

North Platte Public Schools

UNITED IN RESPECT COMMUNICATE - CONNECT - COMMIT DESTINED FOR GREATNESS

Activities Office
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September 22nd, 2020

To: Marc Mroczek; AD Gothenburg High School

From: Jordan Cudney; AD North Platte High School (jcudney@nppsd.org)

RE: North Platte Bulldogs vs Gothenburg Softball JV/V Contest

Date: September 29th, 2020

Time: 5:00 CST: North Platte vs McCook (JV - Field B)
6:30 CST: North Platte vs McCook (V - Field B)

Site: Dowhower Softball Complex (See Attached Map)

Admission: **Adults:** \$6.00
Students: \$4.00
We will honor visiting school passes (Tournaments & Postseason Excluded)
Coaches and bus drivers will be admitted free of charge.
School Administrators admitted free of charge; Please ID self.

COVID-19: Current Risk Dial Color: **ORANGE**
Please check and record temperatures of athletes and ask COVID-19 screening questions prior to departure.
See below **NSAA/NFHS Softball COVID-19** changes.
See attached **NPHS COVID-19 Spectator & Team Guidelines**

Spectators: All Gothenburg spectators will enter & exit Dowhower Complex through the **EAST ENTRANCE** and seating on the **FIRST BASE SIDE** of Field B and **THIRD BASE SIDE** of Field E. All North Platte spectators will enter & exit Dowhower Complex through the **NORTH ENTRANCE** and proceed to the seating on the **FIRST BASE SIDE** of Field E and **THIRD BASE SIDE** of Field B.

Live Stream: There will be a live stream of the event available. Please click on/share the following link to access it on the day of the contest:
<https://northplattepost.com/category/live-streams>

Dugouts: Visiting dugout will be located on the first base side of the field.

Warm up: Visiting team can warm up alongside the first base line. No full infield/outfield will be taken.

Pre-game: National Anthem & Starting Lineups prior to VARSITY contest.

Parking: Team buses may unload athletes and then park EAST of the complex in the parking lot (See Attached Map)

Concessions: Limited Concessions Available

Restrooms: Restrooms designated for visiting teams will be marked.

Regulations:

National Federation rules apply. Games are scheduled for seven (7) innings with **1.5 HR TIME LIMIT for Junior Varsity Games.**

Eight, Ten and Twelve-Run Rules: A game shall end after two and one-half innings or three innings when a team is 12 or more runs behind and has completed its turn at bat; or shall end after three and one-half or four innings, when a team is 10 or more runs behind and has completed its turn at bat; or shall end after four and one-half or five innings, when a team is 8 or more runs behind and has completed its turn at bat

Miscellaneous:

NA

Locker Rooms:

No locker rooms available; Please come dressed to play.

Officials:

The officials for Tuesday evening's games are Paul Simonton & Crew

If you have any questions feel free to call me on my **cell phone** (308-745-5098). Look forward to having you here Tuesday evening!

[NSAA COVID-19 MODIFICATIONS \(SEE BELOW\)](#)



2020 NSAA Softball COVID-19 Rules Modifications & Considerations

- All NSAA member schools must follow their local [Directed Health Measures](#).
- Schools that are in Phase 3 must follow the [DHHS Sports Reopening Guidelines](#) and it is recommended that schools in Phase 4 do the same to create continuity and consistency.
- The host administration must pre-communicate local protocols and activity requirements to participating school(s).

NSAA Approved Rulings:

Schedules

1. The deadline to submit varsity schedules to the NSAA has been extended to August 20th.
2. Regular season games that are canceled due to COVID-19 will be considered a "no-contest."
 - a. Wild card points will not be awarded for "no-contest" games.
 - b. Forfeits will not be issued for "no-contest" games.
3. Replacement games (not originally scheduled) may be scheduled at any time.
 - a. Wild card points will not be awarded.
 - b. Contest limitations may not be exceeded.

NFHS Softball Rules Modifications:

Face Shields (1-7-1, 1-8-4) - Per guidance from the NFHS Sports Medicine Advisory Committee, plastic shields covering the entire face (**unless integrated into the face mask and attached to a helmet and clear without the presence of any tint**) shall not be allowed during contests. Their use during practices increases the risk of unintended injury to the person wearing the shield or to teammates.

Facial Coverings/Additional Equipment (1-8): Cloth facial coverings are recommended but not required. Facial coverings must be of one color, not distracting and have no designs. Pitchers cannot wear optic yellow cloth facial coverings.

Pregame Conference (2-14-2): Limit attendees to one coach from each team plus the umpires. Coaches should stay outside the width of the batter's box at home plate, maintaining 6 feet of distance between each person.

Substitutions: (3-3-3): The verbal exchange should occur 6 feet from the coach to scorer and opposing team when making lineup changes.

Foul Balls/Coaching (3-5-1 NOTE): Umpires do not handle equipment on the field during play.

Contact with the game balls should be as limited as possible. During competition, foul balls should be retrieved by personnel from the defensive team. Simultaneously a new ball should be thrown into game play from the defensive team's dugout.

Coaching (3-5-3, 3-6-14): Coaches who wish to discuss a rule or a ruling on the field must maintain at least 6 feet of distance from the umpire.

Coaching (3-5-2): Base coaches must stay 6 feet from a runner at all times after suspension of play.

Bench and Field Conduct (3-6-6): Players are not permitted to leave the dugout area to congratulate players when scoring or after home runs. The number of individuals in the dugout is dependent on the size of dugout. Players and coaches should maintain 6 feet of social distance. NFHS rules allow for dugouts/designated warm-up areas to be extended to provide for social distancing. The dugout extension should be outside of the field.

Charged Conferences (3-7-1, 3-7-2, 3-7-3): Coaches holding defensive conferences must stay on the home plate side of the pitcher's circle, and the player or players must be on the opposite side of the pitcher's circle maintaining 6 feet of distance. No more than two players plus the pitcher are allowed. Only one coach is permitted during the conference. If a coach visits the pitcher, all other players should stay outside the pitching circle.

Exchange of Lineup Cards (4-2-1b): Lineups should be handed to the umpire, and the umpire will verbally approve or ask any questions about the lineup. It is recommended that lineup cards be exchanged team to team and teams to scorekeeper to be shared via photo or text.

Infractions by the Pitcher (6-2-2): Pitchers are not allowed to put their hands to their mouths or blow into their hands prior to pitching the ball. This will be a "no pitch." Any umpire is permitted to make this call. The ball should be called dead immediately and it will be a "no pitch." The ball should be put in the dugout for cleaning, and the pitcher should sanitize hands before play continues.

Plate Umpire (10-2-1): The plate umpire should stand deeper than normal to call balls and strikes.

Equipment and Apparel (10-4-2): Cloth facial coverings are recommended but not required. The masks must be of one color, not distracting and have no designs. The umpire may wear disposable gloves and masks.

Softball Umpires Manual Modifications

Mechanics Sections 3, 4b and c: Base umpires should maintain 6 feet of distance from any player as a starting position when rotated and/or counter-rotated.

Section 2E: The catcher and batter should be 6 feet apart when the umpire is dusting off the plate.

Considerations for Umpires:

1. Consider facility size and spacing within umpire dressing rooms. They should be cleaned and sanitized.
2. If umpires must enter the field through the dugout, the dugout should be empty with no players/coaches/team personnel.

Further Softball Considerations:

1. Players should use their own equipment (e.g. gloves, helmets and bats) as much as possible.
2. Offensive helmets do not need to match.
3. Postgame shaking of hands is suspended.
4. Limit the number of non-essential personnel who are in the press box throughout games.
5. Coaches are responsible for ensuring social/physical distancing is maintained between players as much

