



The Lawrence Township Junior Baseball & Softball Association (LTJBSA) supports hundreds of youth players playing both recreational and travel baseball and softball. The LTJBSA supports Babe Ruth, Little League and USABL baseball organizations along with Little League, ASA, USSSA and Pony Leagues for softball. The LTJBSA and each sub organization is run by its own Board of Directors. The LTJBSA oversees the operations of each program and is responsible for coordinating field and facility scheduling, maintenance and operations. The LTJBSA.

As 2020 has brought uncertain times for youth sports, we must try to plan for the next phase of recreational baseball and softball while following Federal, State, Local guidelines. LTJBSA respective board members have reviewed guidance from several youth sports governing bodies to create a method to start practices and play for our youth. The board members realize regulations may ease in the coming weeks, but we must make plans to deal with regulations set forth. As the Federal, State and Local Guidelines start to relax, The LTJBSA will adjust to meet or exceed the strictest of plans.

We respectfully submit the attached plan for consideration which will address facility and field guidelines for practice and play.



## LTJBSA Facility

## Plans

- All Federal, State and Local Guidelines will be followed for practices and games.
- All Facility Equipment including, tables, doorknobs, switches, handles, facility equipment, dugouts, bathrooms and baseballs/softballs will be disinfected with EPA approved solution before every practice and game.
- Any Coach, Parent or Player that has a fever, cough or COVID 19 symptoms must refrain from practices and games.
- Any Coach, Player or Parent that has been exposed must be medically cleared before attending a practice or game.
- All Coaches, Players and Parents are encouraged to wear masks while entering the facilities and/or practice social distancing by remaining 6 feet from other Coaches, Players or Parents.
- Sufficient time will be allowed between practices and games for coaches, players and parents to leave the complex before the next scheduled practice or game can commence.
- Players and parents are encouraged to not arrive for practice or game no earlier than 30 minutes prior.
- Practices and games will be staggered to allow social distancing for dropoff and pickup of players.
- Parking for Babe Ruth players and coaches will be near the Pezzicola field only.
- Parking for Little League Baseball fields will be in the southeast parking lot near the baseball fields only (not the back parking lot near softball fields).
- Parking for Softball will be in the Northeast parking lot only near Colavita Field only. Parents are not permitted to remain at practice.
- Practices will be staggered to limit the amount of people and prevent crowds.
- Coaches will sanitize dugouts and gates entering fields with EPA approved sanitizer.
- Hand Sanitizer will be placed in or around dugouts for coach and players.
- LTJBSA indoor facility and bathrooms will remain closed to players and parents during practices,



- The outdoor bathrooms near Colavita Field will remain closed until Lawrence Township Health Department allows them to open. When allowed, the bathrooms will follow the same procedures as indoor facility bathrooms.
  - Access to indoor bathrooms will be limited to one person at a time.
  - Bathrooms will be disinfected before first practice/game each day and in between each practice/game with an EPA approve solution.
  - Public water fountains will be turned off until approved by Lawrence Township Department of Health.
  
- Coaches, Players and Parents must not share refreshments or food.
- Only Coaches and Players will be permitted on fields dugouts during practices.
- Parent attendance to practices is discouraged but any parent that chooses to stay must follow social distancing and remain 6 feet apart.
- MSDS for EPA approved solution will be kept in President's Office and saved to [www.ltjbsa.com](http://www.ltjbsa.com) website for availability.
- Concession stands will remain closed until the Lawrence Township Department of Health approves opening.
- Score boards will not be operational during games at any field until distancing rules have been relaxed by Federal, State or Local government.
- All press boxes will be closed and locked during games.



## LTJBSA Practice Procedures

- Practice Procedures will cover Little League Baseball and Softball, Babe Ruth Baseball and Travel Baseball/Softball leagues that use the LTJBSA facilities and fields.
- Practices will start on July 1<sup>st</sup>.
- All facility guidelines will be followed during practices.
- If any coach, player or parent have a fever, cough or signs of COVID 19, they must be medically cleared before entering facility or interacting at LTJSBSA facilities.
- Coaches, players and parents are encouraged to wear masks entering and exiting fields and facility.
- Coaches are encouraged to wear masks during practices.
- Indoor facilities including bathrooms will remain closed during practices.
- Dugouts will not be used during practices.
- Only coaches and players allowed on fields during practices.
- Hand Sanitizer will be either on outside of or near dugouts for use during practices.
- Players will keep gear outside of fence on foul lines with social distancing rules at 6 feet apart.
- Gear may not be shared, each player must provide their own bat, glove and helmet.
- Balls will be sanitized with EPA approved solution between each practice.
- Coaches and players must provide their own drinks and refreshments. Neither shall be shared.
- Gum and seeds are prohibited during practices.
- Shaking hands, fist bumps or player touching is prohibited as forms of expression during practices.
- No team huddles or meetings will be held before practices.
- Coaches only will rake fields between game.
- Teams may not enter a field until the previous team has exited.
- Temperature Checks and a completed Health Questionnaire will be required for each player & coach



## LTJBSA Game Procedures

Game Procedures will cover Little League Baseball and Softball, Babe Ruth Baseball and Travel Baseball/Softball leagues that use the LTJBSA facilities and fields.

- Games may start on July 1<sup>st</sup>.
- All facility guidelines will be followed during games.
- If any coach, player or parent have a fever, cough or signs of COVID 19, they must be medically cleared before entering facility or interacting at LTJSBSA facilities.
- Coaches, players and parents are encouraged to wear masks entering and exiting fields and facility.
- Coaches are encouraged to wear masks during games.
- LTJBSA indoor bathroom facilities will open.
- Unless assistance is required. Only 1 person in each bathroom at a time. The line for the cage restrooms will be outside the facility. The facility at the softball field will remain closed during games until the Lawrence Township Department of Health approves the opening.
- When outdoor bathrooms are open, the procedures will follow indoor bathroom procedures.
- Concession Stand will be closed until the Lawrence Township Department of Health approves the opening.
- Bathroom Facilities will be sanitized with an EPA approved solution before every game and after last game unless needed more often.
- Score boards will not be operational during games at any field until distancing rules have been relaxed by Federal, State or Local government.
- All press boxes will be closed and locked during games.
- Each team shall use a score book or game changer to keep track of outs and batter.
- Each team shall keep a pitch count for their pitcher and report to the other team at the end of their half inning
- Due to the proximity of Hughes Field and Grant Field, games will not be scheduled during the same time.
- Due to maximum crowd size and social distancing guidelines, spectators shall be limited to immediate family members or care givers.
- There will only be 1 coach and 2 players allowed in the dugout at a time.
- Hughes field bleachers on the outfield side of the dugouts are reserved for players.
- Temperature Checks and a Health Questionnaire will be required for each player & coach



- Players on Carroll field shall sit or stand down the foul fence on both sides of the field.
- Grant field players on the first base side will sit or stand down the foul fence and on the third base side will be in the bleachers. They shall maintain all social distancing guidelines.
- On all baseball fields, player gear will be kept down the foul fence on the outside of the fields spaced out with social distancing
- Players in the bleachers, down the foul fence or in the dugout are encouraged to use face coverings and/or practice social distancing.
- Coaches and Spectators over 4 are encouraged to use face covering and/or practice social distancing during the entire game.
- Mound visits shall consist of 1 coach, catcher and pitcher. Maintaining social distancing guidelines.
- Base coaches shall maintain social distancing guidelines. Right now that is 6’.
- Refrain from shaking hands, fist bumps or high fives before, during and after games.
- To limit the number of people using equipment, coaches shall rake and line the fields.
- Equipment used shall be wiped down with a bleach based product (ie.Clorox Wipes) when finished. This can be coaches from both Home and away teams.
- Teams must wait until prior team is completely off the field before they take the field. Arrival times should not be any earlier than 20 min. prior to game time. This time should be used to stretch and loosen up arms.
- When games are completed, coaches shall wipe down or spray dugouts, all gates, latches, bleachers and touch surfaces with EPA approved solution.
- Each team shall use a score book or game changer to keep track of outs and batter
- Colavita Field will be for softball players only.
- Softball players will line their gear outside the fences by the backstop.
- Spectators shall be limited to immediate family members or care givers because of social distancing guidelines.



### **Gametime ball rules:**

- Teams will use their team's baseball/softball during their defensive inning and each ball should be sanitized before returning to play.
- Rotate baseballs and softballs every 2 innings if not done so due to foul balls.
- Foul balls should be retrieved by players from the current game when possible and returned to the defensive team's dugout to be sanitized with EPA approved solution.
- Players getting foul balls should use hand sanitizer upon returning to dugout area.

### **Umpires must follow proper safety rules guided by their governing body and meet the following guidelines below:**

- If physically able. wear masks at all times while on the field of play.
- Social Distance during pre-game meetings with teams and umpires.
- Limit plate meetings to only team manager from each team.
- No players during plate meetings.
- Umpire must stand behind pitcher while calling balls and strikes.
- Keep social distance in effect as much as possible.