



February 9, 2021

Dear WRL Families,

First and foremost the Board of Directors would like to thank all of you for your commitment to Wilshire Riverside Little League during this roller coaster ride over the last 12 months. In light of the covid-19 pandemic, we wanted to send a letter to provide safety and general guidance about the upcoming Spring season.

We are not epidemiologists, so we can only rely on the guidance provided by experts in making the decision to provide a baseball season and in how to keep our families as safe as possible.

At this time we are pleased to report that we intend to have a Spring 2021 baseball season. Youth baseball is an important outlet for our kids' physical and emotional health. Baseball is deemed a "minimal or moderate" contact sport. Portland parks are being permitted, and youth baseball is allowed under current state and local covid-19 guidance, although it will look a little different than what we are all accustomed to. Importantly, we are moving in lock-step with our neighboring little leagues.

I. General Guidance

The league and its families acknowledge there is a degree of Covid-19 related risk when we gather in groups to play, coach and spectate youth baseball. Some families may be uncomfortable taking this risk, and may choose not to register for the Spring 2021 season.

All families registering for the Spring 2021 season will need to do their part to help minimize the risk of spreading covid-19. As such, families need to take some time and review all guidance contained in this document, including the information in all internet links. The league will invite all WRL families to a virtual meeting in mid-February, where we will discuss safety measures and host a Q&A session.

We reserve the right to update our guidance in the future, in response to changes from governing covid-19 authorities.

II. Covid-19 Authorities

In addition to following the guidance of Little League International (LLI) and the Oregon Schools Activities Association (OSAA), WRL will follow all pertinent guidance from experts in the medical community. These primarily include:

1. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) - [Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) | CDC](#)
2. Oregon Health Authority (OHA) - [OHA 2351E Sector Guidance – Outdoor Recreation and Outdoor Fitness Establishments \(state.or.us\)](#)
<https://sharedsystems.dhsoha.state.or.us/DHSForms/Served/le2351E.pdf>
3. Multnomah County - <https://coronavirus.oregon.gov/Pages/living-with-covid-19.aspx>



III. **Safety Guidelines**

1. All players, coaches and spectators must wear masks at all times.
 - a. Coaches and parents will require mask wearing for all coaches/players/spectators, regardless of personal beliefs.
 - b. If a player is not following safety rules, coaching staff may remove the player from a team temporarily (or permanently if the issue persists).
 - c. Any non-compliance instances will be reported to the league at wilshireriversidell@gmail.com.
2. Spectators should maintain social distancing. No spectators in the bleachers behind home plate. Instead they should spread out down the outfield lines, or beyond the outfield fence.
3. Teams will keep participant logs for practices and games, to support potential contact tracing efforts with the local public health authority (LPHA).
4. Anyone with onset of fever (100.4 degrees or higher), new cough, or other symptoms suggestive of Covid-19 is prohibited from the field for a minimum of 72 hours following resolution of fever and a minimum of 10 days from onset of symptoms.
5. WRLC strongly encourages those at higher risk for severe COVID-19 complications (persons over age 65 or with underlying medical conditions) to stay home to reduce their risk of exposure.
6. Non-essential out of state travel is discouraged.
7. If any player or coach contracts COVID-19, his or her team will pause for a period of time, following OHA guidelines. Unfortunately the league cannot offer refunds if this happens.
8. Any player or coach exposed (indoors and maskless) to someone with COVID-19 must stay home for a period of 10 days, but the team needn't shut down for this type of scenario (2 degrees of separation).
9. Any COVID-19 related exposure or symptoms must be reported to the coaching staff and the league (wilshireriversidell@gmail.com).
10. Teams will advise and encourage frequent handwashing/sanitizing, and will sanitize bathrooms (where applicable) after each game/practice.
11. Kids must use their own helmet. Riverside has gently used helmets available for those who need one. Just ask.
12. Teams will sanitize shared equipment after each practice/game.
13. T-Ball and Single A will not utilize the Catcher position, to reduce spread of germs via equipment. Majors, Minors and Double A will sanitize the catcher's mask between each player's usage.
14. No shared water bottles, no seeds and no spitting. Snacks are discouraged, and should be consumed at a safe distance from others if necessary.
15. No postgame cheer/handshakes. Instead, line up on foul lines and tip your caps to the opponent and the umpires.

IV. **Guidance for Coaches**

Coaches for each team should name a safety coordinator to oversee sanitizing efforts, participant logs and other safety measures.

- Safety coordinator will be a coach or other parent, and must register with the league and be background checked by WRLC.
- Duties to include: encourage handwashing and/or sanitizing; completion of participant logs; sanitizing shared equipment after each practice/game, and oversee adherence to safety guidelines.



V. Questions / Concerns?

While WRL is taking appropriate steps to help ensure everyone's safety, families must do their part (for instance: staying away when sick, reporting COVID-19 related exposure to the coach and league, making safe decisions regarding overall group size, etc).

The league will invite all WRL families to a virtual meeting in mid-February, where we will discuss safety measures and host a Q&A session.

We look forward to seeing your kids' smiling faces (behind their masks) on the field very soon!

Please contact wilshiriversidell@gmail.com with other questions.

Sincerely,

WRL Board