



# Banneker City Little League



## COVID-19 PROTOCOLS

### GENERAL RULES

The General rules are as follows:

- Everyone brings their own drinks in reusable/disposable bottle (no use of water fountains)
- Every player/manager/coach/ump/volunteer should bring his/her own sanitizer
- **No spitting, sunflower seeds, or gum - cause for removal of player**
- Masks must be worn at all times for managers, coaches, umpires, and all spectators
- Each team needs to have 3 volunteer coaches, one of which would be specifically designated for covid protocols (spacing of kids, mask wearing, no equipment sharing and hand sanitizing each half inning).
- Spectators - limited to immediate family and must stay at least 6 feet away from the dugouts and other families and will wear masks at all times.
- Kids are required to wear masks on the field
  - Block area from 1st to third for players (all others prohibited from entering this area, which includes behind home plate)
  - Assign spots for each child with a cone/marker in the restricted area at a minimum of 6 feet apart
- Each kid gets an assigned space for when not on field
- Player equipment - no sharing - keep in personal spot
  - To the extent sharing is required (Catcher's gear, bats) the equipment must be sanitized before each use. With respect to catcher's gear, managers should try to safely minimize the number of catchers utilized in a game. To the extent kids need batting helmets, each should be assigned a community helmet (name on tape) prior to the game, which should be kept in the ballplayer's designated spot. To the extent there are not enough helmets for each child to have his/her own, they must be sanitized in between each use.
- Baseballs - cannot limit multiple players touching
  - Need a supply of game balls - change out at least every 2 innings
  - Umpire should limit contact with ball
  - Players, not fans/spectators retrieve balls out of play - designate a player or 2 on each team each inning to retrieve balls out of play.



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- Infield/outfield warm-up balls remain separate - switch out
- Prior to participation, all players/parents, coaches, managers and volunteers must sign a family Covid-19 waiver

## **GAME OPERATIONS AND UMPIRE GUIDANCE**

The guidelines for operations are as follows:

- Field prep and maintenance should be done by 30 min before the game - need to schedule as a league who is handling - need to sanitize field equipment before and after each user. See below.
- Pre-game meeting - umpires and managers should be more than 6 feet apart and managers/umps have masks on, or they should be eliminated
  - Teams should exchange line-ups in advance via email, if possible, and include the cell of the team's Gamechanger so that the 2 teams can connect. If not, teams must provide a line-up card to the manager (and gamechanger's cell) prior to the game.
  - Equipment inspection in advance - each player, in turn based on his or her cone number, lays out his/her equipment at a distance at least 5 minutes prior to game - once inspected, each player, in turn, returns his/her equipment back to his/her designated spot.
    - If ump needs to handle equipment, he/she must use gloves or, in between inspecting each spot, sanitizer.
    - Umpire placement - ump stays behind the mound; encouraged to keep a safe distance, must be wearing a mask and encouraged to use protective gloves. Ump discouraged from touching balls.

## **FACILITY, FANS AND ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDANCE**

The additional Covid-19 protocols are as follows:

- Endeavor to limit teams to 12 kids
- Need to clean and disinfect high touch areas between every game/practice – 2 options
  - Preferably, each field needs 2 carriers with disinfectant/wipes/paper towels so each team can clean its side that is stored in a shed and stocked regularly; or
  - Each manager responsible for bringing supplies



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- Make a list of high contact points, such as latches, gates, bench and fence in front of bench, and make sure that coaches are instructed to sanitize all contact points prior to games and practices – disseminate information prior to registration/start of play
- Need to schedule enough time between practices/games to allow others to clear out
  - 10 minutes between each scheduled practice time
  - Games should be limited to 1 hour and 45 minutes (drop dead, and all spectators must leave) with an immediate clearing out of dugout/spots for sanitation. Post-game meetings are conducted for 5 minutes (in the outfield) and then all players coaches must leave.
  - Pre-game warm-ups are limited to 30 min before game time and in the outfield area, outside home run fence or other areas where there are no players or spectators within 6 feet. If no such areas exist, players must wait to warm up until the prior games' teams/spectators evacuate the area.
  - Bleachers/etc. unavailable for parents
  - Leagues could consider streaming games if parents request
  - Add signage at the field to prevent spread/placing people/etc. The more information, the better! Order now.