

## LAGUNA LITTLE LEAGUE SAFETY GUIDELINES

Laguna Little League (LLL) has adopted the following safety guidelines as baseball and softball activities (practice and games) resume. The guidelines are based on the Minimum Standard Health Protocols for youth sporting activities issued by the State of Texas on May 19, 2020. While we are excited to get back to playing ball, the safety of players, spectators, and participants is top of mind. We are asking everyone to do their part in following these guidelines.

### General Dates & Guidelines

- May 31, 2020: LLL will allow teams to begin holding practices without spectators other than one parent or guardian per participant, as needed.
- June 15, 2020: LLL will begin games at LLL Fields (schedules coming soon)
- No sunflower seeds, gum chewing, any substance chewing, or spitting will be permitted at LLL Fields.

### A. Guidelines for Families (Before You Arrive at any LLL Activity)

1. Before taking a child to an LLL game or practice, screen children for any of the following new or worsening signs or symptoms.
  - a. Feeling feverish or a measured temperature greater than or equal to 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit
  - b. Cough
  - c. Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
  - d. Chills or repeated shaking with chills
  - e. Muscle pain
  - f. Headache
  - g. Sore throat
  - h. Loss of taste or smell
  - i. Diarrhea
  - j. Known close contact with a person who is lab confirmed to have COVID-19
2. If any of the above conditions are met, do not bring your child to the LLL event. Contact your Coach and let them know. Isolate any individual exhibiting new or worsening signs or symptoms of possible COVID-19 and contact the local health department.
3. Families should not allow their child, a spectator, or any participant with new or worsening signs or symptoms of COVID-19 to return to any LLL activity until:
  - a. In the case of an individual who was diagnosed with COVID-19, the individual may not return until the individual obtains a medical professional's note clearing the individual for return based on a negative nucleic acid COVID19 test and an alternative diagnosis.
  - b. In the case of an individual who has symptoms that could be COVID-19 and does not get evaluated by a medical professional or tested for COVID-19, the individual may not return to LLL activities until the following criteria are met:
    - a. At least 3 days (72 hours) have passed since recovery (resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications); and
    - b. The individual has improvement in symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath); and at least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared; or
    - c. If the individual has symptoms that could be COVID-19 and wants to return to before completing the above self-isolation period, the individual must obtain a medical

## LAGUNA LITTLE LEAGUE SAFETY GUIDELINES

professional's note clearing the individual for return based on a negative nucleic acid COVID19 test and an alternative diagnosis.

### B. Coaching Guidelines

1. All Coaches should consider wearing cloth face coverings (over the nose and mouth). If available, Coaches should consider wearing nonmedical grade face masks. Recommendation not Requirement!
2. At the start of each practice and game, Coaches should ask each parent if a player has any of the of COVID-19 symptoms or signs outlined above in section A.1. Any player with a temperature cannot practice or play. When in doubt, be conservative on preventing children with any symptoms from practicing or playing.
3. If you observe any illness in any of your players you must not allow that player or players to practice or play.
4. Contact your Division Player Agent if any questions could come up on whether something could be called an illness or not. Notify your Division Player Agent if any of your players are unable to practice or play due to COVID-19 symptoms.
5. Coaches should encourage players not to share equipment unless the equipment has been sanitized or appropriately wiped down. This is particularly the case for catcher's equipment, batting gloves, and other equipment of concern.
6. When batting at games you can only have three players and one coach in the dugout at one time. All other players must be outside the dugout socially distanced down their dugout fence line or in assigned seating areas. No bats outside around fans or other players!
7. LLL will provide sanitizer stations and/or sanitizing resources for each dugout. Coaches should encourage players to sanitize their hands as needed. Use good judgement when considering the need for sanitizing and good hygiene.
8. Coaches should take a lead in making sure players are adhering to social distance and sanitizing guidelines.
9. Please run your practices with the same guidelines.

### C. Player Guidelines

1. Players should not share water bottles or any drinking containers.
2. Players should not share playing equipment unless the equipment has been sanitized or appropriately wiped down. This is particularly the case for catcher's equipment, batting gloves, and any other equipment of concern. Use good judgement when considering the need for sanitizing and good hygiene.
3. Teams at bat will only have three players and one coach in the dugout at one time. All other players must be outside the dugout socially distanced down the fence line or seated in assigned areas. No bats outside around fans or other players!
4. Players will not no shake or slap hands with teammates or between teams. Coaches can line up kids on opposing foul lines and tip caps or find another appropriate way to show post-game sportsmanship.

### D. Umpire Guidelines

1. Ensure that before each inning, the team at bat has only three players and one coach in the dugout and that the remaining players are with their families down their respective fence lines.
2. Make every attempt to utilize an individual team ball (only to be used by one team's defensive players) and switched when alt. team takes the field.
3. Ensure that players out of the dugout do not have bats with them taking practice swings among fans.
4. Ensure that at the end of games there is no shaking or slapping hands between teammates or in between teams.

## LAGUNA LITTLE LEAGUE SAFETY GUIDELINES

5. Umpires will be key partners in following these guidelines. Use good judgement when considering the need for sanitizing and good hygiene.

### **D. Spectator Guidelines**

1. All spectators should consider wearing cloth face coverings (over the nose and mouth). If available, spectators should consider wearing non-medical grade face masks.
2. Spectators should attempt to maintain 6 feet of separation from individuals and avoid being in a group larger than 10 individuals. Within these groups, individuals should, to the extent possible, minimize in-person contact with others not in the individual's household. Spectators are asked to set examples for the children. Use good social distance and hygiene judgement. Give priority to player family members along fence lines outside dugouts. Spectators will be key partners in making these guidelines successful.
3. Be respectful of others decisions/request throughout the park. You do not have to debate or agree, but please be mindful/respectful of other's individual choices!
4. When maintaining 6 feet of separation is not feasible, other methods should be utilized to slow the spread of COVID-19, such as wearing a face covering or mask, washing or sanitizing hand frequently, and avoiding sharing utensils or other common objects.

### **E. LLL Fields Guidelines**

1. LLL will develop and implement increased daily sanitization protocols for restrooms, common surfaces, and the concession stand at LLL Fields. An LLL Board of Director will always be on duty (BOD) at the LLL Fields to ensure that health protocols are being successfully implemented and followed.
  - a. Checks to ensure areas are clean, sanitized, and have adequate safety supplies.
  - b. LLL will provide hand sanitizer stations or sanitizing resources for use throughout the LLL Fields.
  - c. If a player gets sick in a game, the BOD should be called to gather all player and family information and then send that information to the Division Player Agent.

### **F. Division Player Agent Guidelines (Each Division has a Player Agent, Information Available on LLL Webpage)**

1. Division Player Agents will receive from Coaches reports of any illness and/or COVID symptoms of players on teams.
2. When an illness or temperature is reported, ensure that the coach knows that the player cannot practice or play again until that player is released by their personal doctor or have been symptom free for 72hrs or more.
3. Lab-confirmed Covid-19 Cases need to be immediately reported to Wes Beseda (League Safety Officer), VP of Affected Division, and Coaches of positive player's Team. Personal Player information will be protected in accordance with HIPPA Laws and only incidence of Case will be noted to others on Team when needed!

LLL is taking precautionary safety measures to avoid the spread of the COVID-19. LLL parents and guardians should be aware of the enhanced risks of participants being in direct contact with anyone age 65 or older for 14 days after participating in a sports event or practice. LLL will continue to monitor the situation, and needs the help of all parents, guardians, and supporters of LLL players with this process.