

MAINE THUNDER SOFTBALL RETURN TO PLAY COVID-19 GUIDELINES:

- The EDGE Academy (TEA) space has a limit of 50 people inside the facility.
- The Small Dome space has a limit of 50 people inside.
- The BIG Dome space has a limit of 50 people inside.
- **No parents inside any of the facility to watch practices.** Only players & coaches.
- All players and coaches need to fill out COVID-19 waiver form and bring in to handoff to their respective coaches on first day of practice.
<https://edgesportsmaine.leagueapps.com/events/1718323-edge-academy-release-and-waiver-of-liability-for-covid-19>

COVID-19 Screening Questions Retailers Should Ask in Player/Parent Self-Assessment

1. Do you have any of the following new or worsening symptoms or signs (choose any or all that apply)?

If an employee answers yes or puts a checkmark next to any of these possible COVID-19 sign or symptoms, they should stay home and rest (or seek medical attention if symptoms are particularly bad or persist).

Possible symptoms include:

- New or worsening cough
- Shortness of breath
- Sore throat
- Runny nose, sneezing or nasal congestion
- Hoarse voice
- Difficulty swallowing
- New smell or taste
- Unexplained fatigue/malaise
- Chills and/or body aches
- Headache
- Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, or abdominal pain

2. Have you traveled outside of the state in the past 14 days? If so, where & when?

3. In the past 14 days, have you been in contact with someone who tested positive (or is currently being tested) for COVID-19?

COVID-19 Signs and Symptoms Include:

- fever or chills • cough • shortness of breath or difficulty breathing • fatigue • muscle or body aches • headache • sore throat • congestion or running nose • nausea or vomiting • diarrhea • new loss of taste or smell**

*** Please monitor yourself/your athlete for signs and symptoms. Call a health care provider if symptoms start. Stay home if you are sick and please contact Director Nick Caiazzo with any questions or concerns.**

COVID-19 SHARED RESPONSIBILITIES

Implementing the MAINE THUNDER Return-to-Play Guidelines will require a cooperative relationship between the Organization, Coach, Parent, and Player. While the Organization and Coach must create a safe environment, the Parent must make the decision for their child to return to play. If, as a parent, you are not comfortable in your child's returning to play – DON'T. And finally, Players must be responsible to adhere to, and respect the social distancing requirements and contact guidelines that have been established. At any time, if a coach or player is not adhering to protocols or respecting social distancing requirements, it is the organization's responsibility to ask this individual(s) to leave the facility.

The roles/responsibilities for each include:

PLAYERS:

If you are not comfortable returning to play, DON'T!

- Adhere to all return to play protocols - Wash hands thoroughly before and after training.
- Wash and sanitize equipment before & after training sessions.
- Do not share food, water, or equipment with any other players.
- Respect and practice social distancing.
- Place equipment (bags) at least 6' apart from others.
- No High-5's, handshakes, fist bumps, or group cheers.
- Wear a face covering when not actively participating.
- Recommend that you use the restrooms before practice start times. Try to limit bathroom use.
- Any player who has had a fever, cough, or sore throat within 72 hours is not permitted to attend
- Must have hand sanitizer with you.

PARENTS: (Parents will not be allowed to come into EDGE or Dome spaces to watch group practices, they will have to stay in their cars during the players practice time. Sorry!)

- If you're not comfortable with your child returning to play, DON'T, you will make the final decision.
- Ensure child's clothing is washed after training session.
- Ensure all player equipment is sanitized before & after each use.
- Notify coach immediately if your child becomes ill or has a temperature.
- Supply your child with individual hand sanitizer.
- Adhere to social distancing guidelines. Parents/spectators are not allowed on playing surfaces for social distancing & capacity reasons.
- Must wear a face covering while at the facility, both indoor & outdoor.
- Ensure your child has water.
- Conduct health screening process on your child prior to arriving at facility.

COACHES:

- Follow all return to play protocols
- Inquire how athletes are feeling at beginning/end of week and during sessions
- Ensure all players have their own equipment
- Ensure drills/exercises provide for adequate social distancing
- Ensure that all coaching equipment is sanitized after use
- Respect all players/parents/family feelings on return to play
- Carry hand sanitizer with equipment
- Wear a face covering when not actively participating
- Track all players' screening results
- Have access to all players' contact information
- Provide ample water/hand sanitizer breaks

THUNDER ORGANIZATION:

- Post Return to Play protocols inside facility and on the EDGE website (under Maine Thunder Important Info)
- Be sensitive and accommodating to parents who may be uncomfortable on returning to play
- Train & educate staff on return to play protocols
- Bi-Weekly communication & reminder on policies/protocols
- Provide all coaches with all player contact information
- Provide adequate field space to accommodate social distancing
- Ensure appropriate bathrooms at facility.
- Designate staff members/Coaches to run periodic health screening prior to practice.
- Track all players' screening results - Set training schedule to maximize social distancing
- Set facility entrance/exit pathways for each field
- Call parent/guardian immediately for players showing symptoms

While many are going to be excited to return to play, there are others who may be apprehensive coming back inside.. If a player, parent, or family is not comfortable returning to play - DON'T. We must demonstrate respect and courtesy for everyone's feelings during this time and ensure that we provide a safe environment as we return to play.

** If a coach, parent, or player is seen not to be following Return to Play protocols and social distancing requirements listed above, it is the club's duty to ask the individual(s) to leave the complex.