



## RULES FOR COMPLIANCE WITH COVID-19 REQUIREMENTS

### **I. MANDATORY PRE-SCREENING BEFORE EACH PRACTICE / GAME:**

All players, managers, coaches and volunteers must be screened for any symptoms of COVID-19 before coming to the field for each practice, game or other Little League activity. Screening will be conducted by each player's parent or guardian on the day of each practice, game or other Little League activity. In addition, the manager of each team shall inquire and document that screening has been completed as to all players in attendance before each practice and/or game. Any person exhibiting signs of illness or who has been exposed to a person with COVID-19 must be excluded from the activity in accordance with CDC and RI Department of Health guidelines.

### **II. HYGIENE / HAND CLEANING:**

Frequent Hand Cleaning: The CDC recommends washing hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not readily available, hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol may be used. Handwashing and/or sanitizing should occur before, during, and after Little League activities.

Because access to soap and water is limited at Barrington fields, players are encouraged to bring their own hand sanitizer for personal use, and to sanitize their hands frequently after handling "shared objects" such as baseballs or softballs, or touching common surfaces (like the gate latch on a fence/dugout or the first base bag).

While the League will endeavor to provide each team with a bottle of hand sanitizer for use, as needed, during practices and games, ***it is the responsibility of players and their families to supply hand sanitizer for players' personal use. Parents are also recommended to bring antibacterial wipes for disinfecting player provided equipment after each use.***

### **III. PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE):**

Managers, coaches and volunteers are required to wear a face covering in accordance with RI Department of Health regulations and Executive Order 20-30 or when unable to easily, continuously, and measurably keep six feet of physical distance from others. Managers and coaches are not required to wear a face covering when actively engaged in a practice (e.g. when throwing batting practice or hitting balls to players) **provided that they can easily, continuously, and measurably keep six feet of physical distance from others.** Managers and

coaches must wear a face covering during in-game visits to the mound. Players and managers/coaches must wear a face covering while in the dugout.

Players are required to wear face coverings when not on the field of play (for example, when “on the bench”), except when they can easily, continuously, and measurably keep six feet of physical distance from others. While on the field, engaged in a practice or game, players are not required to wear a face covering. However, players are always permitted to wear a face covering on the field during practice and game play, based on individual player/parent/guardian determination.

#### **IV. SOCIAL DISTANCING:**

Players, managers, coaches, volunteers and spectators should practice social distancing of six feet wherever possible. When on the field of play, physical distancing is encouraged, but not required by teammates, however, activities where at least six feet of distance can be maintained are encouraged and 14 feet of distance is preferred. All but the essential contact necessary to a practice or game should be avoided. When not on the field of play, players must maintain physical distance of six feet.

When not on the field of play, managers/coaches and players should be assigned spots in the dugout, on the bleachers and /or along the *outside* of the field’s parameter fence so that they are at least six feet apart and all behind a fence (for safety reasons). Players must stay at their assigned spots when on the bench or while awaiting their turn to bat.

Only players, managers and coaches assigned to a team are permitted on the field of play (including dugouts) before, during and after practices and games (including pre- and post-game field preparation).

When teams are not actively engaged in a game or scrimmage with one another, each team should maintain a minimum physical distance of 14 feet from the other team. No more than two teams should be at any field during a game.

#### **V. PROHIBITIONS ON SHARING OF EQUIPMENT / FOOD:**

Sharing of personal equipment (bats, gloves, helmets) is prohibited. Players should have their own batter’s helmet, glove, bat and catcher’s equipment. Use of shared (team) equipment should be limited and sanitized between uses. When it is necessary to share team equipment, all surfaces of each piece of shared equipment must be cleaned first and then disinfected with an EPA approved disinfectant against COVID-19 and allowed sufficient time to dry before use by a new player. Increased attention should be paid to detailed cleaning of all equipment directly contacting the head and face (catcher’s mask, helmets).

Players should use hand sanitizer after handling baseballs / softballs during practice and/or games, and after contact with common surfaces or objects (such as a runner who touches the

second base bag with his/her bare hand (without a batting glove on). ***Players should use hand sanitizer every time they leave the field of play.***

No personal player bat bags/equipment bags are allowed in the dugout. Player equipment should be staged accordingly outside the dugout to allow physical distance between users and to limit multiple touches/prevent direct contact. Players should not share towels, clothing, or other items that they may use to wipe their face or hands.

Cups, bottles, or other food/beverage items are not to be shared. All players must bring their own food/beverage items. Shared beverages, snacks and food are prohibited. Sunflower seeds, gum, and spitting are prohibited.

## **VI. GAME PLAY**

### **a. Pre-Game Plate Meetings**

Plate meetings should be minimized or eliminated if possible. Plate meetings (when necessary) should only consist of one manager or coach (no players) from each team, and game umpires. All participants shall wear a cloth face covering, and social distancing must be observed.

### **b. Umpires**

The “home plate” umpire shall be positioned behind the pitcher’s mount/circle to call balls and strikes, instead of behind the plate. Umpires are encouraged to social distance from players as much as possible and must wear a cloth face covering when unable to easily, continuously, and measurably keep six feet of physical distance from others.

### **c. Balls**

Baseballs and softballs should be rotated through on a regular basis, at least every two innings, to limit individual contact. Umpires should limit their contact with the ball, and catchers should retrieve foul balls and passed balls where possible. Balls used in infield/outfield warm-up should be isolated from a shared ball container. Foul balls landing outside the field of play should be retrieved by participating players, coaches, and umpires. No spectators should retrieve the ball.

### **d. Hand Sanitizing Between Innings**

Fielders should use hand sanitizer every time they exit the field of play.

## **VII. SPECTATORS:**

All spectators should practice social distancing and comply with RI state guidelines on wearing of face coverings. Spectators should avoid direct contact with players/managers/coaches

during practices and games and should bring their own seating when possible. Spectators should ensure at least six feet of physical distance between household groups and maintain at least 14 feet of space from the outer limit of play. State of Rhode Island official guidance recommends that no more than two spectators attend from any household. Spectators with any COVID-19 symptoms should not attend practices or games.

**VIII. QUARANTINE:**

If a player on a team or in a stable group tests positive for COVID-19, the entire team or group (if they have been in close contact with the athlete) needs to quarantine for 14 days.

**IX. RESTROOMS AND CONCESSIONS STANDS CLOSED:**

Public restrooms (including those located at Sherwood, Chianese and Vets field) and concessions stands are closed per the Town of Barrington, and cannot be accessed by players, managers, coaches, volunteers or spectators until further notice.