

McLean Little League

Summer 2020

Basics

- We are here to have fun
- Playing baseball and softball this summer is a privilege so everyone must follow the rules and behave appropriately. Players or parents who cannot follow the rules will not be tolerated.
- NO ONE MAY PARTICIPATE UNLESS THEY HAVE COMPLETED AND RETURNED THE COVID WAIVER
- Emphasize that if someone isn't feeling 100%, they must stay home.
- It is important to remember that we want to make this a great experience for everyone. As such, you should emphasize:
 - If someone has a suggestion for improvement, please make it in a calm, friendly and constructive manner. We think we have a good plan but there will be things that come up that can be done better.

Player/Coach Movement

Pimmit Run



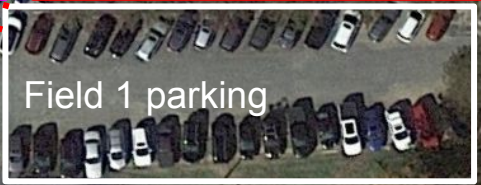
Field 4 parking



Field 2 parking



Field 3 parking



Field 1 parking



- DAY GAME PROTOCOL--ARRIVING AT THE FIELDS

- Games will be played on Field #1 and Field #3
- When you arrive you should stay in your cars until the Board Member on Duty blows the air horn to signal that the fields are all clear and players/coaches/etc can exit their cars
- If you are the home team on Field #1 you will be going to Field #1 for pre-game warm up
 - You will walk around the outfield fence to the first base side and enter the field that way
 - Your team will have access to the Batting Cages nearest to the parking lot for 25 minutes (from 55 minutes prior to game to until 30 minutes prior to game time)
- If you are the visiting team on Field #1 you will be going to Field #2 for pre-game warm up
 - You will walk between Fields 1 and 2 and enter Field #2 either through the gate in right field or the first base dugout
 - Your team will have access to the Batting Cages nearest to the parking lot for 25 minutes (from 30 minutes prior to game time to 5 minutes prior to game time)
 - You should head to Field #1 10-15 minutes before game time (note: a few kids may still be at the cages)
- If you are the home team on Field #3 you will be going to Field #3 for pre-game warm up
 - You walk between Field #4 and #2 and enter Field #3 through the Right Centerfield Gate
 - Your team will have access to the Batting Cages beyond Field #4 for 25 minutes (from 55 minutes prior to game to until 30 minutes prior to game time)
- If you are the visiting team on Field #3 you will be going to Field #4 for pre-game warm up
 - You walk around to the first base side of Field #4 and enter the field on the first base side there near the creek
 - Your team will have access to the Batting Cages beyond Field #4 for 25 minutes (from 30 minutes prior to game time to 5 minutes prior to game time)
 - You should head to Field #3 10-15 minutes before game time (note: a few kids may still be at the cages)

● NIGHT GAME PROTOCOL--ARRIVING AT THE FIELDS

- Games will be played on Field #1 and Field #2
- When you arrive you should stay in your cars until the Board Member on Duty blows the air horn to signal that the fields are all clear and players/coaches/etc can exit their cars
- If you are the home team on Field #1 you will be going to Field #1 for pre-game warm up
 - You will walk around the outfield fence to the first base side and enter the field that way
 - Your team will have access to the Batting Cages nearest to the parking lot for 25 minutes (from 55 minutes prior to game to until 30 minutes prior to game time)
- If you are the visiting team on Field #1 you will be going to Field #4 for pre-game warm up
 - You walk around to the first base side of Field #4 and enter the field on the first base side there near the creek
 - Your team will have access to the Batting Cages nearest to the parking lot for 25 minutes (from 30 minutes prior to game time to 5 minutes prior to game time)
 - You should head to Field #1 10-15 minutes before game time (note: a few kids may still be at the cages)
- If you are the home team on Field #2 you will be going to Field #2 for pre-game warm up
 - You will walk between Fields 1 and 2 and enter Field #2 either through the gate in right field or the first base dugout
 - Your team will have access to the Batting Cages beyond Field #4 for 25 minutes (from 55 minutes prior to game to until 30 minutes prior to game time)
- If you are the visiting team on Field #2 you will be going to Field #3 for pre-game warm up
 - You walk between Field #4 and #2 and enter Field #3 through the Right Centerfield Gate
 - Your team will have access to the Batting Cages beyond Field #4 for 25 minutes (from 30 minutes prior to game to until 5 minutes prior to game time)
 - You should head to Field #2 10-15 minutes before game time (note: a few kids may still be at the cages)

Departing the Fields After a Game

- Teams playing on Field #1
 - Home team leaves via dugout, walks around the outfield fence to the parking lot
 - Visitors leave their dugout, turn right and walk directly to the parking lot. They should be mindful of the team departing from Field #2 (home)
- Teams playing on Field #2
 - Visitors should leave their dugout first and walk past Field #4 to the parking lot.
 - Home team should wait for the visitors to depart, give them plenty of space and then follow them to the parking lot out past Field #4.
- Teams playing on Field #3
 - Teams should coordinate departure based on who is packed up first
 - Both teams will walk through the field and depart through the right centerfield gate and walk past Field #4 to the parking lot
- **EVERYONE MUST BE IN THEIR CARS WITHIN 10 MINUTES OF TIME EXPIRING**

Offsite Fields-Protocol--General

- AA teams are practicing offsite on Sunday and we want to all work together to figure out the best plan for these fields. Managers who play at 5 PM, may want to come at 1 PM to see how things are set up
- Except for July 4, there should never be a game going on at an offsite field immediately prior to your scheduled game
- As such, you should not have to remain in your cars while waiting for the field to clear (it should already be clear)
- The rules at MLL apply at the offsite fields in terms of the COVID coach, balls, catchers gear, etc. Always trying to be safe and mindful.
- On July 4, there are back to back games at the offsite fields so as to finish the games before 4 PM. On that date, teams should be mindful and let the prior game clear before coming to the field.
- At the end of the evening, folding chairs should be placed in the dugouts to try to keep them safe. As such, when you arrive for the first game of the day you will need to put them out.
- **There will not be league provided hand sanitizer at the offsite fields. As such, at those locations, the teams and players should bring their own. We recommend perhaps having the COVID coach bring a bottle the team can use.**

Offsite Fields-Protocol-Spring Hill Rec

Spring Hill Rec

- Coaches/Players should be socially distanced in the dugouts--likely means 3-4 people in the dugout
- We will use the bleachers and folding chairs to allow for proper social distancing of the players and coaches
- Players who are not stationed in the dugout should enter the field through the gate next to the dugout (i.e. don't walk through the dugout to get to the field)
- Parents should plan to sit down the lines or by the outfield fences to watch the games
- Home team will have the infield and the batting cage from 55 minutes before the game until 30 minutes before the game and then move to the outfield
- Visitors will have the outfield from 55 minutes before the game until 30 minutes before the game and then move to the infield/batting cage
- All other rules at MLL apply

Offsite Fields-Protocol-Linway

Linway

- Coaches/Players should be socially distanced in the dugouts--likely means 3-4 people in the dugout
- We will use the bleachers and folding chairs to allow for proper social distancing of the players and coaches
- Parents should plan to sit on the hill leading down to the field or down the right field line and out by right field
- Home team will have the infield and the batting cage from 55 minutes before the game until 30 minutes before the game and then move to the outfield
- Visitors will have the outfield from 55 minutes before the game until 30 minutes before the game and then move to the infield/batting cage
- All other rules at MLL apply

Offsite Fields-Protocol-Olney

Olney

- Coaches/Players should be socially distanced in the dugouts--likely means 3-4 people in the dugout
- We will use the bleachers and folding chairs to allow for proper social distancing of the players and coaches
- Parents should plan to bring chairs and sit down the RF and LF lines to watch the games
- All other rules at MLL apply

COVID Coach

- Each team **MUST** have a designated COVID coach. Ideally, it will be the same person all the time.
 - This person should not be an official coach and does not count as an official coach
 - This person doesn't need to know anything about baseball and softball
- You should also have a back-up COVID coach or two.
- You should notify your VP's as to who your COVID coach is and who your back-up COVID coach is
- The COVID coach is simply there to make sure that people are properly socially distanced, reminding players and coaches of the COVID rules (masks, no high fives, etc.)
- They should be pleasant and calm but need to be vigilant!!

What Days Will Teams Play-Baseball

- **Majors Baseball**
 - Teams will be scheduled for 15 total games plus City Series
 - Games begin on Tuesday, 6/16. City Series begins on 7/23 and ends on 7/29
 - Each week you will play 2 games on these 3 days: Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday
 - Every team plays on Sunday
 - As such, you are scheduled for 3 games per week
 - All games at MLL
- **AAA Baseball**
 - Teams will be schedule for 11 total games plus City Series
 - Teams will play 2 games per week: Wednesday and Saturday
 - Games begin on Wednesday, 6/17. City Series begins on 7/25 and ends on 7/30
 - About 25% of these games will be offsite--Spring Hill, Linway or Olney
- **AA Baseball**
 - Teams will be schedule for 11 total games plus City Series
 - Teams play 2 games per week: 1 game on Tuesday or Thursday and 1 game on Saturday
 - About 50% of these games will be offsite--Spring Hill, Linway or Olney

What Days Will Teams Play-Softball

- Teams are all scheduled for 12 games
- AAA and Majors play on Monday and Friday.
- The 2 Majors teams that are off on Monday or Friday (because there are an odd number of teams), play each other at Spring Hill Rec on Wednesday's
- AA typically plays Friday, Saturday and Sunday and will play on 2 of those 3 days (odd number of teams)
- Every team plays 2-4 games offsite
- Games start on Monday, 6/15
- City Series from 7/24 through 7/29

Rules around game play

- There are no rain make-ups! If a game is rained out, it will simply be lost.
- There are no trophies for Regular Season or City Series play. This is really about playing baseball/softball and having fun.
- Standings will be kept solely for purposes of City Series seeding which will be done by winning percentage (since rainouts may mean people play different numbers of games).
- For Majors, the order of finish WILL NOT dictate draft order next year. The Board and National LL will figure that out in the future.
- All games (until the City Series) will have 1 hour and 45 minute drop dead times from the scheduled start time. At 1:45, the at-bat should be completed and teams should pack up and depart the field going directly to the parking lot.
- There are no post game handshakes. We may try to find a good, socially distant way to thank your opponents. Suggestions welcome.
- There are no post game talks unless you play the last game of the day or your game is over and time has not expired
- Teams need to be back at their cars 10 minutes after the expiration of time (because the next teams are coming)

More Game Play Things

- Umpires will not handle the baseballs and softballs
- All balls will come from the defensive team
 - Bring a box of balls to your dugout. Have the COVID coach in charge of cleaning them and providing one to the pitcher if a balls goes out of play. Each half inning clean the balls that have been used.
 - This box of balls should be re-used for 5-6 games
- Umpires will be at least 6 feet behind the pitcher
 - Balls and strikes will not be perfect. They will do the best they can.
 - Fair or foul will be really hard. They will do the best they can.
 - Don't give the umpires a hard time.
- The goal is to play games. We don't want any forfeits. We want to play ball.
 - VP's will address "fill ins"/"call ups" if you don't have enough to field a team
 - Do everything you can to play the game and have fun.

More Game Play Things

- Plate conference will be the managers and the umpire and they should remain socially distant
 - Exchange line-ups
- We recommend trying to have a parent do Game Changer
 - That way family members who cannot attend can follow the action
 - You are welcome, of course, to still keep a scorebook
- Fans are limited to 1 per child (managers and coaches don't count as a fan)
 - Siblings should not be at the park
 - Fans should bring their own chairs and sit in a socially distant manner
 - Bleacher sitting will be very limited
- Restrooms will be open
 - 1 person per restroom at a time
- Snack bar is closed, but the BMOD will have access if ice is needed, etc.
- Players should all bring their own water/gatorade. No sunflower seeds.
- Hand sanitizer should be provided in the dugout and each player should sanitize their hands regularly. We recommend that players also keep some in their bat bags, just in case.

Warming Up Pitchers

- Ideally, pitchers should be warmed up during the one hour prior to game time
- If you need to warm up pitcher up during the games, you should do the following:
 - If playing on Field #1 and no game is on Field #2, send pitcher/catcher to the warning track of Field #2 to warm up
 - If playing on Field #1 and there is a game on Field #2, pitcher and catcher should go down foul lines with a protector (helmet and glove)
 - If playing on Field #2, pitcher and catcher should go down the foul lines with a protector (helmet and glove)
 - If playing on Field #3, go to the mound of Field #2.

Batting Cage Protocol

- Adults must feed the machines/throw batting practice
- All balls need to be picked up by adults (kids should not be handling the pitching machine balls)--we know this is a pain, but we want to make sure just 1 person is handling these balls at a time.
- We will try to have lots of balls out there for use. Please let us know if the supply is low.
- # of players at the cages should be no more than 4 at a time to make sure they can maintain distancing. As such, players may need to shuttle back and forth to the practice field. Try to be organized!
- Teams using the cages beyond Field #4 are encouraged to use the soft toss stations, etc. to get kids lots of swings while maintaining good distancing

Catcher's Gear and Other Equipment

- No sharing of catcher's gear
 - Some players have their own
 - If you use MLL gear you need enough sets for each catcher to have their own set that day
 - COVID coach should clean the catcher's helmet after use and it should not be used again that day
 - Plan to have just 2-3 catchers per game
 - MLL will provide you 2-3 sets of catcher's gear (your choice) but plan around having kids catch a couple innings each game. If you have kids that want to try it, have them alternate games.
 - Once MLL gear has been used for the day, move it out of the dugout.
 - You should have different colored bags for the different gear.
 - If you need extra, find the BMOD but do that well before you need it (don't want the game to stop!!!)
 - Players should not share catcher's mitts either. At AA, if need be they could wear their regular glove
- No sharing of other gear
 - Players should have their own bats--if you need additional bats let us know

Dugout Seating

Dugout

Opening

Bullpen

4 People can be spaced 6 feet apart here	One Coach Here	10 People can be spaced 6 feet apart here
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- Bullpens will have tarps over them to provide some shade, but will not reduce airflow
- COVID Coach should be closely monitoring distancing and behavior to make sure everyone is following the rules
- Seating should be assigned and COVID coach should be aware.
- Bullpens will have metal folding chairs--might want to bring a towel to sit on
- Bat bags will be with the kids at their assigned seats
- If there are not enough seats for kids and coaches, a coach (not the COVID coach) should overflow to the first row of the bleachers
- If children are seated in the dugout/bullpen area in their assigned seat they do not have to have their gaiter covering their nose & mouth UNLESS another person is walking past them or is within 6 feet of them
- If players are up and moving around in the dugout/bullpen, they MUST have their gaiters covering their nose and mouth if they are going to pass people or be within 6 feet of them
- They should wear their MLL gaiters (think of it like their jersey) around their necks or on their heads (or over their nose/mouth) at all times.
- Coaches should have their neck gaiters over their mouths and nose anytime they are within 6 feet of another person for more than a moment

Practices

- Teams will not have separate practice times each week
- You just have your game slots
- Prior to each game you will have 1 hour on a field at MLL and 25 minutes of batting cage time when you can conduct pre-game warm ups and practice
- Batting cages are assigned prior to the games. You cannot use the batting cages at any other times!!!!
- We encourage teams to try to encourage parent volunteers during the 1 hour pre-game practice. The more coaches you have, the more stations you can divide the kids into and the more socially distant you can keep the kids

City Series

- VP's will be in touch about City Series rules
- We will likely allow a little less warm up time so that we can extend the time a bit to allow for completion of innings
- No trophies

Other Important Points

- Uniforms and Equipment
 - All teams should have gotten equipment/balls back in March
 - This weekend we will pass out:
 - Jerseys (some Majors teams already had theirs)
 - Hats (for baseball)
 - MLL Neck Gaiters
 - Extra catcher's gear (no sharing of catcher's gear)
 - Extra bags for catcher's gear
 - 2 Dozen additional game balls for each team (you should bring a box to each game and use that box when you are pitching for multiple games)
- Baseball teams
 - Please try to send someone to MLL to pick up your stuff between 2:00-3:30 PM or 9:30-10:00 PM on Friday (doesn't have to be you--just make sure they know your name and team)
- Softball teams
 - You will get your items on Friday night during your practices

Other Items

- It will be very important for your whole team to know how to “move” when they are arriving at MLL
- As a result, they need you to tell them what field the team is on and where they should walk
- We are one of the very few Little League’s playing. We need to make sure we follow the rules and go above and beyond to make sure that we can keep playing.