



WSLL FALL 2020 COVID-19 RETURN TO PLAY PROTOCOLS

Westside Little League (WSLL) is prepared to host a Fall 2020 baseball season. These protocols have been developed to guide WSLL, parents, players, coaches, umpires, and staff as we all work together to restart youth baseball in a reasonably safe manner. WSLL will base its protocols on the information currently available and the guidance that has been provided by our national, state, county and city governments and our local health authorities. These protocols will be reviewed regularly and adjusted for effectiveness and if/when government guidance changes.

All coaches, parents, umpires, and staff will be provided with a copy of these protocols and required to self-enforce these protocols in order to attend practices and games. Parents should monitor the health of their children and refrain from sending them to participate in WSLL activities if they exhibit symptoms of COVID-19.

CRITERIA FOR ATTENDING EVENTS ASSOCIATED WITH WSLL (PRACTICES AND GAMES):

- Coaches, parents, participants, volunteers and staff should not attend events if they have had known close sustained contact with a person that is lab confirmed to have COVID-19 in the past 14 days or if they have displayed any of the following symptoms: cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, chills and/or repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, loss of taste or smell, diarrhea, feeling feverish or displaying a fever greater than or equal to 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit.
- All employees and volunteer coaches must check in with the Safety Coordinator prior to entering the park for all games. At check in, they will need to acknowledge (a) they have not had known close sustained contact with a person that is lab confirmed to have COVID-19, and (b) they do not have any of the following symptoms: cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, chills and/or repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, loss of taste or smell, diarrhea, feeling feverish or displaying a fever greater than or equal to 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit.

HEALTH PROTOCOLS FOR SPECTATORS:

- Do not congregate in groups larger than 10 individuals. Within groups, maintain 6 feet of separation from individuals not in your household. When maintaining 6 feet of separation is not feasible, face coverings should be worn over the nose and mouth.
- Those at higher risk of complications from COVID-19 are encouraged to watch games from their homes (<https://watch.fwwestside.com/>)
- In order to minimize the number of people at the ballpark, we recommend only two spectators per family attend each event per participant.



HEALTH PROTOCOLS FOR SICK PARTICIPANTS, VOLUNTEERS AND STAFF:

- Coaches, parents, volunteers, participants and staff that have attended WSL events and subsequently test positive for COVID-19 are responsible for notifying WSL and their team immediately so they can take action to prevent further spread. Anyone testing positive for COVID-19 may not return to WSL events until 72 hours have passed since the resolution of their fever without use of fever-reducing medications, their symptoms have improved, AND at least 10 days have passed since their symptoms first appeared.
- Individuals that desire to return prior to the completion of the self-isolation period must obtain a note from a medical professional clearing the individual for return to play based on a negative COVID-19 test .

ADDITIONAL WSL INITIATIVES INTENDED TO HELP PREVENT SPREAD OF COVID-19:

- Hand sanitizer will be available in dugouts, restrooms and concessions areas.
- Free masks will be available at the concessions stand.
- Restrooms and concessions will be sanitized daily.
- Every-other-row in bleachers will be closed off, and rows that remain open will be clearly marked with social distancing requirements (6+ feet between households).
- The main gate will serve as the only entrance to the park and the gate adjacent to the Colt field will be used as the only exit from the park.
- Games will only be played on 2 of the 3 fields each day to reduce the number of people at the park.
- Equipment sharing is prohibited unless sanitized between uses. There will be no catchers in Pee-Wee (as usual) or Coach Pitch (this season).
- Players will be encouraged to wear face coverings over the nose and mouth while in the dugout whenever it is not possible to maintain social distancing from other individuals not from the same household
- Coaches will be encouraged to remain in front of the dugout when it is not otherwise possible to maintain social distancing from other individuals not from the same household
- The concession stand will be open but will only offer pre-packaged food and drinks
- Sunflower seeds are prohibited.
- No tryouts will be held in any division to prevent large groups of people from having to gather at the ballpark.
- Roster sizes will be reduced to 11 players per team in Minors and Colt and 12 players per team in Pee Wee in order to minimize the number of people at the park for games.
- No in-person registration this Fall.



BEST PRACTICES

- Parents make the final decision on whether their child should participate presuming no affirmative answers to the symptom checklist.
- All spectators must follow social distancing guidelines outlined by state and local authorities and are encouraged to wash hands frequently.
- Spectators are encouraged to bring their own chairs in order to more effectively spread out.
- Post-game snacks provided by team parents are prohibited.
- No handshake lines – after games, teams will line up in front of their dugout and tip their cap toward the other team as a sign of respect for the game.

At any time during a pandemic, we may be forced into a delay or add restrictions per state and local authorities. We will do our best to keep you informed of all changes as we will comply with state and local jurisdiction.

ONLINE RESOURCES

[State of Texas – Open Texas Website](#)

[Tarrant County \(or on Twitter @TarrantCountyTX\)](#)

[State of Texas Youth Sports Order \(revised July 2, 2020\)](#)

[Tarrant County Executive Order – Mask Mandate Extended to November 30th](#)