

# Magnolia Little League Seattle, WA

Return to Play Plan

2021



# Mission Statement

The mission of Magnolia Little League (MLL) is to function as a volunteer organization which fosters the development of competitive baseball and softball skills. Our League, as embodied by its volunteers, strives to have its players intertwine sportsmanship, cooperative interaction, and safety consciousness with the acquisition of athletic proficiency in the games of baseball and softball. To further this mission, MLL is striving to adopt a culture of safety in all its baseball and softball activities.



# A Culture of Safety

Magnolia Little League takes safety seriously. To further our commitment to safety and to further our stated mission, MLL works to create and maintain a culture of safety within our organization.

With the full support of the Board of Directors, MLL has adopted a SAFETY FIRST approach toward all our activities. We achieve a culture of safety through the following:

- This MLL Return to Play Plan
- MLL Safety Plan
- Safety Discussions at all Meetings
- Annual Safety Clinic
- Incident Tracking and Reporting
- Periodic safety updates to our membership
- A commitment to the Safety Code



# Return to Play Plan

The Magnolia Little League will follow local and state health guidelines, and the adopted District 8 RTP Plan for Inter-League play. In addition, the League will be applying the “Best Practices on Organizing, Playing, And Watching Little League® Baseball and Softball During the Coronavirus Pandemic” provided by Little League International. See the following link:

<https://www.littleleague.org/player-safety/coronavirus-update/season-resumption-guide/best-practices/organizing-playing-watching-games/>

What follows are additional MLL guidelines to help with implementing the best practices referenced above. These MLL guidelines are in addition to, and do not replace, the guidance from Little League International, District 8, or local and state health guidelines.



# Definitions

**MLL:** Magnolia Little League

**Events:** Any activity associated with Magnolia Little League. Including, but not limited to, practices, games, meetings, team photos, parades, and home run derby.

**Volunteer:** Any non-player who interacts with players at Events or performs actions away from Events in support of the MLL.

**Reservation:** Time allocated/reserved for MLL event



# Training & Implementation

1. Players, Volunteers, and parents will review and understand the Return to Play Plan prior to the start of the season. The MLL Board will conduct training for all coaches, managers, and volunteers.
2. Coaches will make the implementation of this Return to Play Plan part of regular communication with parents, team volunteers, and players.



# General Requirements

1. Volunteers and parents/caregivers are responsible for screening themselves and their players for sickness, COVID-19 symptoms, and verifying health and wellbeing in advance of any Event. In addition, Health Check functions will be available in Team Manager App for each event and all players and Volunteers are strongly encouraged to use them.
2. Stay home when sick or if in close contact of someone with COVID-19. Players, coaches, umpires, spectators and any Volunteer are required to stay home if they feel unwell, show any signs of COVID-19, or are in close contact of a confirmed case. Any person with symptoms of COVID-19 or who is in close contact of someone with confirmed COVID-19 is not allowed to participate in Events and should contact his or her primary care provider or other appropriate health-care professional. Those who are excluded from Events due to COVID-19 symptoms or because they are close contacts must follow DOH and local public health isolation and quarantine guidance before returning to Events. People with underlying health conditions should consult with their medical provider regarding participation.



# General Requirements

3. If anyone is suspected to be unwell at an Event, or have COVID-19 symptoms, it is recommended they immediately be removed from the event and isolated from others. Players are recommended to be isolated from others until their parent or caregiver can assess them and transport them (if needed) from the Event.
4. Players, coaches, umpires, and Volunteers are required to practice good hygiene including washing their hands frequently and covering their sneezes and coughs. Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds before and after practice, especially after touching shared objects or blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth. If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains 60-95% alcohol content. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they are dry. No one should share water bottles, uniforms, towels, or snacks and should not spit (saliva, sunflower seeds, etc.).



# General Requirements

5. Players, Volunteers, umpires, and spectators must all wear face masks directly before, during, and directly after all Events.
6. No contact is allowed between coaches, players, umpires, spectators, and Volunteers at Events. The only contact allowed is what is required for the players to play the game.
7. Players and Volunteers will need to bring personal hand sanitizer to events. Everyone will clean/sanitize their hands before joining Events, as needed during Events, and immediately following Events. Teams will also be provided with hand sanitizers and be made available for players and Volunteers to use.



# General Requirements

8. Entering and leaving the playfield: Players and coaches may not enter the playfield until the start of the reservation time, and no equipment can be brought to the field until the start of the reservation. Waiting on the sidelines prior to the start of the reservation is not allowed. All players, volunteers, spectators, and coaches must vacate the field within 10 minutes of the end of the reservation.
9. When available, must use bathroom provided at your designated field (Please do not que and maintain 6 ft buffer around the door)



# Player Requirements

1. Players need to have their own equipment that is clearly marked. There will not be any shared equipment, clothing, food, or water.
2. For non-player pitch divisions, there will not be a player in the catcher position. For player pitch Divisions, players on each team will be designated as catchers and can be provided MLL catcher equipment to use for the season. Only the designated player may use the MLL provided catcher equipment. Intermediates, Junior, and Seniors players will use their own catching equipment.
3. No contact with coaches, volunteers, or umpires is allowed. Only contact between players that is required for the game is allowed.
4. Six feet of distance will be maintained from others when not engaged in activities (including sideline and dugout areas). Huddles and team meetings must be physically distanced. Players are to maintain 6ft social distance when possible on-field, including while returning to the dugout.
5. Players to use hand sanitizer after coming off the field every inning, or after contacting another player's equipment.
6. Personal bags will be stored off the field and will maintain six feet of space.
7. Players to clean up after themselves, remove any garbage or debris left on field or dugout.



# Coach Requirements

1. Ensure that all participants adhere to all requirements.
2. Coaches to keep record (recommended w/Team Manager App) of Event attendance to assist with contact tracing.
3. Six feet of distance will be maintained from others to the extent possible. Huddles and team meetings must be physically distanced. No contact with others is allowed.
4. In the event another player needs to use catching equipment it will be thoroughly sanitized by coaches in according to CDC disinfection cleaning procedures.
5. Team or personal equipment bags will maintain six feet of space from player bags.
6. All equipment and garbage must be removed from the field, and shared field equipment cleaned before leaving field.
7. Post game snacks are not allowed, and team parties are discouraged.



# Travel and Spectating

1. To the extent feasible, spectating should be minimized. Until further guidance is provided stating otherwise, only one parent/guardian/caregiver spectator is allowed for each minor-aged player. No more than 50 total people may be at a single Event. Parents and caregivers are encouraged to remain in their vehicles during pick up and drop of at events and minimize interactions with other players, parents, or Volunteers.
2. Physical distance of 6 feet must be maintained between spectators, volunteers, and players at all times with exceptions for training and medical personnel and Volunteers performing their medical duties. Spectators are not allowed in dugouts, or on the field.
3. Limit exposure to those outside the household unit during travel to events. Only those in the same household should travel together, and if not in the same household, travel in separate vehicles if possible.



# Practice Procedures

1. Practice group sizes, and intra-team scrimmaging will be in accordance with State Guidelines at the time of play.
2. Practices and warmups will avoid placing players and volunteers in small confined groups or lines. Drills and exercises that are designed to maintain six feet of space will be used.



# Game Procedures

1. Inter-league and intra-league games, and tournament play will be in accordance with State Guidelines at the time of play.
2. Warmups will avoid placing players and volunteers in small confined groups or lines.
3. No lineups exchanged or plate meetings (Any field issues or irregular ground rules should be shared via e-mail prior to game). Equipment checks will be performed visually by the umpire. On-field meetings should include no more than 2 players / coaches while maintaining 6 ft social distancing
4. “Home Plate Umpires” will be positioned a minimum of six feet behind the pitcher and maintain a six-foot distance from players at all times.



# Game Procedures

5. Limit of 3 players in a dugout at a time, with remainder in designated spots on bleachers or along the fence. Players will rotate into dugouts as necessary.
6. One coach must always be in dugout.
7. A coach will retrieve the player's bat by the bat head (Not the bat handle) after an at bat.
8. Each team will be required to provide their own game balls for use when their team is on-field playing defense. Including extras for foul balls (A coach is required to provide players with a game ball after an out-of-play foul ball)



# End of Event & Off the Field Guidance

1. Players and parents disinfect personal equipment according to CDC disinfection guidelines following Events.
2. All trainings and meetings related to the MLL will follow public health guidelines for gatherings.
3. Social gatherings of teams outside of MLL Events are recommended to be conducted according to local health guidelines.



# In the Event of Possible Exposure

1. Anyone who suspects they have COVID-19, been confirmed with COVID-19, or was in close contact with someone with confirmed COVID-19 and attended an Event, will need to notify team coach, MLL President, and MLL Safety Officer.
2. Coaches to keep record (recommended w/Team Manager App) of Event attendance to assist with contact tracing.
3. MLL Safety Officer to inform people who were in close contact about their exposure while maintaining confidentiality.
4. MLL Safety Officer to report to Public Health Officials about suspected cases of COVID-19.



# Team Supply List

Each team will be provided with sanitation supplies, and they will be used in accordance with the LL International, CDC, and local health guidelines. The MLL will work with teams to resupply items throughout the season.

- Disinfectant Wipes
- Disinfectant spray
- Paper Towels
- Hand sanitizer

