

BASEBALL NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

From:Kevin Legge, President, Baseball NLDate:January 20th, 2022RE:Baseball NL – updated response to COVID-19Dear Baseball NL Membership,

Thank you for your continued patience as we have waited for the most recent update concerning the Alert Level 4 restrictions that were put in place on Monday, January 3rd, 2022.

On Monday, January 17th, 2022, the Department of Public Health announced that due to the current epidemiology, the province will remain in Alert Level 4 until Monday, January 24th, 2022 at the earliest.

For more information on the modified Alert Level 4, please head to: <u>https://www.gov.nl.ca/covid-19/alert-levels/alert-level-4/</u>

For more sport and recreation-specific guidance, please head to: <u>Overall Guidance for Sport and Recreation - COVID-19 (gov.nl.ca)</u>

On Wednesday, January 19th, 2022, all Provincial Sport Organizations (PSOs) received clarified guidance from the Department of Public Health via SportNL to allow for training and skill development to resume in Alert Level 4 under the following guidelines:

All group activities are permitted, provided that physical distancing between households is maintained at all times and capacity limits are followed.

Training still has to be non-contact skill development training sessions.

With this clarification and updated guidance, Baseball NL will be lifting its suspension of inperson activity – effective immediately – to allow for the resumption of skill development and training sessions under the guidance as outlined above. Local associations that run winter programming can still decide to suspend their programming if they wish, and can make this decision at their discretion.

For any program that chooses to resume operations, Baseball NL <u>strongly suggests athletes and</u> <u>coaches/instructors/volunteers wear a medical or non-medical mask as frequently as</u> <u>possible during training</u> in addition to the strict adherence to the updated guidance as outlined above. Baseball training sessions are generally low-intensity in nature compared to other sports. Wearing a mask as frequently as possible during training sessions will allow for continued maximum protection for everyone involved. This revised guidance is welcomed news, as it allows programming to resume; albeit still under modified guidance. This is Step One of a process to once again return to "new normal" operations and activities as quickly and effectively as possible. In order to ensure we get to that "new normal", I would encourage everyone to get their vaccinations and booster if you are eligible, and continue to practice the public health measures that are in place. These measures are our greatest line of defence and will benefit everyone in the long run.

Since the onset of the pandemic in March 2020, your support and cooperation has been very much appreciated. This feeling continues now more than ever.

Kevin Legge President Baseball NL