

**Demotte Little League  
Safety Plan  
2019**



**Updated Jan 2019**

## Emergency Contacts and Phone Numbers

All managers and coaches are encouraged by the league to bring a cell phone to practice with them.

**POLICE: 911**

**FIRE: 911**

**AMBULANCE: 911**

**Poison Information (Indiana): 800-222-1222**

**National Response Center (Hazardous Spills): 800-424-8802**

### **Board Members**

Dan Beauchamp, President	203-631-3119	demottellpres@gmail.com
Angie Hemphill, Safety Officer	219-484-8966	safety@demottelittleleague.com
Jennifer Steele, Secretary	219-741-2282	demottellsec@gmail.com
Brenna Dixon, Treasurer	219-688-8436	demottelltreasurer@gmail.com
Sara Beauchamp, Information Officer	317-435-9185	admin@demottelittleleague.com
Robbie Steele, VP of Softball	219-741-2720	
Jeffrey Chicki, VP of Baseball	219-309-6123	
Scott Eriks, Player Agent	219-956-4978	
Dave Wood, Umpire in Chief	219-671-7296	
Anthony Dixon, Equipment Manager	219-688-5232	
Sammie Eriks, Uniforms Manager	219-987-7200	
Matt Hemphill, Groundskeeper	219-484-8966	
Kate Przybylski, Fundraiser	219-688-3132	
Bill Gidley, Coaching Coordinator	219-730-1138	
Laura Plikuhn, Marketing/PR	219-895-6813	

## **Demotte Little League Safety Mission Statement**

It is the purpose of Demotte Little League to provide a safe environment for children to learn the fundamentals of baseball and softball through education, safety practices, proper equipment, and following the current safety standards set forth by the Little League organization.

## **Little League Pledge**

I trust in God  
I love my country and will respect its laws.  
I will play fair and strive to win.  
But win or lose, I will always do my best.

## **Little League Parent / Volunteer Pledge**

I will teach all children to play fair and do their best.  
I will positively support all managers, coaches and players.  
I will respect the decision of the umpires.  
I will praise a good effort despite the outcome of the game.

## **Safety Manual**

It is the intent of the DLL board to save resources and money, therefore copies of DLL's safety manual is primarily distributed electronically. A copy is available on our website at [www.demottelittleleague.com](http://www.demottelittleleague.com) under "2019 Information" and a link will be e-mailed to every player's parent, as well as board members, coaches, managers, umpires, and other volunteers. Additionally, hard copies of the safety manual are available from the concession stand or by contacting DeMotte Little League's Safety Officer ([safety@demottelittleleague.com](mailto:safety@demottelittleleague.com)).

## **Concession Safety Procedures**

DLL provides to our concession stand workers safety procedures to run and work the stand safely. The concession manager is trained in food handling, preparation procedures and instructs workers how to safely work all machines. Equipment is inspected on a regular basis. A copy of the annual safety report is kept in the stand with a first aid kit, posters, and emergency phone list and flyers on hand washing and the 12 steps to sanitary food service. At least 1 adult and 1 board must be on the property at all times during concession stand operation.

## **Volunteer Application Forms**

It is a Little League policy that all managers, coaches, board members, and any other persons, volunteers or hired workers, who provide regular service to the league and/or have repetitive access to or contact with players or teams must fill out Volunteer Application Form as well as provide a government-issued photo identification card for ID verification. DLL will perform a nationwide background check in accordance with Little League requirements. Anyone refusing to submit to a background check will not be accepted as a volunteer for the DLL.

DeMotte Little League's Volunteer Application form is online and can be found at [www.demottelittleleague.org](http://www.demottelittleleague.org). The online volunteer application will trigger the start to a background check, also completed online. The company to complete the background checks is JDP out of Pittsburg, PA. DeMotte Little League will no longer need to collect the applicant's personal information.

If DeMotte Little League learns that an individual has been convicted of, or pled guilty to, a crime involving or against a minor, the league must verify with the applicable government agency for confirmation. Once confirmed, that individual may not participate with DeMotte Little League in any manner.

## **Bullying, Hazing & Harassment**

DeMotte Little League desires to provide a safe environment that allows all members equal access and opportunity for all elements of playing, coaching and managing baseball and softball. DeMotte Little League prohibits unlawful discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying of any DeMotte member based on the actual race, color, ancestry, national origin, ethnic group identification, age, religion, marital or parental status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, or gender expression; the perception of one or more of such characteristics; or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics.

Prohibited discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying includes physical, verbal, nonverbal or written conduct based on one of the categories listed above that is so severe and pervasive that it affects a member's ability to participate in or benefit from practice, game or activity; creates an intimidating, threatening, hostile, or offensive environment; has the effect of substantially or unreasonably interfering with a members performance, or otherwise adversely affect a member's opportunity.

DeMotte Little League also prohibits any form of retaliation against any member who files a complaint or report regarding an incident of discrimination, harassment, intimidation or bullying.

## **Fundamental Coaching and First Aid Training**

Fundamental coaches training will be held on April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019, for all managers and coaches. Additional training sessions will be available and required by the DLL for the purpose of strengthening the fundamentals within the league.

Topics to be discussed during the fundamental training session include:

- Discussing the code of conduct with players and parents
- DLL policy regarding rain and lightning safety
- Changes in Little League rules
- Practice and game scheduling
- Coaching the Fundamentals (hitting, sliding, fielding, pitching, etc)
- First Aid basics and accident reporting

At least one coach or manger from each team must attend the training.

## **Umpire Training**

Umpire training will be held April 13<sup>th</sup> at DeMotte Little League. In addition to providing instruction on serving as an umpire, the following will be specifically discussed:

- DLL policy regarding rain and lightning safety
- Changes in Little League rules
- Daily inspection of field conditions
- Specific discussion on enforcing Little League rules at all times, particularly important or frequently misunderstood Little League safety guidelines such as
  - Rule 3.09: Coaches and managers are not allowed to catch/warm-up pitchers; this includes standing at the backstop during practice as an informal catcher for batting practice
  - Required player equipment and safety gear including catchers warming up on the field

## **Daily Field Conditions Check**

- Prior to the start of every game a field inspection must be made with the coaches of each team and the umpire for the purpose of identifying any unsafe areas on the field. All safety issues or facilities matters requiring correction should be noted on a Field Safety and Maintenance request form. All forms should be brought to the Officer of the Day; any issues that require immediate attention will be resolved or the game will be moved to another field. The Officer of the Day, along with the rest of the Board of Directors, will ensure prompt attention to all facilities issues.
- The home team is responsible for the set-up of the field of play and for raking the field after the game.

## **Equipment Inspection**

- The game's umpire prior to the start of each game will inspect equipment. League equipment that is found to be out of compliance shall be confiscated by the umpire and can be replaced by contacting the Equipment Manager, or Officer of the Day. This equipment will be repaired if possible, or thrown away if not able to be fixed. Any equipment thrown away shall be tracked by the Equipment Manager and reported to the board of directors in a year-end report to ensure that is replaced for the next season.
- Equipment owned by league players that are not safe will be removed from the field of play and will not be allowed for use until the equipment is replaced or compliant with the rules of safe equipment.
- The DLL will make umpire safety equipment available for use that has been inspected by the Equipment Officer. All borrowed equipment must be returned to the Officer of the Day upon completion of the game.

## **Protective Equipment**

- DLL encourages the use of protective athletic cups. Managers and coaches are strongly encouraged make a habit of insuring that all male players are equipped with a cup prior to play. DLL requires a protective athletic cup be worn on any player playing the position of catcher in any level of league play. Failure to do so will result in an immediate stopping of the game until compliance is made.
- DLL also recognizes that injuries can occur to the mouth while participating in baseball or softball and encourages the use of mouth guards and face guards on batting helmets.
- DLL recognizes the importance of safety and encourages the use of face guards on batting helmets.
- DLL provides reduced impact balls to Tee Ball and Pee Wee baseball divisions to ensure the safety of the young players. New balls are used at the beginning of each game throughout the league.
- DLL has equipped all fields with breakaway bases in accordance with Little League.
- DLL has also provided the spectators with all around fencing for their safety from foul balls.
- Cellular phones will be available for use in the event of an emergency during games, by contacting the officer of the day.

## **Hazardous Weather**

- The Officer of the Day uses the WeatherBug smartphone application to track lightning strikes and other potentially hazardous weather conditions. Board members, managers, coaches, players, and spectators will be required to comply with safety measures regarding the stopping of games related to lightening or inclement weather.

## **Enforcement of Little League Rules**

- DLL will enforce all Little League rules as set forth by Little League International. These rules are to be followed during games and for practices. As a reminder, managers, coaches and parents may not warm-up pitchers between innings or at the start of games, either formally or informally. This includes standing at the backstop and stopping balls that are pitched.
- Pitchers may not warm-up outside the playing field, as this is a hazard to spectators. All catchers must be appropriately attired in catcher's gear to warm-up pitchers, not just a catcher's helmet.

## **First Aid Kits**

- First aid kits will be available to every team and will be distributed at the start of the season. Medical release forms for every child are also to be present at every practice and game as mandated by Little League International. First aid kits also contain Accident Reporting forms.
- Spot checks will be made by the Safety Officer, the League President, or the Officer of the day to ensure that each team is bringing their first aid kits to every practice and game. Teams in violation will be asked to suspend play until first aid kits and medical release forms are present with the team. It is not the league's intention to interfere with the play of games; however, it is extremely important to have these items present so that injuries can be addressed in a timely manner.
- Replacement of kit items are available at the concession stand and are available from any board member, or by contacting the safety officer.

## **Accident Reporting/Tracking**

All accidents must be reported to the safety officer within 48 hours of incident. Proper forms must be filled out and turned in promptly. Forms are available in each first aid kit, in the concession stand, and are also available through the Little League website. Any "near misses" should be reported to the safety officer for tracking so that safety practices may be evaluated and changed as necessary. Near misses include minor injuries not requiring medical attention that involve any player, manager, coach, official, or spectator.

## Demotte Little League 2019 Safety Goals

1. **Officer of the Day:** DLL will have an officer of the day program to allow managers, coaches, spectators, umpires, and players access to a board member on any game day. The Officer of the Day will be required to carry at all times a working cellular phone in case of emergency, and the phone number will be posted at the concession stand with the schedule. All incidents, accidents, and problems shall be addressed by the Officer of the Day. All non-umpires related disputes will be handled by the Officer of the Day. Officer of the Day will also be responsible for monitoring for lightning strikes and ensuring lightning procedures are followed.
2. **Injury Reporting:** Team managers will report in a timely manner all injuries to either the Officer of the Day or the Safety Officer. Appropriate paperwork will be filled out and returned to the Insurance Company within two weeks. Team managers will be made aware of the importance of this deadline. Paperwork will be available in the concession stand during every game.
3. **Compliance with Town of DeMotte rules and regulations for Field of Dreams Park,** including no smoking and no pets.
4. **Significant improvements to the safety of our facilities** including:
  - Cutting back and removal excess grass from home plate area, baselines, and back of the infield
  - Replacement of infield materials to raise and level the field of play, including in the home plate area
  - Maintenance/repair of pitching mounds to bring them to the proper height and specifications
  - Repairs to gates and fences
  - Repairs to player benches in dugouts including replacement of worn wood, corrections to the bench heights, and repainting where necessary
  - Replacement of signage that promotes safety and Code of Conduct

## Code of Conduct

No board member, manager, coach, player, or spectator shall:

- At any time, lay a hand upon, push, shove, strike, or threaten to strike an official.
- Be guilty of exhibiting personal, verbal or physical abuse upon any official for any real or imaginary belief of a wrong decision or judgment.
- Be guilty of an objectionable demonstration of dissent at an official's decision by throwing of gloves, helmets, hats, bats, balls or any other forceful, un-sportsman-like action.
- Be guilty of using unnecessarily rough tactics in the play of a game against the body of another player.
- Be guilty of a physical attack upon board member, official, manager, coach, player, or spectator.
- Be guilty of the use of profane, obscene, or vulgar language in any manner at any time.
- Appear at the field of play, stands, or anywhere on the DLL complex while in an intoxicated state at any time. Intoxication will be defined as an odor of alcohol or behavioral display.
- Be guilty of gambling upon any play or outcome of any game with anyone at any time.
- Smoke while in the stands, on the playing field, or in any dugout at any time.
- Be guilty of discussing publicly with spectators in a derogatory or abusive manner any play, decision, or personal opinion on any players during the game.
- As a manager or coach be guilty of mingling with or fraternizing with spectators during the course of the game.
- Speak disrespectfully to any manager, coach, official, or representative of the league.
- Be guilty of tampering or manipulation of any league rosters, schedule, draft positions or selection, official score books, rankings, financial records or procedures.
- Shall challenge an umpire's authority. The umpires shall have the authority and discretion during a game to penalize the offender according to the infraction up to and including removal from the game.

**The Board of Directors will review all infractions of the DLL Code of Conduct. Depending on the seriousness or frequency, the board may assess additional disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from the league.**

## **Concession Stand Safety**

The Concession Director of the league will be knowledgeable of the following:

- Agents that cause food-borne illnesses
- Personal Hygiene
- Safe practices for handling and preparing food
- Cleaning and sanitation of food service equipment and utensils
- Food stand facilities

Our league has the following safety rules in place regarding the concession stand:

- No person under the age of 18 will be allowed to work the grill.
- People working in the concession stands will follow Safe Food Preparation measures.
- Cooking equipment will be inspected periodically and repaired or replaced, if needed.
- Propane tanks are turned off each night and stored inside the locked concession stand.
- Cooking grease will be stored safely in containers away from open flames.
- A Certified Fire Extinguisher suitable for grease fires must be placed in plain sight at all times. The Concession Manager is instructed in the use of fire extinguishers.
- A fully stocked First Aid Kit will be placed in each Concession Stand.
- The Concession Stand main entrance door will not be locked or blocked while people are inside.
- Hand washing will be followed by all volunteers on a frequent basis when handling food.