



# COVID-19 SAFE OPERATING PLAN

Updated June 5, 2020



# BASEBALL RETURNS TO PRINCIPAL PARK

In an effort to control the spread of COVID-19, Major League Baseball suspended spring training operations March 13, indefinitely delaying the start of the 2020 season. Our Iowa Cubs staff also suspended our usual operations in preparation for the 2020 season. While all full-time staff remain actively employed with the ball club, most work has been done remotely and public interaction at Principal Park has been minimized. As our state and local governments begin the process to re-open businesses and people explore safe opportunities to be out in public for entertainment, our Iowa Cubs staff is ready to welcome you back to the ballpark for some fun and unique opportunities and experiences.

While we await word from Major League Baseball on the status of our 2020 Iowa Cubs season for Triple-A baseball, there will be baseball at Principal Park this summer. With Iowa high schools approved to play their summer season, Principal Park will host a series of regular season games leading up to the annual state tournament, July 24-August 1. In addition to high school games, some leaders in our local baseball community have assembled a group of local college players who have missed their spring season, but are ready to compete and continue their development in hopes of a return to campus and a chance at achieving their goal of signing with a Major League organization.

For these special game days, we'll sell tickets and concessions — including beer for the college all-star series — and look for ways to surround the baseball with the fun and excitement of the ballpark. We understand that our society is still in the midst of this pandemic and the opportunity to provide fun and entertainment comes with the responsibility of doing everything we can to keep players, fans and staff healthy and safe at the same time.

In the following pages of this document, we will outline the safety measures in place to host events at Principal Park and adhere to the social distancing guidelines that are in place from the CDC, the state of Iowa and the city of Des Moines. This plan will be updated as new information and guidelines may come out during the summer. This safety plan is specifically designed for the upcoming high school and college level games, as well as other special events that our staff has in place. If/when we receive the go-ahead and a schedule to return to Iowa Cubs games, this document will be reviewed and updated further to be in line with any other guidelines and expectations that Major League Baseball will provide for interactions with their players, coaches and staff.

Thank you in advance for following the set of guidelines that will allow us to enjoy summer nights at the ballpark again as safely as possible!



# GENERAL SAFETY GUIDELINES

Social distancing, face masks and frequent hand washing are clear recommendations for ways you can reduce your risk of catching or spreading COVID-19. These are the measures in place at Principal Park:

## FACE MASKS:

- Everyone attending an event at Principal Park is **STRONGLY ENCOURAGED** to wear a face mask during your stay at the ballpark.
- All employees of the Iowa Cubs, our concession partner Centerplate, or any other partner organization for a special event, are required to wear a mask at all times in public areas while interacting with fans and customers. Additional appropriate personal protective equipment (i.e. gloves) may be required based on the task the employee is performing. In many cases, frequent hand-washing and use of hand sanitizer will be safer and more appropriate for the safety of the employee and the customers.
- Where it wasn't in place already, we have installed cough/sneeze shields at every point of sale in the ballpark.

## SOCIAL DISTANCING:

- The main seating bowl has been adjusted to provide six feet of separation between blocks of seats around the main seating bowl. Based on the size of the sections and rows, seat blocks ranging from two seats to nine seats will be available for purchase. To maintain proper distance between seat groups, the following criteria was used:
  - There are at least four empty seats between groups within the same row. If someone has an aisle seat in a section, there will be at least one empty seat on the other side of the aisle.
  - There are at least two empty rows in front or behind each grouping of seats.
  - There are no more than two groups per row so every group can enter and exit their seating area without crossing with another group of people.
  - Unavailable seats will be secured in a locked position to prevent any person from compromising the integrity of the spacing.
- Please pay attention to all posted signs and floor markings to help keep people six feet apart in common areas including ticket windows, entry gates, restrooms, and concession lines. The capacity of the ballpark will be limited to allow for safe distancing in all of these areas.
- Elevator capacity will be restricted to no more than five people and those five people must be part of the same family or group that are part of the same seating group.



# BALLPARK CLEANLINESS

For decades, the core philosophy of our organization was to do everything we could to make the ballpark “**Clean, Safe and Fun**” in that order. To achieve that goal, our staff has always followed a thorough cleaning protocol. Moving forward, we will continue to do the things that we’ve always done and add some extra steps specific to the guidelines currently established by the CDC and governing bodies.

## **WHAT WE’VE ALWAYS DONE:**

- Thorough cleaning of restrooms and concession stands before every public event
- Thorough removal and safe disposal of trash away from public areas
- Periodic pressure washing of concourse and seating bowl during the year
- Daily high-intensity hosing of all seating areas and concourse
- Daily vacuum and surface cleaning in every skybox suite
- Daily surface cleaning of doors and hand rails plus mopping of floors in reception lobby and interior stairwell
- Provide free access to hand sanitizing stations throughout the concourse

## **NEW PROCEDURES WE ARE ADDING:**

- Following general cleaning, we will use eco-friendly sanitizing spray before and after every event in all restrooms, concession stands, dugouts and elevators
- Approximately once per hour, a staff member will wipe down frequently used surfaces in each restroom while the gates are open for an event
- Water fountains and self-service water stations will not be available



# RESTROOM DISTANCING POLICIES

In addition to cleaning procedures, it is important to pay attention to markings for distancing and best practices for safe use of the restroom facilities. Please be aware of the following guidelines for distancing inside the Principal Park restrooms.

- All exterior doors will be propped open at all times to eliminate extra touch points and to easily recognize any instances where a line may be forming
- All multi-person use restroom facilities in the concourse have multiple doors that will be marked as "Entrance" and "Exit" for continuous flow of traffic
- Every other sink will be closed to allow for distancing in those spaces.
- Every operational sink will have a corresponding soap dispenser
- In addition to traditional cleaning measures, each restroom will received a treatment of disinfecting spray before and after each event
- All restroom surfaces will get wiped down approximately once per hour while the ballpark is open for a special event

## **WOMEN'S RESTROOMS:**

- Some stalls will be unavailable to eliminate potential congestion areas around hand dryers and paper towel dispensers. Due to existing partitions, consecutive stalls will be available within each restroom.

## **MEN'S RESTROOMS:**

- Every other urinal will be closed to allow for distancing

## **SUITE LEVEL:**

- These restrooms will follow the same guidelines as the concourse restrooms, but only have one exterior door for entrance and exit. Please observe floor markings to avoid creating congestion in those areas.

## **SINGLE OCCUPANT RESTROOMS:**

- There are three single-occupant, uni-sex restrooms at Principal Park. One is located in the concourse behind home plate adjacent to the First Aid room and the other two are on the Hy-Vee Mezzanine behind Section 11. Please observe floor markings to maintain distance at any time a line may form for use of those facilities.



# CONCESSION OPERATIONS

Centerplate is the official concessions and hospitality partner of the Iowa Cubs. The Centerplate staff will be open to provide concessions during events. Here are some important considerations and changes to what you may be used to with the concessions operation at Principal Park:

- No outside food or beverage will be allowed.
- Plexiglass dividers will be installed at all points of sale.
- Cash will **NOT** be accepted. We will accept debit or credit payments only.
- Menu items will be limited and packaged to allow for safe distancing for employees during the preparation process and then for both employees and fans during the ordering and service process.
- All condiments, utensils, food and beverage items will come in single-use and closed containers.
- Physical distance floor markers for all line up areas.
- Pre and post-event area sanitation standards developed following local health regulations.
- All staff wearing masks and gloves when physical distancing is a challenge or interaction with the public is required.
- Equipment sanitation before, during and after each shift
- Hand sanitizer available for all guests and staff
- Deep clean stands and equipment before and after every event



# TEAM STORE

The Iowa Cubs Team Store will be open during events. Here are updated procedures for fans and staff:

- Access to the Team Store will only be allowed through the concourse behind home plate. There will be no entry or exit through the main lobby at Gate C.
- A maximum of five (5) people will be allowed in the Team Store at one time.
- Everyone entering the Team Store must wear a mask and use hand sanitizer before entering.
- Cash will **NOT** be accepted. We will accept debit or credit payments only.
- Floor markers will be available to safely form a line when capacity is reached.



# MEDIA ACCESS

The Iowa Cubs welcome media coverage for any open event. Please observe the following guidelines for credentials and access:

- All credential requests should be submitted in advance to Iowa Cubs Director of Media Relations Shelby Cravens. Requests should be submitted by email to [shelbyc@iowacubs.com](mailto:shelbyc@iowacubs.com).
- All working media should enter at Gate C and show credentials at reception desk before entering stadium or press box.
- Camera access will be limited to a maximum of three people per photo well in each dugout
- Camera access on the mezzanine will be allowed only in areas that can maintain appropriate distance from fans in approved seating
- Usual access to working area of press box will be allowed with appropriate distancing measures observed
- If the number of requests exceeds the safe capacity of the press box, alternate accommodations will be provided on a case-by-case basis
- No food or drink will be provided. Credentialed media members will be allowed to bring in their own water bottles and food if needed. Any outside food should be consumed in the press box only and should not be brought into the public area of the stadium.
- No guests or public access to the video room, broadcast booths or other working areas of the press box.



# SEATING CHART

