

# District 13 COVID-19 RETURN TO PLAY

CDC & LITTLE LEAGUE RECOMMENDED GUIDELINES

## Major Goals:



**To return to playing baseball this spring and for the youth in our district to have a Little League season.**

# RETURN TO PLAY



As your local league considers returning to play, keep these resources in mind:



Follow CDC Guidelines for Parks/Rec Facilities. [View](#)

Answer questions with the COVID-19 FAQs. [View](#)

Prepare league communication plan using FAQs and Resources at [LittleLeague.org/Coronavirus](https://LittleLeague.org/Coronavirus)

Review Little League's Best Practices to Resume Play Guidelines and distribute to volunteers and families. [View](#)

When all boxes are checked -

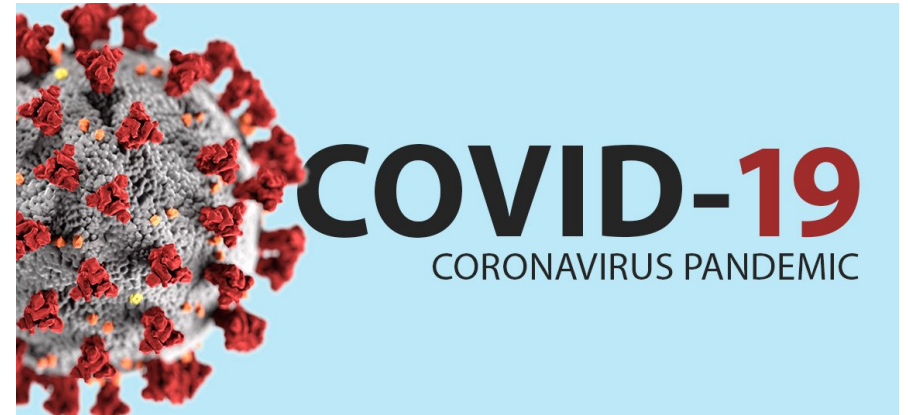
*Play Ball!*

More information and resources are available at [LittleLeague.org/Coronavirus](https://LittleLeague.org/Coronavirus).

# CDC GENERAL GUIDELINES

## What you need to know:

- Stay home if sick
- Wear a cloth face mask
- Reduce physical closeness and keep 6 feet of space between players when possible
- Players should bring their own equipment, like gloves and bats, if possible
- Players should clean their hands before and after practices, games, and sharing equipment

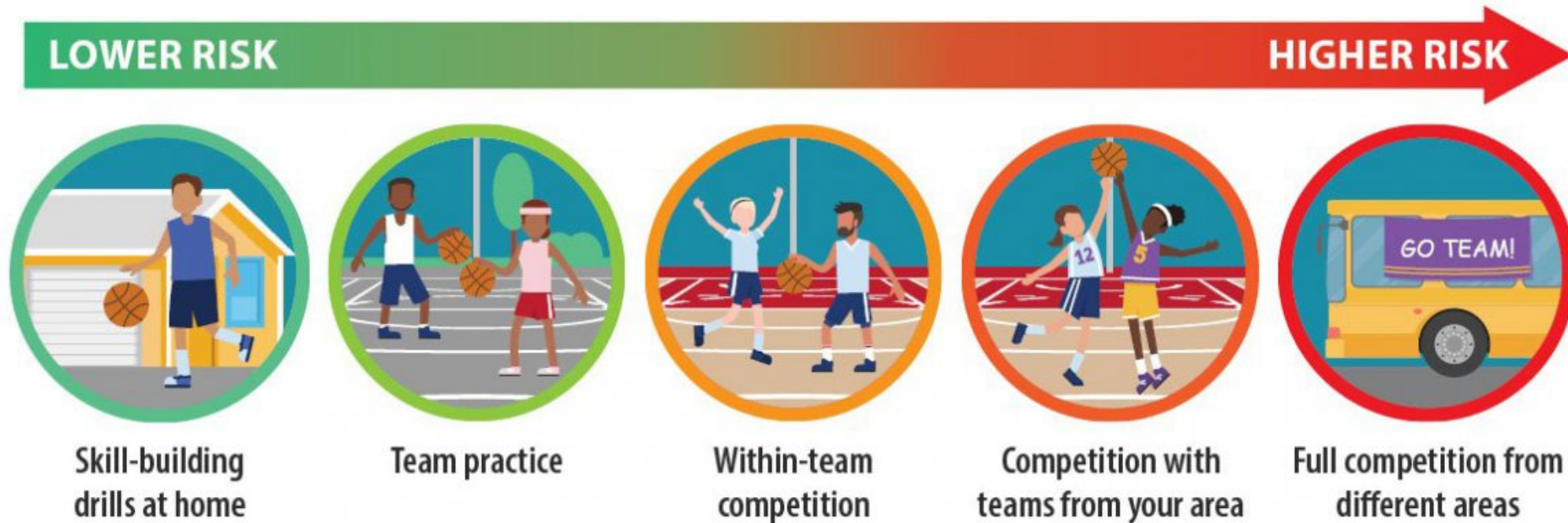


# MAKE A GAME PLAN- CDC

You can take a number of steps to help lower the risk of COVID-19 exposure and reduce the spread while playing sports.

- The more people a participant interacts with, the closer the physical interaction, the more sharing of equipment there is by multiple players, and the longer the interaction, the higher the risk of COVID-19 spread.
- Therefore, **risk of COVID-19 spread can be different, depending on the type of activity.**
- **Lowest Risk:** Performing skill-building drills or conditioning at home, alone or with members of the same household
- **Increasing Risk:** Team-based practice
- **More Risk:** Within-team competition
- **Higher Risk:** Full competition between teams from the same local geographic area (e.g., city or county)
- **Highest Risk:** Full competition between teams from different geographic areas (e.g., outside county or state)

# REDUCING THE RISK - CDC



# TAKE STEPS TO PROTECT YOURSELF AND OTHERS-CDC

## Stay home if sick

- If the participant has [symptoms of COVID-19](#), has been diagnosed with COVID-19, is waiting for COVID-19 test results, or may have been exposed to someone with COVID-19, they should stay home and not participate in any sports. Symptoms include: fever of 100.4 or higher, chills, cough, shortness of breath, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea

## Reduce physical closeness between players when possible

- Maintain at least 6 feet between yourself and your teammates, other competitors, and officials while actively participating in the sport.
- Focus on building individual skills, like batting, dribbling, kicking, and strength training.
- Avoid high fives, handshakes, fist bumps or hugs.
- Keep space between players in the practice areas, including on the sideline, dugout, and bench.
- Wait in car or away from the playing area until just before the warm-up period or the beginning of the game.



# CHECKLIST FOR COACHES- CDC

- Send a welcome email or call parents (for youth players) and/or players. Inform them about actions that you will take to protect players. Remind them to stay home if sick or if they have been around someone who is sick.
- Be a role model. Wear a mask and make it mandatory for family members, fans, officials, and sports staff to wear one during practices and games.
- Provide hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol to players before and after practice/game and encourage them to wash their hands with soap and water.
- Educate players about covering coughs and sneezes with a tissue or their elbow. Discourage spitting. Remind players about social distancing and identify markers (such as signage or tape on floor).
- Encourage your players to focus on building their individual skills and cardiovascular conditioning, so they can limit close contact with other players.
- Clean and disinfect shared equipment





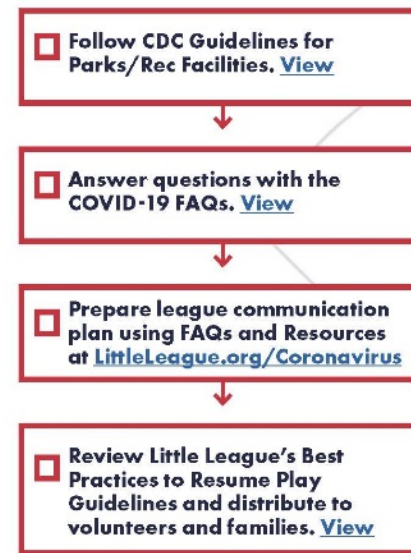
# RETURN TO PLAY



As your local league considers returning to play, keep these resources in mind:



If all checked above, move on to the criteria below.



When all boxes are checked -

*Play Ball!*

More information and resources are available at [LittleLeague.org/Coronavirus](https://LittleLeague.org/Coronavirus).

# FOLLOW STATE GOV'T & HEALTH GUIDELINES

STAYHEALTHY. RETURN SMARTER. RETURN STRONGER.



## GUIDANCE FOR ORGANIZED YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Following the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance, under all circumstances, the following precautions should be adhered to by those facilitating and participating in organized youth activities:

- Stay home if sick.
- Protect yourself:
  - Stay at least 6 feet away from other parents and activity facilitators.
  - If you are at **higher risk for** severe illness, you should avoid attending/participating in or coaching organized youth activities. People at **higher risk for severe illness** include adults 65 or older and people of any age who have serious underlying medical conditions.
  - Do not touch your eyes, nose, or mouth.
  - After leaving the organized youth activity, use hand sanitizer. When you get home, wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.

### FOR YOUTH ACTIVITY ORGANIZERS AND COACHES:

The Department of Health Services recommends the following additional steps be taken:

- Maintain physical distancing, to the extent possible.
- Provide and require adults to wear masks when possible.
- Provide access to soap and water for handwashing or an alcohol-based hand sanitizer for use by adults and youth both during and after participation in the activity.
- Operate with reduced occupancy and capacity based on the size of the youth activity location with special attention to limiting areas where large groups can congregate.
- Wipe any pens, counters, supplies, equipment or hard surfaces between uses.
- Implement comprehensive sanitation protocols, including sanitizing gym and sports equipment before and after every use.
  - Provide disposable disinfectant wipes, cleaner, or spray so facilitators can wipe down frequently touched surfaces on gym and sports equipment.
  - Restrict the sharing of water bottles, towels, or any equipment that's not necessary to be shared.
  - For equipment that must be shared to play a game

(e.g. basketball), sanitize the equipment before and after each game/use.

- If coolers for water are necessary, ensure they are regularly sanitized with other hard surfaces.
- Implement symptom screening for facilitators and participants prior to the start of the activity.
- Consider communicating with parents and youth participants the expectations and guidance prior to participation.
- Consider contactless check-ins.
- Avoid providing food that is not pre-packaged.
- Implement an enhanced sanitizing schedule.
- If playing inside, ensure ventilation systems operate properly and encourage circulation of outdoor air as much as possible.
- Consider assigning staff/volunteers to help enforce physical distancing and other hygiene expectations.
- Take measures to ensure there are no congregation areas.
- Close shared spaces, including locker rooms, if possible. If not, stagger use and disinfect between use.
- Train all facilitators and participants in the above safety actions.
- Discourage sharing of after-practice or game snacks.

### FOR YOUTH PARTICIPANTS, COACHES AND PARENTS:

- Do not share water bottles, towels, or any equipment that's not necessary to be shared.
- For equipment that must be shared to play a game (e.g. basketball) and equipment that may not be shared (e.g., baseball bat), sanitize the equipment before and after each game/use.
- Parents and others attending organized youth activities should follow appropriate CDC guidance for physical distancing and should wear cloth face coverings when possible.
- Consider having youth wait in the car (if air conditioned) or other physically distanced location with a guardian until practice, event or a game formally begins.
- Limit carpooling to the extent possible.
- Consider limiting the number of parents/guardians/spectators for each youth.
- Discourage the sharing of food, snacks and beverages after games or practices.



*\*\*Note that guidance continues to be updated and those complying with the guidance are encouraged to visit the websites provided frequently to ensure they are complying with the most up-to-date guidance.*

Websites for additional public health guidance:

[www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov) · [www.azhealth.gov](http://www.azhealth.gov) · [www.dol.gov](http://www.dol.gov) · [www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov)

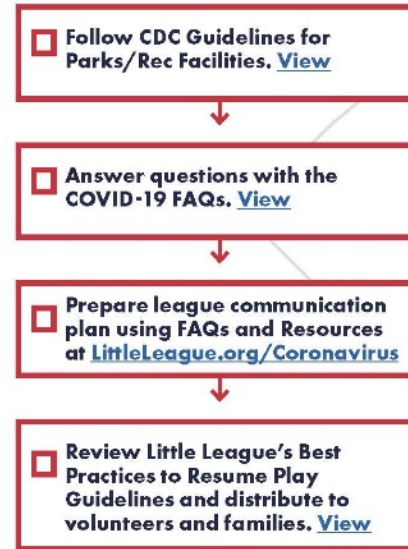
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# FOLLOW LOCAL GOV'T & LOCAL HEALTH GUIDELINES

## City of Chandler

### Parks

- Parks are open. Park users must follow [CDC guidance](#):
- [Youth Leagues](#) must have mitigation policies in place
  - [Chandler National LL](#)
  - Chandler American LL



# FOLLOW LOCAL GOV'T & LOCAL HEALTH GUIDELINES

## City of Phoenix

### Parks

- Outdoor recreational facilities are open normal hours of operation. That includes all parks, trails and golf courses. [All athletic field reservations and tournaments are canceled, and select park amenities and all sports complexes are closed until further notice.](#)
- Organized activities in city parks are temporarily prohibited.



# FOLLOW LOCAL GOV'T & LOCAL HEALTH GUIDELINES

## City of Tempe

### Parks

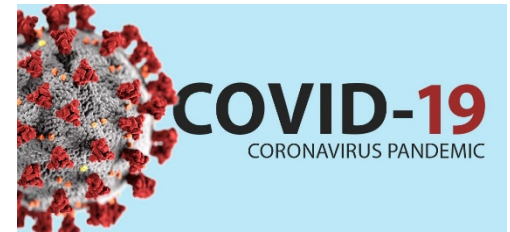
- All city parks are open. Park users must follow [CDC guidance](#):
- Maintain 6 feet of physical distance from those who are not in your household.
- Do not gather in large groups.
- Go home if you are sick.
- Cloth face coverings are required when 6-feet of distance cannot be maintained from people not in your household.



# LITTLE LEAGUE BEST PRACTICES



Organizing,  
Playing, and  
Watching  
Games



# ON FIELD GUIDANCE

- No handshakes/ personal contact celebrations
- Drinks and snacks
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Dugouts
- Player Equipment
- Baseballs and Softballs
- Spitting, Sunflower Seeds, Gum, etc.

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

## On-Field Guidance

### Key Audiences

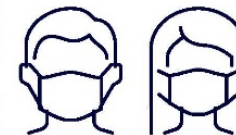
Players  
Parents/Guardians/Caregivers  
Managers/Coaches  
Umpires

### Healthy Practices:

- All players and coaches should practice good general health habits, including maintenance of adequate hydration, consumption of a varied, vitamin-rich diet with sufficient vegetables and fruits, and getting adequate sleep.

### No Handshakes/Personal Contact Celebrations:

- Players and coaches should take measures to prevent all but the essential contact necessary to play the game. This should include refraining from handshakes, high fives, fist/elbow bumps, chest bumps, group celebrations, etc. Little League International suggests lining up outside the dugout and tipping caps to the opposing team as a sign of good sportsmanship after a game.
- Players and families should vacate the field/facility as soon as is reasonably possible after the conclusion of their game to minimize unnecessary contact with players, coaches, and spectators from the next game, ideally within 20 minutes.



### Drinks and Snacks:

- Athletes, managers/coaches, and umpires should bring their own personal drinks to all team activities. Drinks should be labeled with the person's name.
- Individuals should take their own drink containers home each night for cleaning and sanitation or use single-use bottles.
- There should be no use of shared or team beverages.
- Teams should not share any snacks or food. Players should bring individual, pre-packaged food, if needed.

### Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):

- All managers/coaches, volunteers, umpires, etc., should wear PPE whenever applicable and possible, such as cloth face coverings.
- Players should wear cloth face coverings when in close contact areas and in places where recommended social distancing is challenging or not feasible, such as in dugouts.
- Players should not wear protective medical gloves on the field during game play.
- Players, especially at younger divisions, are not required to wear a cloth face covering while on the field during game play.
- Players will be permitted to wear a cloth face covering on the field during game play, if physically able to do so, based on any directive of a medical provider or individual determination of the player/parent/guardian/caretaker.

- 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.

### Dugouts:

- Managers/coaches and players should be assigned spots in the dugout or on the bleachers so that they are at least six feet apart and must be placed behind a fence.
- Players are to stay at their assigned spots when on the bench or while waiting their turn to bat.
- Players and managers/coaches should wear a cloth face covering while in the dugout.

### Player Equipment:

- No personal player bat bags/equipment bags should be allowed in the dugout. Player equipment should be spaced accordingly outside the dugout to prevent direct contact.
- Players should have their own individual batter's helmet, glove, bat, and catcher's equipment.
- Measures should be enacted to avoid, or minimize, equipment sharing when feasible.
- Some critical equipment may not be able to be obtained by every individual. When it is necessary to share critical or limited equipment, all surfaces of each piece of shared equipment must be cleaned first and then disinfected with an EPA-approved disinfectant against COVID-19 and allowed sufficient time to dry before used by a new player. Increased attention should be paid to detailed cleaning of all

equipment directly contacting the head and face (catcher's mask, helmets).

- Player's equipment (e.g. bags, helmets, bats, gloves, etc.) should be cleaned and disinfected after each use by a parent/guardian/caretaker, where applicable.
- Individuals disinfecting equipment are encouraged to use gloves while using disinfectants and follow the manufacturer's directions for use. All disinfectants should be stored properly, in a safe area, out of the reach of children.
- Players should not share towels, clothing, or other items that they may use to wipe their face or hands.

### Baseballs and Softballs:

- Baseballs and softballs should be rotated through on a regular basis, at least every two innings, to limit individual contact.
- Umpires should limit their contact with the ball, and catchers should retrieve foul balls and passed balls where possible.
- Balls used in infield/outfield warm-up should be isolated from a shared ball container.
- Foul balls landing outside the field of play should be retrieved by participating players, coaches, and umpires. No spectators should retrieve the ball.

### Spitting, Sunflower Seeds, Gum, etc.:

- Sunflower seeds, gum, etc., should not be allowed in dugouts or on the playing field.
- All players and coaches are to refrain from spitting at all times, including in dugout areas and on the playing field.

Last updated: October 23, 2020



# GAME OPERATIONS AND UMPIRE GUIDANCE

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.



- Pre-game Plate Meetings
- Equipment Inspection
- Limit League/Game Volunteers
- Field Preparation and Maintenances
- Umpire Placements

# FACILITY, FAN AND ADMINSTRATIVE GUIDANCE

- Clean and Disinfect Shared Equipment & Surfaces
- Spread out Scheduling of Practices and Games
- Limit Spectator Attendance

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 - October 23, 2020

# FACILITY, FAN AND ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDANCE cont'd

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.

- Public Restrooms
- Concession Stands
- Post Information to Promote Everyday Preventive Actions
- Member Communications
- Indoor Facilities and Batting Practices

# ADDITIONAL DIVISION-SPECIFIC GUIDANCE

- Tee Ball and Coach Pitch
- Little League Challenger Division and Senior Challenger Division
- Little League Sandlot Fun Days
- Pre-Post Practice and Game Free Play

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.



# A Safety Awareness Program (ASAP) Safety Plan Guidance Mitigation Protocol

- The general definition of **mitigation** is: The action of reducing the severity, seriousness, or painfulness of something. In the face of the coronavirus, including mitigation procedures as part of your **2021 ASAP** plan directly outlines recommended best practices for your league or district to follow when conducting any league activity throughout the season.
- **“Highly encouraged”**
- Include Best Practices just discussed.



# LITTLE LEAGUE COVID-19 MITIGATION PLAN

The mitigation protocol you assemble as part of the 2021 ASAP plan is to provide specific action steps for combating the coronavirus. As you review and prepare the 15 [ASAP Requirements](#) for a qualified Safety Plan to see where this inclusion fits best as you build your plan. The Safety Officer or another board member could be appointed to oversee all coronavirus concerns and will make the mitigation plan development and management easier to coordinate throughout the season.



# LITTLE LEAGUE COVID-19 MITIGATION PLAN

## Requirement 1 – Safety Officer:

- Each league and district's Board of Directors (BOD) is to have a [Safety Officer](#). Development of the [annual safety plan](#) is among the primary tasks of the Safety Officer. For this season, it is recommended that the Safety Officer also manage all coronavirus concerns and work with the BOD to frequently communicate all health and safety procedures to league/district volunteers and families. When considering the details to be part of the 2021 safety plan, the Safety Officer and any supporting volunteer staff, should review and apply the recommendations available in [Little League's Best Practices](#); and information provided by the CDC, the [World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#), [The Aspen Institute](#), and your state and local governments.



# LITTLE LEAGUE COVID-19 MITIGATION PLAN

## Requirement 2 – Safety Manual Distribution:

- In providing access to the [2021 league/district safety manual](#), focus on creating an electronic version that can be shared via email to all league personnel/administration and reviewed online through the league/district website and social media pages, so that the families in your league are informed of your efforts and expectations. Safety plans should highlight the importance of social distancing, proper personal hygiene, and wearing masks.





# LITTLE LEAGUE COVID-19 MITIGATION PLAN

## Requirement 3 – Emergency Plan:

- When leagues/districts submit their 2021 ASAP plan, a [detailed emergency plan](#) is to be included that outlines how to handle unforeseen situations, such as a positive COVID-19 test result. Reporting and contact tracing procedures should be explained in the plan and follow the recommendations from your state and local health officials and the CDC. It's critical to ensure your league volunteers, players, and families are following the [established goals and guidelines](#) for coronavirus mitigation. These plans are established to help leagues minimize risk, ensure a safe playing environment for participants, and provide an enjoyable experience for players, volunteers, fans, and spectators.



# LITTLE LEAGUE COVID-19 MITIGATION PLAN

## Requirement 4 – Volunteer Application:

- Encourage all volunteers to complete this process electronically to limit unnecessary in- person contact. For volunteers new to the league, or those returning, the [JDP QuickApp](#) or the [JDP/Sports Connect Integration](#) are available to process volunteer applications and conduct the required annual background checks.



# LITTLE LEAGUE COVID-19 MITIGATION PLAN

## Requirement 5 – Fundamentals Training:

- In your 2021 safety plan, consider extending the required attendance to all approved manager and coaches regardless of years of service. To offer broaden access for your league/district volunteers, **be prepared to hold this training virtually** and offer multiples dates and times. Use one of the several free online conference platforms available (i.e. Zoom, Skype, etc.). During this training, review and explain your league's mitigation plan and requirements that all your volunteers will need to follow this year.



# LITTLE LEAGUE COVID-19 MITIGATION PLAN

## Requirement 6 – First-Aid Training:

- Like Fundamentals Training (Requirement 5), consider adding into your 2021 safety plan the requirement that any approved manager, coach, or league official is to attend First-Aid training. This should be done using virtual/remote means (as outlined in Requirement 5). To assist with explaining the proper safety procedures for administering first-aid during the coronavirus pandemic, [contact your local health care system or medical facility and ask if there is a medical professional who could conduct this training for the league](#). Make an effort to host the First-Aid training at the same as the Fundamentals Training, to improve the probability that the information being presented in both sessions is in line with current coronavirus mitigation efforts.



# LITTLE LEAGUE COVID-19 MITIGATION PLAN



## **Requirement 7 – Check Field Conditions:**

- Emphasize in your 2021 safety plan the importance of inspecting field conditions before practices and games. It is incumbent upon coaches and umpires to inspect the condition of the field to help ensure that all [state and local government](#) guidelines associated with going to these physical locations are being followed. Include in your 2021 safety plan a [field conditions checklist](#) developed by your league/district that addresses current coronavirus mitigation procedures. This information is to be distributed to managers, league/district officials, and umpires. Having this checklist will be essential to helping to ensure safety is a constant priority.

# LITTLE LEAGUE COVID-19 MITIGATION PLAN

## Requirement 8 – Facility Survey:

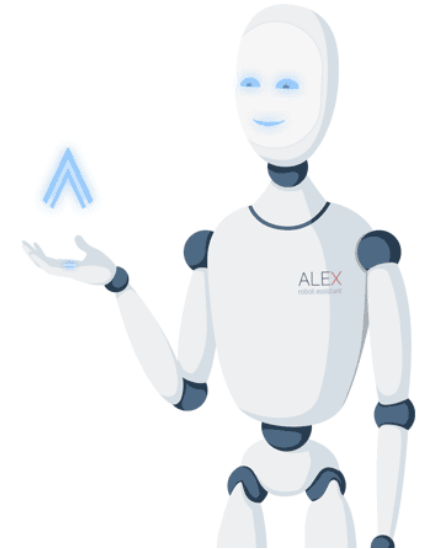
- There are several elements to consider when striving for a safe and enjoyable game-day experience for everyone. Beginning with the [facility survey](#), this review extends beyond the physical condition of the fields and surrounding complex. Before starting your facility survey, make sure that you're following all [state and local government](#) guidelines in going to these physical locations, which may include wearing personal protective equipment (PPE), or scheduling time with the facility owner. Also review the common inspection points, but emphasize and apply the recommendations set for in the [Little League Best Practices](#) and by the [CDC](#), the [World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#), [The Aspen Institute](#), and your state and local governments. In your 2021 safety plan, note specific additional direction for maintaining the fields and dugouts, and properly sanitizing the concession area, restrooms, and seating areas for players and spectators. **The public gathering areas are also the responsibility of the local Little League program (if it owns the playing facility) or the owner of the property where the league/district activities and are subject to regular inspection.**

# LITTLE LEAGUE COVID-19 MITIGATION PLAN

## Requirement 9 – Concession Stand Safety:

- Leagues/districts that decide to operate a concession stand based on the guidance from you state and or local health officials should make sure your concession stand safety assessment includes any specific guidance to fully follow the best practices and guidelines set by the [CDC](#), the [World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#), [The Aspen Institute](#), and your [state and local governments for food service](#). The Safety Officer is recommended to hold a meeting with the Concession Manager and staff prior to the start of the season to address all coronavirus mitigation guidelines and procedures. A follow-up meeting/review is also important as the season progresses.
- ***District 13 Guidance: No league operated concessions or team snacks/drinks for 2021 season.***

BYOF  
is an acronym for  
Bring your Own Food  
by allacronyms.com



# LITTLE LEAGUE COVID-19 MITIGATION PLAN

## Requirement 10 – Equipment Check:

- Each game, the umpire is responsible for conducting a formal check of the playing equipment to be used in that game. By including direction from Little League's [guidance on game operations](#), procedures can be added to your 2021 safety plan that outline how managers, coaches, league officials, and umpires can safely and effectively complete these tasks with limited physical contact.





# LITTLE LEAGUE COVID-19 MITIGATION PLAN

Requirement 11 Accident Report (use resources available with LLI)

Requirement 12 First Aid Kits

Requirement 13 Enforce Little League Rules

<https://www.littleleague.org/player-safety/asap/requirements/>

## For Local League Use Only

### Activities/Reporting

### A Safety Awareness Program's Incident/Injury Tracking Report

League Name: \_\_\_\_\_ League ID: \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ Incident Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Field Name/Location: \_\_\_\_\_ Incident Time: \_\_\_\_\_  
Injured Person's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex:  Male  Female  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent's Name (If Player): \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
Parents' Address (If Different): \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

#### Incident occurred while participating in:

- A.)**  Baseball  Softball  Challenger  TAD  
**B.)**  Challenger  T-Ball  Minor  Major  Intermediate (50/70)  
 Junior  Senior  Big League  
**C.)**  Tryout  Practice  Game  Tournament  Special Event  
 Travel to  Travel from  Other (Describe): \_\_\_\_\_

#### Position/Role of person(s) involved in incident:

- D.)**  Batter  Baserunner  Pitcher  Catcher  First Base  Second  
 Third  Short Stop  Left Field  Center Field  Right Field  Dugout  
 Umpire  Coach/Manager  Spectator  Volunteer  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of injury: \_\_\_\_\_

Was first aid required?  Yes  No If yes, what: \_\_\_\_\_

Was professional medical treatment required?  Yes  No If yes, what: \_\_\_\_\_  
(If yes, the player must present a non-restrictive medical release prior to being allowed in a game or practice.)

#### Type of incident and location:

- A.)** On Primary Playing Field **B.)** Adjacent to Playing Field **D.)** Off Ball Field  
 Base Path:  Running or  Sliding  Seating Area  Travel:  
 Hit by Ball:  Pitched or  Thrown or  Batted  Parking Area  Car or  Bike or  
 Collision with:  Player or  Structure **C.)** Concession Area  Walking  
 Grounds Defect  Volunteer Worker  League Activity  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_  Customer/Bystander  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Please give a short description of incident: \_\_\_\_\_

Could this accident have been avoided? How: \_\_\_\_\_

This form is for local Little League use only (should not be sent to Little League International). This document should be used to evaluate potential safety hazards, unsafe practices and/or to contribute positive ideas in order to improve league safety. When an accident occurs, obtain as much information as possible. For all Accident claims or injuries that could become claims to any eligible participant under the Accident Insurance policy, please complete the Accident Notification Claim form available at: [http://www.littleleague.org/Assets/forms\\_pubs/asap/AccidentClaimForm.pdf](http://www.littleleague.org/Assets/forms_pubs/asap/AccidentClaimForm.pdf) and send to Little League International. For all other claims to non-eligible participants under the Accident policy or claims that may result in litigation, please fill out the General Liability Claim form available here: [http://www.littleleague.org/Assets/forms\\_pubs/asap/GLClaimForm.pdf](http://www.littleleague.org/Assets/forms_pubs/asap/GLClaimForm.pdf).

Prepared By/Position: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# LITTLE LEAGUE COVID-19 MITIGATION PLAN

## Requirement 14 – Registration Data:

- If in-person registration is a possibility, consider organizing a safety training for volunteers who will be serving as staff to further explain your league's coronavirus mitigation procedures.. This training is recommended to be done virtually, using one of the several free online conference platforms available (i.e. Zoom, Skype, etc.). During the training, review and explain how frequent temperature checks, social distancing, limited contact, and other related expectations will be implemented during these, and subsequent league activities. Reference Little League's Best Practices; and information provided by the [CDC](#), the [World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#), [The Aspen Institute](#), and your [state and local governments](#) when planning volunteer registration.
- ***District 13 Guidance: Limit In-person registrations, preferably on-line only***

# LITTLE LEAGUE COVID-19 MITIGATION PLAN

When [building your 2021 ASAP plan](#), note that **Requirement 15** specifically asks two survey questions regarding the impact of the coronavirus on your league's **willingness to participate** in the Little League International Tournament. Please dedicate time to provide thorough feedback to these questions, so that Little League may better understand your needs and concerns, and develop resources for your benefit, as it prepares for the 2021 Little League International Tournament.



# WESTERN REGION COVID-19 Preparedness Guidelines

## Highlights:

**General** - consider signage that leagues will post at gathering venue entrances outlining established protocols.

Post policies on league website and social media

**Capacity** – use guidelines; set policies and determine who enforces

**Arriving and Exiting** – suggest at least 30-minute break between sessions

**Personal Hygiene** – establish policies

**Face Coverings and PPE** – signage, policies, who provides, etc.



# WESTERN REGION COVID-19 Preparedness Guidelines

Social Distancing

Sanitation Schedule Cleaning and Disinfection

Shared Equipment and Commonly Touched Surfaces

Health Screenings, Isolation and Testing

Board Members and Volunteer Training & Enforcement



# RETURN TO PLAY

- As everything is rapidly changing, please be aware that any and all guidance will likely be revised.
- Check emails and the District 13 website frequently.



Questions?



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