

# Wallington Little League

P.O. Box 3243

Wallington, New Jersey



## 2021

*COVID-19 Safety Guidelines*

*for*

*Managers, Coaches,*

*Parents & Players*

*Updated: March 18, 2021*

This document is to make all Wallington Little League stakeholders aware of the New Jersey State and the Borough of Wallington guidelines regarding group gatherings and participation in youth sports.

Our goal is to create an environment that is as safe as possible for players, coaches, families, volunteers and umpires while they are participating in or experiencing a Wallington Little League baseball/softball activity. The Wallington Little League Board of Directors reserves the right to continue to review, update and adjust these COVID-19 Safety Guidelines as may be necessary via board action, given the fluidity and ever-changing nature of the pandemic and safety guidelines.

In the interest of safety for all Wallington Little League stakeholders, decisions made by the Wallington Little League Board of Directors are FINAL.

### **General Guidelines**

- All Wallington Little League families MUST agree to and complete the Wallington Little League ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY RELATING TO COVID-19 form for each child in order for them to participate in any Wallington Little League activity. (*This was completed during the registration process.*)
- Parents/guardians are suggested to take the temperature of all players before leaving home for practices/games. Any participant with a temperature above 100°F should stay home.
- Any participant, fan or volunteer with symptoms of COVID-19 should stay home with symptoms, including but not limited to: fever, cough, shortness of breath, loss of smell/taste.
- Parents/guardians who fail to notify the Wallington Little League that their child has tested positive to COVID-19 will have their household suspended from Wallington Little League activities for one year.
- Social Distancing (6-foot distance between people) is expected.
- Player dugouts/benches are open, but coaches are encouraged to remind players to maintain distance.
- Face Coverings are not required when players are in the field of play. However, all coaches and players not in the field of play are required to have a face covering.
- Hand sanitizer will be available at all fields during all events to supply all players, coaches and volunteers. Players will also be encouraged to bring their own hand sanitizer for personal use. Coaches will remind their athletes to use it periodically.
- NO sharing of food or drinks.

## **Facility Guidelines**

- All spectators/parents/guardians must practice Social Distancing.
- All spectators/parents/guardians shall wear face masks/face coverings at all times, *regardless if they are fully vaccinated or not*, especially when Social Distancing is not possible.
- Anyone not following face mask/face covering or social distancing requirement will be asked to leave the field and must do so immediately. Practice/Game will be suspended until the person leaves the facility.
- Bathrooms might not be available due to restrictions. If open, bathrooms will be sanitized after each practice/game.
- Garbage receptacles will be cleaned and sanitized after each practice/game.
- Signage will be posted with reminders to social distance, wear face coverings and practice good hygiene.

## **Concession Stand Guidelines**

- The concession stand will not be operating at full capacity at any facility for the 2021 season. Please plan accordingly.
- Recommendations made by the CDC and Executive Orders will be followed.
- Face masks/face coverings will be worn by all volunteers working the concession stand at all times.
- All volunteers will wear gloves at all times, and will change them often to avoid the spread of any bacteria.
- All surfaces, including countertops, door knobs, common areas, will be wiped down periodically with an EPA approved sanitizer/disinfectant, such as Clorox wipes.
- Hand sanitizer will be available for all volunteers and customers to use.
- Plastic sheeting or plexiglass will be installed on service windows to protect volunteers and customers from spreading bacteria.
- 6-foot ground markings will be placed to ensure proper social distancing is kept.
- Disposable items will be used where necessary, and common touch items will not be used. Ketchup packets, salt and pepper packets, and wrapped utensils will be used.

## **On-Field Guidelines**

- Teams will not enter the field until previous teams have completely vacated and disinfected the area.
- There should be no unnecessary physical contact among players/coaches.
- No handshake line at the end of games. Instead, players will line up outside the dugout/bench and tip hand/hat/visor toward the other team.
- Dugouts/benches will be disinfected by managers/coaches after each event.
- Field must be vacated no later than 15 minutes after the end of each game.

## **Equipment Guidelines**

- Equipment should not be shared between players.
- If any player does not have individual equipment, team equipment will be used and then disinfected after each use.

## **Coaches**

- Temperature Screenings may be completed prior to practices/games.
- Must wear face masks/face coverings at all times, unless performing strenuous activities.
- Must take attendance at each practice/game and send to the league.
- Must ask each child how they are feeling prior to each practice/game
  - If a child does not feel well, please alert the parent/guardian and the child must leave the practice/game (field area) immediately.
- Are the only ones who may handle the baseball equipment, such as tees, nets, etc.
- Must sanitize equipment before and after practice/game.
  - This should be done at the field so that parents/guardians can see this being done.
- Must sanitize the dugout area/benches before leaving the practice/game.
- Must sign the Hold Harmless Agreement via Sports Connect when registering to coach.
- Must complete the [COVID-19 screener](#) prior to each practice/game.

## **Players**

- Temperature Screenings may be completed prior to practice/games.
- Must wear face covering to and from the field.
- May remove face coverings while practicing/playing.
- Must wear face covering while in the dugout.
- Must bring their own water/cooling off towels. NO SHARING OF ANY ITEMS!
- All players must have their own helmets, batting gloves, fielding gloves.
- No sunflower seeds or gum will be allowed on site this year.
- Player Bags/Water/Personal Items must be placed 6 feet apart from each other along their side of the field.
- Players will be socially distanced while in the dugout.
- Minimal contact during play is allowed.

## **Parents/Guardians/Spectators**

- Must wear face masks/face coverings at all times that social distancing is not possible.
- Should remain socially distant from other spectators.
- Must sign the Hold Harmless Agreement via Sports Connect when registering, for their child/children.
- Must complete the [COVID-19 screener](#) for their child/ren prior to each practice/game.

## **Umpires**

- Will have face covering available for when social distancing is not possible.
- Plate umpire will call balls and strikes from a safe distance.
- Field umpires will keep at least 6 feet distance from each other and players.
- Equipment inspection will be visual only.

## **Family Members**

- Parents/Guardians are suggested to take the temperature of all players before leaving home for practices/games. Any person with a temperature above 100°F should stay home.
- Social Distancing (6-foot distance between people) will be expected.
- Are not allowed near dugouts/benches.

## **Little League Clubhouse Guidelines**

- Restrooms will be for players and coaching staff only.
- Restrooms will be disinfected regularly.
- The clubhouse is restricted to players, coaches and volunteers working the concession stand.

If you have any questions or concerns, please email [wallingtonlittleleague1951@gmail.com](mailto:wallingtonlittleleague1951@gmail.com).

***Please remember, the health and safety of all coaches, players, parents/guardians, and spectators is the Number 1 priority!***

## COVID-19 Protocols & Procedures

### League Procedure for Reporting a Positive Case of COVID-19

If a CHILD on a team tests positive:

- Parents/Guardians
  - Alert the Wallington Little League Board immediately via:
    - [wallingtonlittleleague1951@gmail.com](mailto:wallingtonlittleleague1951@gmail.com)
    - Contacting Joe Brunacki (973) 632-3845
  - Child can return to practice/play once cleared by a family doctor. A note must be provided by the doctor. (No note, no play!)
    - It is the parents'/guardians' responsibility to know if their child is not feeling well, therefore, not sending the child to attend a practice or game. As in past practice, parent/guardian should inform coach that the player will not be there.
  - **Please, in all cases, err on the side of caution.**
- Coaches
  - Will notify the team that a member of the team has tested positive. No personal information or name will be provided.
- Board of Directors
  - Will notify the Coaches of all teams that a member of the league has tested positive.
    - No personal information or name will be provided.
  - Specific notification will be given to the team of the positive result. Again, no personal information or name will be provided.

If a COACH on a team tests positive:

- Coaches
  - Alert the Wallington Little League Board immediately via:
    - [wallingtonlittleleague1951@gmail.com](mailto:wallingtonlittleleague1951@gmail.com)
    - Contacting Joe Brunacki (973) 632-3845
  - Coach can return once cleared by a family doctor. A note must be provided by the doctor.
- Board of Directors
  - Will notify the league that member of the coaching staff has tested positive

- Will notify the specific team that member of their coaching staff has tested positive
- Provide a plan for when practices/games may resume
- Please note:
  - In the event of a positive test, notification is given so that parents/guardians can make their own informed decision about their child continuing to practice/play.
  - If an opponent team (from the travel teams) has a child who tests positive, the Wallington Little League will notify the coaching staff that a child on a recent opponent team has tested positive.
    - Board of Directors will also notify the league as a precaution.

### **Procedure to Report a Positive Case to the League**

1. Contact Joe Brunacki (973) 632-3845
2. Send email to: wallingtonlittleleague1951@gmail.com.

***Please remember, the health and safety of all coaches, players, parents/guardians, and spectators is the Number 1 priority!***