



## Charleston Central Little League

### A Safety Awareness Program (ASAP)

2023

Charleston, WV

Hank S. Smith

01/25/23

ASAP Plan Originator

Date

*Hank S. Smith*

*01/25/23*

ASAP Plan Originator Signature

Date

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## Introduction

Charleston Central Little League is sanctioned under the National Little League organization and is part of the South-East Region. Contact information for the South-East Regional Office, as well as our local little league district office, is located below along with a map of the Little League Regions across the country. All the leagues throughout the United States, and across the world, are unique and need a unique safety plan tailored to that individual little league needs. This plan will help to keep players, volunteers, and spectators in line with the rules and regulations laid out in this document. This ASAP explains some of the highlighted features of safety. All volunteers, helpers, and coaching staff must strive to keep safety on the forefront of gameplay, practice, and all things baseball/softball/t-ball. The main goal is to create an environment where kids learn safety in sports while having fun and competing. Coaches and volunteers will always lead by example.

### ***West Virginia Little League Baseball District 3 Office***

***176 Little Creek Park Road, South Charleston, WV, 25309***

***Email: [wvd3bbada@yahoo.com](mailto:wvd3bbada@yahoo.com)***

### ***Little League Southeast Region Headquarters***

***PO Box 7557, Warner Robins, GA 31095***

***Phone: (478) 987-7227 / Fax: (478) 987-7232***



## 1. Safety Officer

Charleston Central Little League has identified the safety officer for the 2023 Season as **Hank S. Smith**. Hank comes to league with twelve (12) years of volunteer experience in various sports and works within the government sector where safety is always the number one priority. Please see below for contact information.

**Hank S. Smith**

**Cell: 304-419-3138**

**Email: [hank.smith@courtsww.gov](mailto:hank.smith@courtsww.gov)**

Please contact Hank Smith with any safety related issues or comments. The best approach to safety is that we all participate in safety discussions, use common sense, and share ideas. Please reach out if you see something unsafe or have suggestions for the league. If you see something, say something. All board members have reviewed and are committed to this plan.

## 2. Safety Manual Distribution

The ASAP is available to all league personnel and volunteers. A copy of the ASAP will be placed at each field (inside concession) associated with CCLL. A copy of this plan will be available to the public via CCLL's website. An email hyperlink will be sent to all league personnel to ensure they have a copy/access to the plan. A copy of the plan will be sent to the District Administrator and/or District Safety Officer.

## 3. Emergency Plan

### Emergency Contacts

\*Emergency First Responders (ambulance, fire, police) – 911

\*Charleston Police Department 304-348-6400

\*Kanawha County Sheriffs Department 304-357-0200

\*Kanawha County Metro 911 304-348-8111

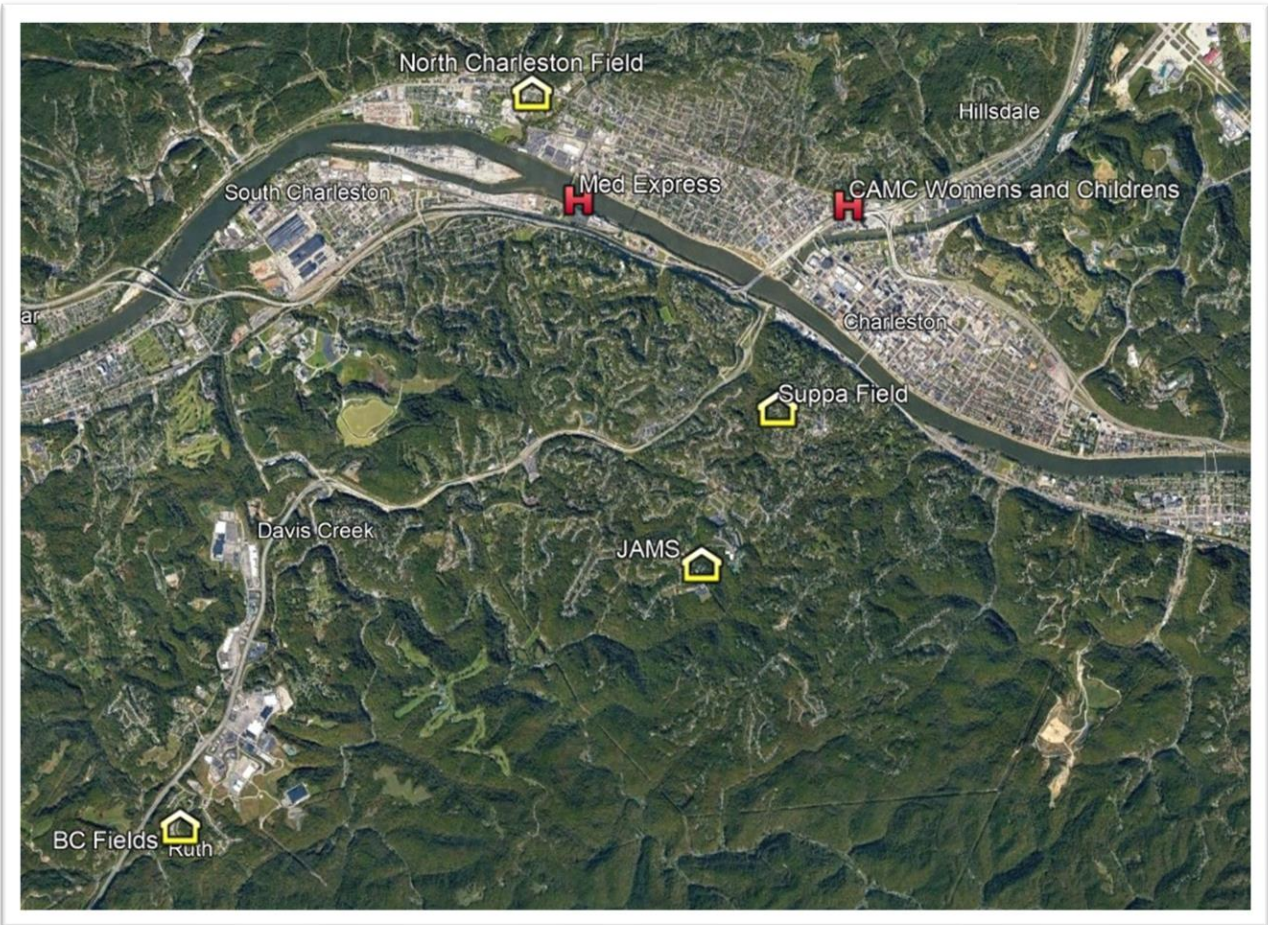
### CCLL Board Personnel

League President	Blake Engels	304-415-2636
League Baseball VP	Lucas Harper	304-549-2073
League Softball VP	Eric Silkwood	304-993-6993
League Secretary	Anne Moses	304-389-1406
League Treasurer	Jessie Lindsay	304-610-9706
League Player Agent	Stephanie Price	304-741-2842
League Equipment Manager	Lance Vaughan	304-542-6657
League Fundraising Chair	Kristy Salango	304-400-5021

## 2023 Charleston Central Little League Softball/Baseball Season

League Information Officer     Anna Washington     304-356-6894

Charleston Central Little League, often referred to as “CCLL”, is located in Charleston, WV. There are several options when it comes to emergency procedures dependent on the severity of the incident. First, it is important to look at the various field locations. CCLL has currently five (5) main fields of play. Suppa/Oakmont Field, John Adams Middle School Field, Bible Center Church Fields, and North Charleston Field. These fields are near the Women’s and Children’s Hospital and local Med Express type clinics. The area map below shows the locations of the fields in relation to the location of medical emergency facility.



### **CAMC Women and Children's Hospital**

**800 Pennsylvania Ave N, Charleston, WV 25302 – 304-388-5432**

### **Charleston, WV - Urgent Care Center (Med Express)**

**1416 MacCorkle Ave. SW, Charleston, WV 25303 – 304-744-7517**

**The following can be covered at Urgent Care center:**

Bites and Stings, Broken Bones, Burns, Cuts and Scrapes, Frostbite, Heat Exhaustion, Lice, Strains and Sprains, X-rays

**All other injuries or conditions may be treated at CAMC Women’s and Children’s Hospital through the emergency room.**

#### 4. Volunteer Application

CCLL requires all volunteers to complete a Volunteer Application. This form along with all other necessary forms can be found at [CCLLWV.com/forms](https://www.ccllwv.com/forms). Below is a web address to the Little League Volunteer Application 2023 form as well as the second link is for the “Basic” Volunteer Application Form.

<https://www.littleleague.org/downloads/volunteer-application/>

<https://www.littleleague.org/downloads/returning-volunteer-application/>

#### 5. Fundamentals Training

CCLL requires at least one manager/coach from each team to go through fundamentals training on or before **Saturday, February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023**. This training will highlight some of the aspects of the game like hitting, sliding (older ages), fielding, throwing, and pitching. In this training, League Safety Officer and Board Leadership will also review pitching and catching stipulations to be clear about pitch count, rest days, and adhering to those rules and regulations. At least one coach/manager from each team must attend the training. Every coach/manager will attend this training at a minimum of once every three (3) years. Additional discussion will include best practices for running a practice with ideas and discussion about appropriate drills and techniques.

#### 6. First Aid Training

CCLL will provide training in first aid for at least one coach/manager of each team on or before **Saturday, February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023**. Every manager/coach must attend this training once every three (3) years. Concussion laws in the state of WV for youth sports are in text below.

Concussions are one of the most reported injuries in children and adolescents who participate in sports and recreational activities each year. The most recent reported study that was able to be identified by Charleston Central Little League was a study published in December 2021 from Lindsey Black and Benjamin Zablotsky titled ‘Concussions and Brain Injuries in Children: United States, 2020’. This study is available on the CDC’s website for review, if necessary. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention additionally estimates that as many as 3.9 million sports-related and recreation-related concussions occur in the United States each year;

*(2) A concussion is caused by a blow or motion to the head or body that causes the brain to move rapidly inside the skull. The risk of catastrophic injuries or death is significant when concussion or head injury is not properly evaluated and managed;*

*(3) Concussions are a type of brain injury that can range from mild to severe and can disrupt the way the brain normally functions;*

*(4) Concussions can occur in any organized or unorganized sport or recreational activity and can result from a fall or from players colliding with each other or with obstacles;*

*(5) Concussions occur with or without loss of consciousness, but the vast majority occur without loss of consciousness;*

*(6) The interscholastic athlete who continues to play or practice with a concussion or symptoms of head injury is especially vulnerable to greater injury and even death; and*

*(7) Even with generally recognized return-to-play-and-practice standards for concussion and head injury, some affected interscholastic athletes are prematurely returned to play or practice resulting in increased risk of physical injury or death tith athletes in the State of West Virginia.*

*(b) For the purposes of this section, "interscholastic athlete" means any athlete who is participating in interscholastic athletics at a high school or middle school that is a member of the West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission. "Licensed health care professional" means a health care provider whose licensed scope of practice includes the ability to diagnose and treat an injury or disease.*

*(c) The West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission shall promulgate rules pursuant to section twenty-five of this article that address concussions and head injuries in interscholastic athletes: Provided, That prior to state board approval and notwithstanding the exemption provided in section three, article one, chapter twenty-nine-a of this code, the state board shall submit the rule to the Legislative Oversight Commission on Education Accountability pursuant to section nine, article three-b of said chapter.*

*(d) The rules required by this section shall include, but are not limited to, the following:*

*(1) Guidelines and other pertinent information to inform and educate appropriate school administrators, coaches, interscholastic athletes and their parents or guardians of the nature and risk of concussion and head injury including the risks of continuing to play or practice after a concussion or head injury;*

*(2) A concussion and head injury information sheet that shall be signed and returned by the interscholastic athlete and the athlete's parent or guardian on an annual basis before the interscholastic athlete begins practice or competition;*

*(3) A requirement that each head coach of an interscholastic sport at a high school or middle school who is a member of the West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission complete commission-approved concussion and head injury recognition and return-to-play protocol course annually;*

*(4) A requirement that an interscholastic athlete who is suspected by a licensed health care professional or by his or her head coach or athletic trainer of having sustained a concussion or head injury in a practice or game shall be removed from competition at that time;*

*(5) A requirement that an interscholastic athlete who has been removed from play or practice may not return to play or practice until the athlete is evaluated by a licensed health care professional trained in the evaluation and management of concussions and receives written clearance to return to play and practice from the licensed health care professional;*

*(6) A list of the respective categories of licensed health care professionals who, if properly trained in the evaluation and management of concussions, are authorized to provide written clearance for the interscholastic athlete to return to play; and*

*(7) A requirement that all member schools must submit a report to the West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission within thirty days of an interscholastic athlete suffering or being suspected of suffering a concussion or head injury in a practice or game. The report must state whether an evaluation by a licensed health care professional verified that a concussion or head injury was actually suffered, whether the athlete received written clearance to return to play or practice and, if written clearance was given, the number of days between the incident and the actual return to play or practice. If written clearance to return to play is given after thirty days of the incident, a report update shall be submitted. The West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission shall compile and submit the reports to the appropriate state and national organization or agencies to analyze and make determinations on whether the rule required by this section needs to be amended or if equipment worn by interscholastic athlete needs to be changed accordingly.*

**Additionally, an AED is present at all fields that CCLL plays on and have been checked prior to the start of play to ensure the machine is working accordingly. It will be noted to coaches to have the AED handy in case a situation of use presents itself.**

## 7. Coaches, Managers, Umpires to Inspect Safety of Field.

Prior to the start of each game coaching staff and manager along with the designated umpire should walk the field and see that no hazards are present. Coaches and Managers will perform inspections for practices as well. Although all safety hazards cannot be listed some common hazards on the field are noted below.

- Poor Field conditions.
- Drug Paraphernalia
- Broken Glass
- Rocks and Stones turned up by dragging or prepping field.
- Improper base installation
- Muddy or improper drainage
- Trash and Debris
- Fence Damage or open top rail
- Improper lighting at dusk or after dark
- Proper signage for coaches and players only.
- First aid kit availability and **AED** on site with trained personnel to operate
- Areas most likely to be overlooked are foul territory, concession stand, dugouts and shed access to general public

## 8. Annual Little League Facility Survey

Annual facility survey has been completed for the 2023 season through the Little League Data Center. This ASAP Plan will be uploaded as well.

One of the busiest areas of any Little League field is the concessions stand. It is also an area that can present several safety issues for workers who staff it. Therefore, it is essential that all aspects of the concession stand are thoroughly and regularly inspected to avoid injuries while keeping all safe.

The checklist for inspecting our concessions stands should be reviewed prior to each use:



### **1. Cooking Appliances and Equipment**

Most concession stands house a variety of appliances and equipment for cooking. Please ensure that whatever cooking appliances your concession stand features, are always in good working order. If any equipment appears to not be in a safe, working order, please immediately contact a league representative and not use defective equipment.

### **2. Electrical Outlets and Sinks**

Take the time to go around to every electrical outlet in the concession stand and test them to make sure they're working properly. This is also a good opportunity to check sinks and faucets to ensure that you'll have the clean water you'll need for patrons and volunteers alike.

### **3. Countertops, Tables, and Floors**

Food and debris left over from the previous game can be the source of serious health concerns as well as if it's attracted insects and rodents. Scan these areas carefully to make sure this hasn't happened. Speaking of pest control, keep an eye out to make sure any pesticides are stored away from any food. Charleston Central Little League does not house any pest control pesticides in any concession stand. However, at times, things may get moved due volunteers helping and working. If you see any issues, please contact a league representative immediately.

### **The following items for food safety will be adhered to with every volunteer in the concession stand.**

#### **1. Simple Menu**

Keep your menu simple, and keep potentially hazardous foods (meat, eggs, dairy products, protein salads, cut fruits and vegetables, etc.) to a minimum. Avoid using precooked foods or leftovers. Use only foods from approved sources, avoiding foods that have been prepared at home. Having complete control over your food, from source to service, is the key to safe, sanitary food service.

#### **2. Food Thermometer**

Use a food thermometer to check on cooking and holding temperatures of potentially hazardous foods. All potentially hazardous foods should be kept at 41° F or below (if cold) or 140° F or above (if hot). Ground beef and ground pork products should be cooked to an internal temperature of 155° F, poultry parts should be cooked to 165° F. Most foodborne illness from temporary events can be traced back to lapses in temperature control.

Heating Food – Rapidly reheat potentially hazardous foods to 165° F. Do not attempt to heat food in crock pots, steam tables, over a warming tray or other holding devices. Slow cooking mechanisms may activate bacteria and never reach killing temperatures.

#### **3. Cooling and Cold Storage**

Foods that require refrigeration must be cooled to 41° F as quickly as possible and held at that temperature until ready to serve. To cool foods down quickly, use an ice water bath (60% ice to 40% water), stirring the product frequently, or place the good in shallow pans no more than 4 inches in depth and refrigerate. Pans should not be stored one atop the other and lids should be off or ajar until the food is completely cooled. Check temperature periodically to see if the food is cooling properly. Allowing

hazardous foods to remain unrefrigerated for too long has been the number ONE cause of foodborne illness.

#### 4. Hand Washing

Frequent and thorough hand washing remains the first line of defense in preventing foodborne disease. The use of disposable gloves can provide an additional barrier to contamination, but they are no substitutes for hand washing!

#### 5. Health and Hygiene

Only healthy workers should prepare and serve food. Anyone who shows symptoms of disease (cramps, nausea, fever, vomiting, diarrhea, jaundice, etc.) or who has open sores or infected cuts on the hands should not be allowed in the food concession area. Workers should wear clean outer garments and should not smoke in the concession area. The use of hair restraints is recommended to prevent hair ending up in food products.

#### 6. Food Handling

Avoid hand contact with raw, ready-to-eat foods and food contact surfaces. Use an acceptable dispensing utensil to serve food. Touching food with bare hands can transfer germs to food.

#### 7. Washing Dishware

Use disposable utensils for food service. Keep your hands away from food contact surfaces, and never reuse disposable dishware. Wash in a four-step process:

- I. Washing in hot soapy water
- II. Rinsing in clean water
- III. Chemical or heat sanitizing; and
- IV. Air drying

#### 8. Ice

Ice used to cool cans/bottles should not be used in cup beverages and should be stored separately. Use a scoop to dispense ice; never use the hands. Ice can become contaminated with bacteria and viruses and cause foodborne illness.

#### 9. Wiping Cloths

Rinse and store your wiping cloths in a bucket of sanitizer (example: 1 gallon of water and ½ teaspoon of chlorine bleach). Change the solution every two hours. Well sanitized work surfaces prevent cross-contamination and discourage flies.

#### 10. Insect Control and Waste

Keep foods covered to protect them from insects. Store pesticides away from foods. Place garbage and paper wastes in a refuse container with a tight-fitting lid. Dispose of wastewater in an approved method (do not dump it outside). All water used should be potable water from an approved source.

#### 11. Food Storage and Cleanliness

Keep foods stored off the floor at least six inches. After your event is finished, clean the concession area and discard unusable food.

#### 12. Set a Minimum Worker Age

Leagues should be set a minimum age for workers or to be in the stand; in many states this is 16 or 18, due to potential hazards with various equipment. CCLL Minimum worker/volunteer age is 18.

### 9. Concession Stand Safety

Concession stands are present at each CCLL field, except Bible Center Fields. A blanket policy will be implemented for each of the concession stands as all are very similar in layout and usage. Volunteers that manage/operate the concessions during games and events will be informed of all the provisions and trained as such. The **Kanawha-Charleston Health Department** has clear guidelines that restaurants and food service facilities must adhere to when dealing with food safety. We follow those guidelines, and current information is posted in each concession stand. Concession workers will adhere to these best practices and observed strict hygiene guidelines for the service of food.

### 10. Inspection of Equipment

Safety Officer, Hank S. Smith, and League Equipment Officer, Lance Vaughan, will inspect all the equipment that is supplied by CCLL and distributed to teams. Coaches, managers, and any volunteers will ensure the safety of the equipment prior to practice or game times. The equipment will be inspected prior to the start of each game/practice. One inspection for the entire season will not suffice. Any questions should be directed to Hank S. Smith (CCLL Safety Officer), Lance Vaughan (CCLL Equipment Officer), or W. Blake Engels (CCLL Board President).

Prior to the start of each game, the home plate umpire and his partner(s) are to examine each of the batting helmets that may be worn, and the equipment to be worn by the catcher, including the helmet, chest protector and shin guards. The batting helmets must be affixed with the NOCSAE symbol, be free of cracks or other visible damage, and all the internal padding must not be missing, tattered, torn or frayed. No stickers are permitted on the helmets, unless there is a letter of certification from the helmet manufacturer affirming the stickers are permitted to be affixed to the helmet.

All baseball bats to be used in the Major Division and below, must be affixed with the USABat Standard marking, and deemed to be in accordance with Little League Rule 1.10 as outlined in the current edition of the Little League Rules, Regulations, and Policies. In Little League Baseball Intermediate 50/70, Junior, and Senior Divisions BBCOR bats are permitted. In each instance, all bats that may be used in the ensuing game must be void of any physical damage, or an altered state, that would prevent the bat from complying with the USABat Standard.

**Important Note: These changes only affect baseball divisions and do not affect any divisions of softball.**



## Baseball Bat Chart

Minors & Majors	USA Baseball marking 2 5/8" barrel maximum *Approved Tee Ball bats may be used in coach pitch/machine pitch divisions only with the use of approved tee balls.
Intermediate (50/70) & Junior	USA Baseball marking or BBCOR marking 2 5/8" barrel maximum
Senior	ALL bats must be BBCOR

### **Tee Ball Bats**

Starting on January 1, 2018, all Tee Ball bats in the Little League Baseball® Tee Ball program must feature the USA Baseball mark and accompanying text. Tee Ball bats that were produced and/or purchased prior to the implementation of the new standard can be certified using an Approved Tee Ball Sticker (available September 1, 2017) via the USA Baseball Tee Ball Sticker Program for use with approved Tee Ball baseballs for Little League play. Tee Ball bats for Little League Softball® Tee Ball programs must follow the Little League Softball Official Regulations, Playing Rules, and Policies.

## 11. Accident Reporting

CCLL will have and does have an accident reporting plan. Once an accident occurs during gameplay or a practice event, the manager and/or coach will submit to the safety officer a written incident report which will include the root cause analysis and brief synopsis of what occurred. This report will be submitted and reviewed by safety officer and distributed appropriately, if necessary. Such reports will be kept for review at the end of the season by the full board. A summary will be drafted and presented the following spring as a lesson learned opportunity for new and existing volunteers. Such lessons learned will be added to the safety plan for the 2023 season. Thankfully, no significant accident/injuries were submitted from the 2022 season.

## 12. First Aid Kits

CCLL will hold a first aid kit at all concession stands for each field location. First aid kits will be examined prior to the start of each season and if found unfavorable, they will be replaced. AED Devices will also be available at all playing fields for practice and game events which can be found inside the concession stand. Coaches will be advised to have the AED's in a place of easy retrieval prior to the start of each game/practice for the 2023 season in the event they are needed.

## 13. Little League Rules and Equipment

CCLL will follow and adhere to the Little League Rules. Rule books will be passed out to each manager upon kickoff of the 2023 Spring Season and can be accessed via the Little League Baseball App or on <https://www.littleleague.org/playing-rules/rules-regulations-policies/>

As a friendly reminder, there will not be an on-deck batter position. In other words, players will not stand in the dugout or any part of the field and swing the bat to warm up. All players must have and use an athletic cup, if applicable. All players include every position on the field. Managers and coaches will have information if there are questions about how to use the athletic cup.

The Little League Rule Book is a great resource and has the features shown below. If a coach/volunteer does not have the rulebook available, the App is the most up to date reference. The Little League App is available on all app store platforms commonly used. Below are the 2023 LITTLE LEAGUE RULEBOOK SIGNIFICANT UPDATES as well as the flyer from littleleague.org for all to view and reference.

2023 Little League® Rulebook Significant Updates Rules and Regulations Baseball, Softball, and Challenger – Regulation I(b) – The League: This permits a league's Board of Directors to be comprised of no more than 75% of current team manager(s)/coach(es). • The president, with approval of the Board of Directors, shall appoint managers, coaches, and umpires annually. Manager/coach representation on the Board shall not exceed a minority. A quarter (25%) of the Board shall be comprised of members that are not current Manager(s)/coach(es). Baseball and Softball – Regulation IV(c, Note 1) – The Players: Permits a player to participate in more than one affiliated Little League program, granted their home league does not offer an affiliated Little League Softball program.

- NOTE 1: At the time of registration, a player must designate whether he or she will tryout for baseball, softball, or both, if program option permits. A player may be on two rosters in a local Little League program; however, a player shall not register and participate in more than one local Little League program, unless registering in a second program to participate in softball because their home league

does not offer an affiliated Little League Softball program. Baseball and Softball – Regulation IV(f) – The Players: This change require players to attend one player evaluation event instead of 50% of the total number of events scheduled by the league. • (f) Majors/Intermediate (50-70) Baseball Division/Junior/Senior League: Any candidate failing to attend at least 50 percent one of the spring tryout sessions, shall forfeit league eligibility unless an excuse is presented which is accepted by a majority of the Board of Directors. • All other parts of this regulation remain unchanged for the Tee Ball and Minor Leagues and the Note. Baseball and Softball (Senior Division).

Regulation VII(a) – Schedules; Tournament Organization – League Eligibility: **Removes the mandatory minimum for number of regular season games for the Senior League Division of Baseball and Softball only.** • **(a) The schedule of games for the regular season shall be prepared by the Board of Directors of the league and must provide for not less than twelve (12) games** [Senior Division: No minimum regular season games required] per team per regular season against other Little League teams within their respective division, exclusive of playoff and tournament games. **Tee Ball: It is recommended that no more than twelve (12) games be scheduled per team per season.**

Baseball and Softball – Rule 1.11(a)(3) – Arm Bands: Outlines the use of arm bands for on-the-field play. • (a)(3) Any part of the pitcher’s undershirt or T-shirt exposed to view shall be of a solid color. The pitcher’s undershirt sleeves, if exposed, shall not be white or gray. Neoprene sleeves, if worn by a pitcher, must be covered by an undershirt. The use of play calling bands by defensive players is permitted under the following conditions: o The equipment must be worn as the manufacturer intended (i.e. on either the wrist or forearm). The play calling band may not be attached to the belt or any other location on the player’s person. Baseball and Softball pitchers are permitted to wear a play calling band on their non-pitching (glove) arm, provided it is a solid color and not white, gray, or optic yellow. If the umpire considers it distracting to the batter, he/she may have it removed. • NOTE: A pitcher shall not wear any items on his/her hands, wrists, or arms which may be distracting to the batter, e.g. sweat bands.

Baseball and Softball – Rule 1.11(j) – Jewelry: Clarifies that hard items used to control hair are permitted for on-the-field play. • Players must not wear jewelry such as, but not limited to, rings, watches, earrings, bracelets, necklaces, nor any hard cosmetic/decorative items. This rule applies regardless of the composition of such jewelry, hard cosmetic item, or hard decorative item. Hard items to control the hair, such as beads, are permitted. EXCEPTION: Jewelry that alerts medical personnel to a specific condition is permissible. Baseball and Softball (Regular Season) – Rule 3.09: This would aid in efforts to improve the pace of play by allowing adult coaches to warm up pitchers for regular season only. • Managers or coaches must not are permitted to warm up a pitcher at home plate or in the bullpen or elsewhere at any time including in-game warm-up, pre-game warm-up, and in other instances. They may also stand by to observe a pitcher during warm-up in the bullpen.

Baseball and Softball (Regular Season) – Rule 4.10(e): This would revise the run rule for all divisions of play during the regular season, adding an additional condition in which, if after five (5) innings [Intermediate (50-70) Division / Junior / Senior League: six innings], four and one-half innings [Intermediate (50-70) Division / Junior / Senior League: five and one-half innings], if the home team is ahead, one team has a lead of eight (8) runs or more, the manager of the team with the least runs shall concede the victory to the opponent. • If after (3) innings [Intermediate (50-70) Division / Junior / Senior

League: four innings], two and one-half innings [Intermediate (50-70) Division / Junior / Senior League: three and one-half innings] if the home team is ahead, one team has a lead of fifteen (15) runs or more, the manager of the team with the least runs shall concede the victory to the opponent. If after four (4) innings [Intermediate (50-70) Division / Junior / Senior League: five innings], three and one-half innings [Intermediate (50-70) Division / Junior / Senior League: four and one-half innings], if the home team is ahead, one team has a lead of ten (10) runs or more, the manager of the team with the least runs shall concede the victory to the opponent. If after five (5) innings [Intermediate (50-70) Division / Junior / Senior League: six innings], four and one-half innings [Intermediate (50-70) Division / Junior / Senior League: five and one-half innings], if the home team is ahead, one team has a lead of eight (8) runs or more, the manager of the team with the least runs shall concede the victory to the opponent. • NOTE: (1) If the visiting team has a lead of fifteen (15), ten (10), or eight (8) runs or more respectively, the home team must bat in its half of the inning. (2) The local league may adopt the option of not utilizing this rule. A game determined by the 15-run rule, 10-run rule, or 8-run rule shall be considered a regulation game.

Baseball (**Regular Season and Tournament Play**) – Rule 6.08(a)(2): Expands the intentional walk from the Little League (Major) and Minor League Divisions into the Intermediate (50-70) /Junior League/Senior League Divisions. • The batter becomes a runner and is entitled to first base without liability to be put out (provided said runner advances to and touches first base) when – o (a)(2) ALL DIVISIONS: the defense elects to “Intentionally Walk” the batter by announcing such decision to the plate umpire. The request may be made prior to or during the at-bat. o NOTE 1: Such notification must be made by the defensive manager. The manager must request and be granted “time” by the umpire and then inform the umpire of the defense’s intent to walk the batter. o NOTE 2: The ball is dead, and no other runners may advance unless forced by the batter’s award. The appropriate number of “balls” needed based on the count on the batter at the time of the manager’s request to complete the Intentional Walk will be added to the pitch count.

Baseball and Softball (**Regular Season and Tournament Play**) – Rule 6.08(a)(2): This revises the intentional walk rule so that a player may only be intentionally walked by announcing such decision to the plate umpire one time during the course of the game. This would not restrict a team from throwing four balls outside of the strike zone to this batter at another time during the game. • The batter becomes a runner and is entitled to first base without liability to be put out (provided said runner advances to and touches first base) when – o (a)(2) ALL DIVISIONS: the defense elects to “Intentionally Walk” the batter by announcing such decision to the plate umpire. The request may be made prior to or during the at-bat. A player may only be intentionally walked by announcing such decision to the home plate umpire one time during the course of the game. This would not restrict a team from throwing four balls outside of the strike zone to this batter at another time during the game. o NOTE 1: Such notification must be made by the defensive manager. The manager must request and be granted “time” by the umpire and then inform the umpire of the defense’s intent to walk the batter. o NOTE 2: The ball is dead, and no other runners may advance unless forced by the batter’s award. The appropriate number of “balls” needed based on the count on the batter at the time of the manager’s request to complete the Intentional Walk will be added to the pitch count.

**TOURNAMENT** Baseball and Softball (**Tournament Play**) – Managers and Coaches in the Dugout: This would allow teams to have up to **three eligible coaches** permitted in the dugout regardless of tournament team roster size. • Tournament Organization, Managers/Coaches in the Dugout o If a

tournament team has twelve (12) or more eligible players in uniform at the game site at the start of a game, then the A maximum of three (3) adults who are named on the affidavit (or authorized replacements as noted on the affidavit) will be permitted to act as manager/coaches for that game. However, if a tournament team has eleven (11) or fewer eligible players in uniform at the game site at the start of the game, then a maximum of two (2) adults must be named at the start of the game as manager and coach. The two named adults must be listed on the affidavit or must be authorized temporary replacements as noted on the affidavit. If there is a third adult listed on the affidavit, that adult is not permitted to be in the dugout or on the field during that game. o NOTE: Base coaches may be adults and/or players provided at least one adult manager or coach remains in the dugout. See 4.05(b).

Baseball and Softball (**Tournament Play**) – Managers and Coaches: Requires all tournament managers and coaches to complete the Little League Diamond Leader Training Program ([LittleLeague.org/DiamondLeader](http://LittleLeague.org/DiamondLeader)). • As a condition of eligibility for selection as a tournament team manager/coach, the regular season manager/coach must have also completed the Little League Diamond Leader Training Program ([LittleLeague.org/DiamondLeader](http://LittleLeague.org/DiamondLeader)). This program must be completed prior to the individual being named a tournament team manager/coach and before participating in any practices or games. Tournament Team managers/coaches who have completed the program should be prepared to produce the Little League Diamond Leader completion certificate if requested by the District Administrator/Tournament Director.

Baseball and Softball (Senior Division) – TOURNAMENT ORGANIZATION – PLAYER ELIGIBILITY: Provides flexibility to local leagues for the Senior Divisions of tournament play to place a player on a tournament team roster regardless of regular season participation. • Senior League – Any player League age 12,13,14,15, or 16, with amateur status, who has/is registered with a local league in which they meet the residency or school enrollment requirements participated as required by Mandatory Play as an eligible player in six (6) regular season games (Special Games may be counted toward this requirement) by the start of Tournament Play. in their respective District, with the exception of the middle school, junior high school or high school baseball season. Baseball and Softball (All Divisions except Senior Division) – TOURNAMENT RULE 9 – MANDATORY PLAY: Replaces the previous tournament mandatory play rule with a continuous batting order requirement for all divisions of tournament play except for the Senior Division.

**MANDATORY PLAY – CONTINUOUS BATTING ORDER:** 8- to 10-Year-Old, 9- to 11-Year-Old, Little League, Intermediate (50-70) Division, and Junior League: All Tournament Teams must adopt a policy of a continuous batting order that will include all players on the team affidavit present at the start of the game, to appear in the batting order. Each player is required to bat in his/her respective spot in the batting order. a. Baseball: A player may be entered and/or re-entered defensively in the game at any time. Tournament Rule 4 (c) provisions apply: 8-to10-Year Old Division, 9-to11-Year Old Division, Little League: Pitchers once removed from the mound, may not return as pitchers. Intermediate (50/70) and Junior Division: A pitcher remaining in the game, but moving to a different position, can return as a pitcher anytime in the remainder of the game, but only once per game. Softball: A player may be entered and/or re-entered defensively in the game at any time. Tournament Rule 4 provisions apply: 8- to10-Year Old Division, 9-to11-Year Old Division, Little League [Tournament Rule 4 (d)]: A pitcher remaining in the game, but moving to a different position, can return as a pitcher anytime in the remainder of the game, but only once in the same inning as he/she was removed. Junior League, Senior



League [Tournament Rule 4 (c)]: A pitcher remaining in the game, but moving to a different position, can return as a pitcher anytime in the remainder of the game, but only once in the same inning as he/she was removed. A pitcher may be withdrawn from the game, offensively or defensively, and return as pitcher once per inning provided the return does not violate the substitution, visits per pitcher, or mandatory play rule(s). Penalty: See Rule 10(f) . b. If a player is injured, becomes ill, or must leave the game site after the start of the game, the team will skip over him/her when his/her time at bat comes up without penalty. If the injured, ill, or absent player returns, he/she is merely inserted into their original spot in the batting order and the game continues. Also, if a player arrives later to a game site, if the manager chooses to enter him/her in the lineup (see Rule 4.01 NOTE 2), he/she would be added to the end of the current lineup. 5 c. An improper batter will be considered as batting out of turn (see Rule 6.07). d. If a player is unable to complete a plate appearance due to injury, illness or ejection, the next batter in the lineup shall take his/her place at the plate and assume the count of the original batter. e. If a batter becomes a runner by reaching base safely and is unable to run the bases due to injury, illness, or ejection, he/she shall be replaced by the player who recorded the last out or with a Courtesy Runner if applicable (see Tournament Rule 3 (d) Courtesy Runner). f. There is no exception to this rule. This rule does not apply to Senior Divisions of play. NOTE: The rule replaces Regulation IV (i) and Rule 3.03 g. Managers are solely responsible for ensuring that all players fulfill the requirements of playing participation. h. The Tournament Committee reserves the right to impose penalties (including, but not limited to removal of the manager, forfeiture of a game, and/or disqualification of the team or coaches from further tournament participation) may be imposed if, in the opinion of the Tournament Committee: 1. if a manager or coach takes any action that results in making a travesty of the game, causing players to intentionally perform poorly for the purpose of extending or shortening a game, or; 2. a team fails to meet the requirements of this rule more than once during the International Tournament, which begins with District play and ends at the World Series level (State level for 8-to-10- and 9-to-11-Year-Old Divisions), or; 3. a manager willfully and knowingly disregards this rule.

Baseball and Softball (All Divisions) – **TOURNAMENT RULE** 3 (d, Baseball; e, Softball) – Special Pinch Runner/Courtesy Runner: Updates the previous tournament special pinch runner rule to apply for Senior Division only, while providing a courtesy runner option for all other divisions of tournament play. • d. 8-to 10-Year-Old, 9- to 11-Year-Old, Little League, Intermediate (50-70) Division, and Junior League: COURTESY RUNNER: A tournament team may permit a “courtesy runner” for the catcher and/or pitcher of record when there are two (2) outs. Utilizing continuous batting order, the courtesy runner may be in the team’s batting order and must be the player in the batting order who made the last out. • d. Senior Division: Twice a game but not more than one time per inning, a team may utilize a player who is not in the batting order as a special pinch-runner for any offensive player. A player may only be removed for a special pinch-runner one time during a game. The player for whom the pinch-runner runs is not subject to removal from the lineup. If the pinch-runner remains in the game as a substitute defensive or offensive player, the player may not be used again as a pinch-runner while in the batting order. However, if removed for another substitute that player or any player not in the line-up, is again eligible to be used as a pinch runner.

## 14. League Player Data

Every CCLL team is required to submit the player registration data to the LL Data Center. Player registration will be posted on or before Saturday, April 1st, 2023.

## 15. Survey Questions

CCLL has completed the Survey Questionnaire upon submittal of the ASAP.

## Appendix A: Organizing, Playing, And Watching Little League® Baseball and Softball During the Coronavirus Pandemic

**Best Practices on Organizing, Playing, And Watching Little League® Baseball and Softball During the Coronavirus Pandemic**

# Organizing, Playing, and Watching Games



As local Little League programs are considering a return to the field, it is recommended that each league and district adheres to the guidelines set forth by their respective state and local government and health officials in terms of public gatherings, organized youth sports, and sporting events when determining when it is safe to return to Little League activities. Local league volunteers should thoroughly review the Season Resumption Guide ([LittleLeague.org/SeasonResumption](https://www.littleleague.org/SeasonResumption)) and the Little League Coronavirus Frequently Asked Questions for General Information, Insurance, and Tournament as you plan your league activities, while stressing the importance of mitigating the spread of COVID-19.

**These best practices have been compiled from resources and direct guidance from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the World Health Organization (WHO), The Aspen Institute, among others.**

**Leagues are encouraged to, first and foremost, follow all directives and guidance from their state and local government, and should ask their state governmental and health officials for any information available regarding resuming youth sports within the state. All Little League managers, coaches, umpires, league officials, and families are strongly encouraged to review these guidelines.**

In addition to state and local guidance, we encourage leagues to consider the following guidelines when returning to play.

Last updated : March 17, 2021

**Best Practices on Organizing, Playing, And Watching Little League® Baseball and Softball During the Coronavirus Pandemic**

# General Guidance

## Wash Your Hands Often:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or about the time it takes to recite the Little League Pledge twice, especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry. Leagues are encouraged to provide handwashing stations and/or hand sanitizer, if possible.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Players are encouraged to bring their own hand sanitizer for personal use. Hand sanitizer should be placed in all common areas off-field for easy use.



## Key Audiences

- Players
- Parents/Guardians/Caregivers and Other Children
- Managers/Coaches
- Umpires
- League and District Officials
- Fans/Spectators

## CDC Resources

- [How to Protect Yourself & Others \(PDF Download\)](#)
- [Use of Cloth Face Coverings to Help Slow the Spread of COVID-19 \(PDF Download\)](#)

## Cover Your Mouth and Nose with a Cloth Face Covering When Around Others:

- You could spread COVID-19 to others even if you do not feel sick.
- Everyone should wear a cloth face covering when they have to go out in public, for example, in public areas around your Little League fields and parks.



- Cloth face coverings should not be placed on young children under age 2, anyone who has trouble breathing, or is unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance.
- The cloth face covering is meant to protect other people in case you are infected.
- Do NOT use a facemask meant for a healthcare worker, as it is important for these facemasks are available for those professionals needing that personal protective equipment.
- Continue to keep six feet between yourself and others. The cloth face covering is not a substitute for social distancing.

## Cover Coughs and Sneezes:

- If you are in a private setting and do not have on your cloth face covering, remember to always cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze, or use the inside of your elbow.
- Throw used tissues in the trash immediately.
- Immediately wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not readily available, clean your hands with a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.

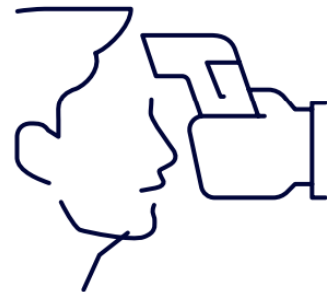
## Social Distancing:

- All players, coaches, volunteers, independent contractors, and spectators should practice social distancing of six feet wherever possible from individuals not residing within their household, especially in common areas. For situations when players are engaging in the sports activity, see On-Field Guidance below for more information.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home as much as possible.



## Self-monitoring and Quarantine:

- All individuals should measure their body temperature to ensure that no fever is present prior to participating or attending each Little League activity. Anyone with symptoms of fever, cough, or worsening respiratory symptoms, or any known exposure to a person with COVID-19 should not attend any Little League activity until cleared by a medical professional ([CDC Resource: If You Are Sick or Caring For Someone | PDF Download](#)).
- Any individual, including players, at risk for severe illness or with serious underlying medical or respiratory condition should only attend Little League activities with permission from a medical professional.



Last updated : March 17, 2021

Best Practices on Organizing, Playing, And Watching Little League® Baseball and Softball During the Coronavirus Pandemic

# Game Operations and Umpire Guidance

## Key Audiences

Managers/Coaches

Umpires

League/District Officials and Volunteers

### Pre-Game Plate Meetings:

- If possible, plate meetings should be eliminated.
- Social distancing of six feet between individuals should be implemented during all pre-game plate meetings between teams and umpires.



- Plate meetings should only consist of one manager or coach from each team, and game umpires.
- All participants should wear a cloth face covering.
- No players should ever be a part of plate meetings.

### Equipment Inspection:

- Players should place their individual equipment in a well-spaced out manner for inspection. Umpires should avoid direct contact with equipment where possible but, when required, use hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol after the inspection of each individual piece of equipment.



### Limit League/Game Volunteers:

- For each game, there should only be the required team managers/coaches, umpires, and one (1) league administrator (i.e. Safety Officer, player agent, etc.) in attendance.
- Practices should be limited to the managers/coaches and players.
- Scorekeeping should be done by team coaches or team parent/guardian via GameChanger. Proper social distancing should be practiced.
- Press boxes should not be utilized unless there is ample room for social distancing to occur within them.

### Field Preparation and Maintenance:

- Fields should be mowed, raked, and lined prior to teams and spectators arriving at the complex and after they depart. It is encouraged that volunteers already participating in the game (managers/coaches, umpires, and league administrator) perform these tasks to limit individuals at the site.
- It is recommended that any shared field preparation equipment be sprayed or wiped with cleaner and disinfectant before and after each use.



### Umpire Placement:

- Umpires are permitted to be placed behind the pitcher's mound/circle to call balls and strikes. Umpires are encouraged to keep a safe distance from players as much as possible.
- If physically able, umpires are encouraged to wear cloth face coverings while umpiring.



Last updated : March 17, 2021

Best Practices on Organizing, Playing, And Watching Little League® Baseball and Softball During the Coronavirus Pandemic

# Facility, Fan, and Administrative Guidance Part 1

## Clean and Disinfect Shared Equipment and Surfaces:

- Clean AND disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily and in between all facility uses, including practices and games. This includes tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, facility equipment, dugouts, toilets, faucets, and sinks.
- If surfaces are visibly soiled or dirty, they should be cleaned with a detergent or soap and water prior to disinfection.



## Spread Out Scheduling of Practices and Games:

- League administrators should schedule sufficient time between practices and games to facilitate the complete evacuation of individuals from a previous practice or game from the premises before the next group enters.
- Players/families/spectators are instructed not to show up to fields more than 40 minutes before game time.
- Where possible, individuals should enter your complex through one point of entry and exit through another.
- Arrivals to the complex can be scheduled to help ensure a large number of individuals are not arriving at the same time.
- If there is a game or practice prior to your event, families and spectators are encouraged to stay in their vehicles or at recommended social distances until the start of their game play to prevent overcrowding of spectator spaces and walkways.
- On-field warm-up should be limited as much as is reasonably possible and no more than 30 minutes.
- Ensure sure that practices and games follow all local and state directives regarding

the number of people allowed to gather in one place.

- Wait in cars before practice or game; limit the use of van pool or carpools.
- Allow time between practices and games for cleaning and disinfecting.

## Limiting Spectator Attendance:

- All spectators should follow best social distancing practices — stay six feet away from individuals outside their household; wear a cloth face covering at all times; avoid direct hand or other contact with players/managers/coaches during play.
- Local Leagues may choose to minimize the exposure risk to spectators by limiting attendance to only essential volunteers and limited family members.
- Spectators should bring their own seating or portable chairs when possible.
- Leagues are encouraged to utilize streaming opportunities to provide virtual spectating.
- **A spectator with any of the following conditions should not attend a practice or game until evaluated by a medical provider and given clearance to do so:**
  - Active COVID-19 infection
  - Known direct contact with an individual testing positive for COVID-19
  - Fever
  - Cough
- **Those at higher risk for severe disease should consider consultation with their medical provider before attending a game and should ensure the strictest adherence to guidelines regarding face coverings, distancing, and handwashing. Such groups include:**
  - Those with a serious underlying medical condition, including heart disease, morbid obesity, diabetes, lung disease, immunocompromise, chronic kidney disease, and chronic lung disease.
  - Those currently residing in a nursing home or long-term care facility
  - Those over 65

## Key Audiences

League Administrators  
Parents/Guardians/Caretakers  
Fans/Spectators

## CDC Resources

[Reopening Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfecting Public Spaces](#)  
[Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfecting \(PDF Download\)](#)  
[Guidance for Administrators in Parks and Recreation Facilities](#)  
[Visiting Parks and Recreation Facilities](#)



Last updated : March 17, 2021

Best Practices on Organizing, Playing, And Watching Little League® Baseball and Softball During the Coronavirus Pandemic

# Facility, Fan, and Administrative Guidance Part 2



## Public Restrooms:

- Communicate information on available facilities and policies to all parents prior to resuming or beginning season.
- Access to public restrooms should be limited if possible.
- A “one-in-one-out” policy, where only one individual is permitted within the restroom at one time, should be implemented to ensure adequate distancing in the confined restroom space.
- Prior to and after any league activity, restrooms should be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected. Restrooms should be disinfected on a regular basis.
- Public water fountains or refillable water stations should not be used, and should be turned off to discourage use, if possible.



## Concession Stands:

- Leagues should follow local and/or state guidance when considering operating food or concession sales.
- Leagues opting to operate food and/or concession sales should also review and understand the CDC’s guidelines.
- For leagues not operating a concession stand, families are encouraged to bring their own food/beverages.

## Post Information to Promote Everyday Preventive Actions:

- Leagues should display posters and signs throughout the park to frequently remind visitors to take steps to prevent the spread of COVID-19. These messages may include information about:
  - **Staying home if you are sick or do not feel well, and what to do if you’re sick or feel ill.**
  - **Using social distancing and maintaining at least six feet between individuals in all areas of the park.**
  - **[The CDC has downloadable resources available to post at public places; and leagues are encouraged to utilize additional resources from their state or local authorities.](#)**



## Key Audiences

- League Administrators
- Parents/Guardians/Caretakers
- Fans/Spectators

## CDC Resources

- [Reopening Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfecting Public Spaces](#)
- [Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfecting \(PDF Download\)](#)
- [Guidance for Administrators in Parks and Recreation Facilities](#)
- [Visiting Parks and Recreation Facilities](#)

## Member Communication:

- Local leagues should disseminate information to all families, volunteers, and spectators about the Coronavirus risk and the efforts your league will be undertaking to mitigate those risks, as outlined above. Information should be disseminated by way of email, league website, social media, coach talks, and public announcements.
- Designate a league board representative to be responsible for COVID19 concerns (e.g. Safety Officer).

## Indoor Facilities and Batting Practices:

- Prior to reserving indoor facilities for team and/or league activities, review the mitigation procedures in place for those facilities, as well as your state and local guidance on indoor activities.
- Leagues, coaches, and volunteers arranging to utilize these facilities should communicate the mitigation needs (wearing face masks, limiting participation to a specific number, etc.) to the families of those players participating and fellow volunteers.

Last updated : March 17, 2021

Best Practices on Organizing, Playing, And Watching Little League® Baseball and Softball During the Coronavirus Pandemic

# Additional, Division-Specific Guidance

## Key Audiences

Players  
Parents/Guardians/Caregivers  
Managers/Coaches  
Umpires  
League and District Officials



### Tee Ball and Coach Pitch:

- Team numbers should be reduced, to help limit the number of individuals at practices and games.
- Volunteers are encouraged to be from the same household as players, as much as possible. Coaches should wear cloth face coverings whenever possible.
- The focus on these divisions should be on fun and player development.



### Little League Challenger Division® and Senior Challenger Division:

- Buddies should be from the same household as the player whenever possible.
- Buddies should wear cloth face coverings whenever possible, and frequently use hand sanitizer that contains at least 60 percent alcohol.
- Parents/Guardians of players with high risk health concerns should consult a medical professional prior to having their player participate.



### Little League® Sandlot Fun Days

[LittleLeague.org/SandlotFunDays](https://LittleLeague.org/SandlotFunDays)

- While activities should be player-led; the adult volunteers overseeing Little League Sandlot Fun Day events should provide a thorough overview of appropriate mitigation efforts and are responsible for ensuring these guidelines are followed.

### Pre-/Post-Practice and Game Free Play

- Unofficial pre- and post-practice or game activities should be discouraged. If they do occur, the activities should have constant adult supervision to assure appropriate social distancing and PPE guidelines are being followed.



Last updated : March 17, 2021