

NEILL

Return to Play Plan

Fall 2020

Welcome back to baseball at Newtown Edgmont Little League. As we return to play, our mission continues to be providing athletes with the most enjoyable, competitive, and positive experience. In order to do so while ensuring the safety of all, we encourage parents, athletes, coaches, and all guests to join us in returning to play responsibly with our new ground rules.

TOP FIVE PRIORITIES

- ❖ **Sanitation** - We recommend you wash your hands often, and when soap and water is not available, we have hand sanitizer placed throughout the facility for your use.
- ❖ **Social Distancing** - Please maintain at least 6 feet between you and others, following all posted signage throughout the facility.
- ❖ **Face Coverings** - Per CDC, Little League, State & Newtown township guidelines, we strongly recommend that all guests wear face masks or face coverings while outside the field of play. Parents, please consider wearing masks from the parking lot to your seating and as you move about the complex. Once seated and distanced, masks may be removed. Coaches must wear masks at all times.
- ❖ **Cleaning & Disinfecting** - Please be patient as our team performs more frequent cleaning. Help do your part by keeping your area clean and disposing of trash.
- ❖ **Health Monitoring** - Daily self-evaluated wellness screenings need to be completed by all guests prior to entering the facility. Guests experiencing COVID-19 symptoms should contact a local health care facility

immediately. Anyone with a temperature above 100.3 in the 24 hours prior to a scheduled activity should not enter the complex.

Minimizing Frequently Touched Areas

- ❖ Please bring your own seating as the bleachers, pavilion, and picnic tables will be closed.
- ❖ The Indoor Practice facility will be closed to the public.
- ❖ Please bring your own personal water container as water fountains will be disabled.
- ❖ Doors will be left open to eliminate contact on handles.
- ❖ Concession lines will be ordered and separated according to the CDC and state/local guidelines.

Scheduling Features

- ❖ Event information will be communicated digitally to minimize the hand-off of materials on-site.
- ❖ Game start times will be staggered, and we recommend teams to not arrive more than 1 hour prior to the game.

Umpire Rules

- ❖ Ground Rules will be carried out at the home plate area, but coaches are asked to stay on the perimeter of the dirt while the umpire is going through the rules.
- ❖ The umpires will call the games from behind the pitcher's mound.
- ❖ In the event that a coach would like to ask for clarification on a call, or appeal, we ask that the coach does so from a 6 foot distance.
- ❖ Umpires are not required to wear masks while on the field of play, but can be worn as desired.

Pre-Game

- ❖ Teams will have 20 minutes to hit in the cages before the next time slot is up. Please be courteous of the other teams also needing to warm up.
- ❖ New baseballs will be designated to each individual game.

- ❖ After the completion of the previous game, please enter the field for the upcoming game through the outfield gates.

During The Game

- ❖ Dugouts will be limited to coaches, and the on-deck and in the hole batters. The bleachers on either side of the dugouts will be used as the dugout for the remaining players. Coaches will be allowed in the dugouts to assist flow of the game.
- ❖ No spitting, sunflower seeds, peanuts, or gum.
- ❖ The home plate umpire will be positioned 6 feet behind the pitcher.
- ❖ Participants (including umpires) inside the field of play are not required to wear a face covering, but may be worn as desired.

Post Game

- ❖ Post game handshakes between teams are prohibited, we ask rather that teams stand in front of their respective dugouts and tip their caps to the opposing team and their fans.
- ❖ Post game team meetings will be prohibited on the field of play.

Spectators

- ❖ Spectators will stand in the outfield of each field, maintaining at least 6 feet of separation between themselves and other families who are also watching the games.
- ❖ To limit the total number of people at the complex we are requiring that each player have no more than 2 spectators accompany them.

Food, Beverage, and Concessions

- ❖ Outdoor dining areas will be closed at this time.
- ❖ Concession lines will be ordered and separated according to the CDC and state/local guide- lines.
- ❖ Bottled drinks and pre-packaged goods will be served at this time, and

a mask is required when in line and ordering at the concessions stand.

Restrooms

- ❖ Indoor restrooms will be available in 2 locations:
 - behind the concessions stand
 - inside the indoor building (Flanagan Center)
- ❖ Portable restrooms will be placed throughout the complex.

Moving Forward

- ❖ Throughout the season as medical and government guidance changes, our Return to Play policies will continue to evolve. All updates will be communicated to participants in advance of their events.
- ❖ Return to play policies will have the most recently updates version available on our website,
<https://leagues.bluesombrero.com/nellbaseball/>
- ❖ NELL directors and volunteers will be on site to help guide all players, coaches, and parents in providing a safe and enjoyable experience at Newtown Edgmont Little League.

Thank you in advance for your adherence and careful review of the above guidelines.



Daren Grande
President, Board of DirectORS