



MOT Little League

COVID-19 Safety at Practices/Games



We, the MOT Little League, have implemented the following safety guidelines to be followed during 2020 practices and games. All spectators, players, coaches and volunteers must be aware of these guidelines, and compliance with the items listed below is mandatory.

League Responsibilities

The league will take a leadership role regarding all safety policies.

1. The league will establish and enforce all safety procedures.
2. The league will communicate these policies to all participants, spectators, managers, coaches, and volunteers to ensure 100% compliance during practices and games.
3. The league will continue to monitor state, local and Little League International guidelines for practices and games, and will update and communicate any modifications to managers and parents as applicable.
4. The league will provide hand sanitizer to teams so that it is readily available for all volunteers and participants.

Symptom Checks

All participants, volunteers, managers, coaches, umpires, and spectators must conduct a daily symptom check before participating in practices and games.

1. Symptoms discussed below include, but are not limited to the following:
 - Active COVID-19 infection.
 - Known contact with someone who tested positive for COVID-19.
 - Fever.
 - Cough.
2. Players, coaches, volunteers, and spectators must stay home if any of these conditions exist:
 - They exhibit symptoms listed above or live in a household with someone who does.
 - They, or a member of their household, have tested positive for COVID-19.
 - They, or a member of their household, have had known contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 within the past fourteen days.
3. In order to return to the field, the player or coach must have a negative test result for COVID-19.
 - Likewise, all members of the household who have either tested positive or had contact with someone who tested positive must have a negative test result for COVID-19 before the player or coach who lives in that household is allowed to return to the field.

Umpire Guidance

All umpires must follow safety protocols involving social distancing while calling games.

1. Umpires must wear a mask at all times while on the field of play.
2. Umpires should limit contact with game balls. Players for the team on defense should retrieve any foul balls hit out of play. Spectators should never retrieve foul balls.
3. Umpires must call balls and strikes from behind the pitcher's mound and must stand six feet away from the pitcher.
4. Pre-game plate meetings should be eliminated.
5. If meetings are needed, social distancing must be observed, masks must be worn, and only one manager or coach may meet with umpires.



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General Guidance

All volunteers and participants must follow safety protocols involving social distancing and transmission prevention.

1. All players, coaches, volunteers, umpires, and spectators must practice social distancing of six feet wherever possible from individuals not residing within their household, especially in common areas.
2. While on the field, in the stands, or in the dugout, all coaches must wear a cloth face covering at all times.
3. Off the field, all coaches and spectators must wear a cloth face covering at all times when social distancing is not possible.
4. All players must wear a cloth or paper mask when not on the playing field and unable to social distance. This includes the stands and dugouts.
5. Volunteers and participants are not allowed to spit, chew gum, or eat seeds or similar products.
6. Spectators, coaches and participants are not permitted to touch, including high fives, handshakes, or other contact, with other coaches, umpires, spectators or participants.
7. Players must not share food, beverages, or equipment. Only the single owner of the equipment should use that gear. Equipment includes, but is not limited to, gloves, bats, helmets, caps, water bottles, and equipment bags.
8. Spectators are not to be seated in the stands/bleachers behind home plate. The stands/bleachers are reserved for players only. However, all spectators must follow social distancing practices and stay six feet away from people outside of their household.

Practice and Gameplay Guidance

All volunteers and participants must follow safety protocols involving social distancing and transmission prevention while practicing and playing.

1. No more than three individuals will be allowed in the dugouts at any time, and all must be at least six feet apart. While on offense, a manager and two on-deck batters may be in the dugout. While on defense, only the manager and two coaches may be in the dugout.
2. Equipment bags must not be hung in the dugouts. They should be hung off the field of play, and in such a manner as to encourage social distancing and discourage player gathering.
3. Inactive players must socially distance themselves from other players by sitting in the stands behind home plate on their team's side. This applies to kids who would normally be sitting in the dugout. Inactive players on offense are those not on the field or on deck. Inactive players on defense are those not actively playing the field.
4. Each team's scorekeeper or designated parent must sit with the players to make sure they are social distancing. The scorekeeper/parent will also direct players to the dugout or field as necessary.
5. In order to avoid using shared equipment, in divisions with no pitcher (t-ball and pitching machine divisions), there will be no catcher or player in the pitcher position.
6. In divisions with a pitcher, catchers must not share equipment with other players, but must have their own dedicated set of equipment.
7. In order to encourage social distancing between the batter and catcher, one of two options may be used:
 - Batter's box may be moved up to separate batter from catcher, or
 - Catchers may wear face covering.
8. Players may not take a lead from first base, to prevent a first baseman from holding the runner on first.
9. Balls should be rotated out as frequently as possible, but may also be disinfected between innings.



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Scheduling

Practices and games should be spread out to allow sufficient time for the prior practice or game to completely vacate before the next group arrives.

1. Practices and games should be spaced out to allow teams to clear out before the next game's or practice's players arrive.
2. Players and spectators must not arrive any earlier than 30 minutes before their scheduled time at the field.
3. If the prior practice or game is continuing, players and spectators must remain in their vehicles or practice social distancing until the playing field has cleared.
4. On-field warm-up should be no longer than 30 minutes.

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