever possible during the event. Teams are encouraged not to gather as a group within close proximity of one another for pre or post game meetings. 4) Once your games have concluded, please leave the ballpark or utilize greenspaces for social distancing. Do not remain to watch other games. 5) We strongly encourage those individuals who are at high risk (Senior Citizens, those with underlying medical requirements or anyone who has recently been ill) to **NOT** come to the ballpark. 6) Coaches are encouraged to evaluate their players daily looking for any signs of illness. All players must be temperature checked daily prior to playing

Requirements 1) By attendance at any YES Events: Parents, Coaches, Players, Umpires, Staff and any others who assist in the operation of an event, do hereby acknowledge potential risk inherent by attending & or participating in the event.

2) Teams are required to provide & display hand sanitizer in the dugout for their team to use before, during & after the game.

3) A bucket of bleach ratioed water will be at the entrance of each dugout for teams to utilize. After balls are hit out of play they are to be returned to the dugout, disinfected, and dried.

4) Face Coverings are recommended but not required. They may be worn by Players, Coaches or Umpires before, during or after a game.

5) Spectators are expected to follow the 6 ft social distancing guidelines. Failure to do so will result in the removal of spectators from the event. We ask that spectators bring chairs to social distance along the fence lines and outfield fence.

6) Dugouts – players & coaches are expected to follow the 6 ft social distancing guidelines. While at bat no more than 4 girls can be in the dugout. One at bat, One on deck, 4 in the dugout and 6 feet apart, other players socially distanced outside the dugout.



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7) Any team huddles must follow appropriate 6 foot social distancing.

8) There will be no handshakes prior to or after the game. Teams are asked to line up in the baselines and tip their caps to the other team.

Rule Changes 1) Pre-game coin flip will be at the pitcher's mound. 1 coach per team & no players at the coin flip. Umpire will be stationed on the pitcher's mound with the coaches outside the circle. No handshakes. At no time will the umpires handle the game balls. 2) Umpires will visually verify, but will not handle, legal softballs held by each coach during the pre-game coin flip. Each team must mark their softballs in such a way as to be easily verified during the game. Each team will be responsible for game balls during their ½ inning on defense. If a ball goes out of play the defensive team will throw another sanitized ball into play as well as sanitize the ball that went out of play. 3) Umpires will not collect or handle lineup cards. They will be shown to the umpire at the pre-game meeting and then hung outside the dugout at least 6ft towards Home Plate. Substitutions must be verbally reported to the umpire, opposing coach & marked on the lineup card hanging on the fence. Coaches are responsible for making sure their scorebooks are accurate. 4) Pitchers cannot go to their mouth and then touch the ball at any time. Any violation will result in an illegal pitch being called. 5) Offensive Conferences are allowed per normal rules. However, it must be near the coaches box, not the area of home plate. 6) Social distancing rules apply for any offensive or defensive conference requested by the coach. 7) Coaches will be allowed to challenge as normal! If you have a question about a rule interpretation you need to calmly ask for time out. Do Not invade the 6ft social distancing guidelines to challenge a call. Anyone who violates this rule while arguing calls will be ejected from the game and risk suspension. 8) In the event of an injury – only the coach or parent may attend to the player unless medical attention is required. 9) Coaches may request time out to talk to an umpire. Social distancing rules apply. If you feel you cannot meet & follow these guidelines, then please do not attend or participate in any event until such time as you are able to do so or until after the recommendations & requirements have been removed.