

West Downey Little League Risk Mitigation Plan

OVERVIEW:

The goal of this plan is to create as safe an environment as possible for players, coaches, families, volunteers, and umpires while they are participating in or experiencing a baseball event at West Downey Little League (WDLL). The following recommendations are made using resources from Little League International, the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the World Health Organization (WHO), and the recent LA County Department of Health - Reopening Protocol for Youth and Adult Recreational Sports Leagues 4/14/21 Update**. WDLL's primary concerns are the health and safety of all participants. All league participants - players, managers, assistant coaches, team volunteers, and family members will assume risk in all baseball activities. These plans will be reviewed regularly to ensure that we follow California State, local guidelines, and regulations regarding youth sports activities.

GENERAL GUIDANCE

- Wash your hands with soap and water. If soap and water are not readily available use hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Players are encouraged to bring their own hand sanitizer. West Downey Little League will place hand sanitizer in common off-field areas for easy use.
- All participants are required to wear an appropriate face mask that always covers the nose and the mouth during practice, conditioning, play and competition, even during heavy exertion as tolerated to protect the safety of all participants. Exceptions to wearing a face mask are when the face mask may become a hazard, while eating/drinking, or when engaging in solo physical exertion (such as jogging by oneself, alone). Participants must wear a face mask at all times when not engaged in practice, conditioning, or in play, including when on the sidelines during competitions. This applies to all adults and to children 2 years of age and older.**
- Coaches, umpires, volunteers and spectators should maintain six feet between themselves and others not residing within their household; unless safety or core activity (e.g. practicing, playing) requires a shorter distance.
- All individuals should measure their body temperature prior to arriving to the fields. Anyone with chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, feeling tired, muscle or body aches, headache, sore throat, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea, congestion or runny nose, or new loss of taste or smell or any known exposure to a person with COVID-19 must not attend any little league activity until cleared by their medical professional.
- All individuals who have attended a WDLL Event and then presents any COVID-19 symptoms within 3 days (72 hours) of the event MUST notify the League Safety Officer to allow where appropriate contact tracing**
- Managers/Coaches will be required to complete a health screen questionnaire for each player prior to any practice or game activity so that it can be logged and used for contact tracing, if necessary. (See Appendix for questionnaire)
- Ensure arrival of no more than 1 hour before scheduled start time (to allow proper safe player warm up) and exit within 15 minutes of conclusion

ON-FIELD GUIDANCE

- No handshakes or personal contact celebrations. Players and coaches should take measures to prevent all but the essential contact necessary to play the game.
- Coaches, players, umpires, spectators should bring their own drinks and snacks. Drinks should be labelled with the person's name. There should be NO shared or team drinks or snacks.
- Players should not share towels, clothing, or other items that may be used to wipe face or hands.
- Player equipment will be kept in the player's designated spot to prevent direct contact.
- Players should have their own individual batter's helmet, gloves, bat, and catcher's equipment. The sharing of equipment should be avoided. When it is necessary to share critical or limited equipment, all surfaces of each piece of equipment will be cleaned and disinfected by the team with an EPA approved disinfectant and allowed sufficient

time to dry before being used by another player. Individuals disinfecting equipment are encouraged to use gloves while using disinfectants.

- Each team must have at least one coach or volunteer responsible for ensuring that the players remain in their assigned spots. That coach or volunteer will be solely responsible for opening and closing the gate for players to enter and exit the field. No players should touch the gate.
- When the ball is not in play, on-field players and baserunners should maintain social distancing.
- The Manager or Coach will be responsible for removing a player's bat from home plate if that player reaches base. The Manager or Coach will only touch the bat by the barrel.
- Each team should use their own game balls. Coaches and players from the opposite team should not touch the other team's game balls.
- Umpires should limit their contact with the game ball. Game Balls will be maintained by Defensive Manager who will put the ball in play and will provide substitute balls in the event of a foul ball.
- If a spectator retrieves a foul ball, it must be cleaned and disinfected with an EPA approved disinfectant and allowed sufficient time to dry before being placed back into play.
- All trash must be cleaned up and removed from the dugout and the fence line after every practice and/or game.

GAME/PRACTICE OPERATIONS AND UMPIRE GUIDANCE

- If necessary - for all pre-game plate meetings between team managers and umpires must maintain social distancing. Players should never be a part of these meetings.
- Umpires are encouraged to keep a safe distance from players as much as possible.
- Umpires should avoid direct contact with equipment and balls, but when required, equipment and balls must be cleaned and disinfected with an EPA approved disinfectant and allowed sufficient time to dry before being placed back into play.
- Practices should be limited to the managers/coaches and players.
- Fans at GAMES will be limited to household members or immediate family of players. Entry Screening through signage posted at the entrance to the facility stating that visitors with symptoms should not enter the WDLL Event.**
- Scorekeeping should be done by team coaches or team parent/guardian – game specific scorekeeping will be available at must be maintained by only one person and returned upon game completion. Proper social distancing should be practiced.
- WDLL will schedule time between practices and games to avoid having too many people entering and exiting the WDLL Fields at the same time.

FIELD PREPARATION & MAINTENANCE

- Fields should be mowed, raked, and lined prior to teams and spectators arriving at the complex and after they depart. Team managers/coaches already participating in the game must perform these tasks to limit individuals at the site.

CONCESSION STAND

Concession Stand will not be currently operated until a later undetermined date – once opened we will adhere to the following:

- Regardless of physical distance, volunteers must wear an acceptable face covering at all times.**
- Volunteers will adhere to the same Health Screening Questions, temperatures taken and records will be maintained by the Concession Stand Manager.
- Physical barriers (e.g. plastic shielding walls) will be added to the front of the concession stand windows.
- 6 ft. spacing will be demarked in any lines for customers waiting to order, pick-up pre-packaged food, or use the restroom, as well as in any pick-up or payment location.
- A distance of at least 6 ft. should be maintained among volunteers at all times, unless the core activity requires a shorter distance. (e.g. cooking, cleaning, clearing tables).
- Small spaces (e.g. freezers, storage rooms) are not to be used by more than one individual at time.

- Volunteers will be dedicated to one station throughout their entire shift. (e.g. register, pre-package item retrieval), to the extent possible.
- Volunteers are encouraged to place items on the counter for the next person to pick up, rather than passing items from hands to hands.
- Volunteers will be required to wear gloves while in the Concession Stand
- WDLL encourages the use of credit cards for payments and has “tap to pay” available thru Square POS System.

RESTROOMS

- WDLL will adopt a "one-in-one-out" policy for restroom use and will place signage on the door of each restroom advising users of that policy.
- Restrooms will be cleaned and disinfected regularly.**
- Usage of the water fountain is discouraged and WDLL will place signage on the water fountain to that effect

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT & SIGNAGE

- LA County Department of Health recommends 3 ply cloth masks, KN-95 Masks, or Medical Grade Disposable Masks (<http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/acd/ncorona2019/masks/>)
- All volunteers, managers, coaches, players and umpires must clean, replace, and prohibit sharing of their face coverings.
- WDLL will post signage inside and outside of the facility or area to remind all coaches/players/spectators to adhere to proper hygiene, social distancing rules, appropriate use of PPE, and cleaning and disinfection protocols.**
- Signage in use is from the CDC Youth Sports Tool Kit as well as those from the Los Angeles County Department of Health.

This plan will be available onsite at the Concession Stand and online at www.wdll.us. This plan may be modified from time to time based on changes in requirements, guidance and/or prohibitions issued by federal, state and/or local governmental authorities and/or Little League International; in that event, the revised plan will likewise be made available at the Concession Stand and online.

Appendix

Health Screening Questions are to be conducted by the Manager at every WDLL Event. If any of the questions are answered YES – the player will not be allowed to play and asked to leave the fields immediately. The Manager will then be required to notify the League Safety Officer Immediately.

The Health Screenings will be maintained by the Team Manager. Failure to conduct a screening may result in the manager being removed from role and result in the entire team being suspended for up to 14 days. The Screenings may be inspected at anytime by a member of the West Downey Little League Board – failure to present these records will result in the removal of the entire team from the WDLL Event. These records are to be retained for the entire season and returned to the League Safety Officer at the end of the season for retention and/or destruction.

- Do you have a FEVER (100.4 F or higher)
- Do you feel like you have chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, feeling tired, muscle or body aches, headache, sore throat, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea, congestion or runny nose, or new loss of taste or smell?
- Have you tested POSITIVE for COVID-19 within last 14 days, suspect a diagnosis of COVID 19, or have a pending COVID-19 Test?
- Do you have EXCESSIVE FATIGUE you cannot attribute to another health condition?
- Have you had CLOSE CONTACT with a known COVID-19 patient (spent longer than 15 minutes within 6 feet of someone who was sick with a fever and cough)?