

## NYC Parks COVID-19 Update – 8/28/20

### Park Athletic Permits Update

Mayor Bill de Blasio today announced that NYC Parks can resume permitting its athletic fields across the city for outdoor youth sports. Supportive of children’s physical and mental health, lower and moderate-risk youth play on permitted fields will resume Tuesday, September 15.

City athletic fields have been open for first-come, first-served, socially distanced play throughout the COVID-19 crisis. Now, youth sports leagues will be issued permits for organized outdoor play. Permitted sports will include baseball, softball and soccer. Indoor sports, including swimming, will not be permitted. Leagues must enforce the following regulations:

- Face coverings must be worn by all coaches, staff, spectators, and players on the sidelines; players are encouraged to wear while playing if possible
- Social distancing must always be practiced by all when not active in game play
- Spectators must be limited to two per player
- All must leave the field post game, there shall be no congregating

NYC Parks will monitor league activities; if a team accumulates three violations, Parks will revoke that league’s permits.

If New York City’s percentage of positive COVID-19 tests exceed three percent positivity, permits will be suspended for all sports.

To make it easier for New Yorkers to enjoy their parks and benefit from recreational opportunities, even if they’re staying indoors, NYC Parks has launched **Parks@Home**: a wide variety of online park tours, fitness classes and other fun activities. Get more information here:  
<https://www.nycgovparks.org/highlights/parks-at-home>

For all updates on park service changes and closures, please refer to the NYC Parks website:  
<https://www.nycgovparks.org/about/health-and-safety-guide/coronavirus>.

For more information and guidance about COVID-19, please refer to the DOHMH website:  
<https://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/health/health-topics/coronavirus.page>.

If you have further questions, don’t hesitate to contact your local NYC Parks Borough Commissioner or NYC Parks Government Relations staff.