

YCLL Phase 3 Safety Guidelines

Per Governor's order, Virginia will move into Phase 3 on July 1. Phase 3 allows gatherings of no more than 250 people. Therefore, YCLL will begin scrimmages on July 1 and official games on July 6. To reduce COVID-19 risk, YCLL has based our **YCLL Safety Actions** on the guidelines put forward by the Center of Disease Control (CDC). Below are the **CDC Guidelines** for youth programs and camps during the COVID-19 Pandemic followed by the YCLL Safety Actions. YCLL also requires the cooperation of parents and volunteers to adhere to the new guidelines and closely monitor their own health and their player's health. **New safety measures for Phase 3 are written in blue and focus on social distancing and limited player to player contact.**

CDC Guideline: Are you ready to protect children and employees at higher risk for severe illness?

YCLL Safety Actions:

- Parents and volunteers must sign a waiver acknowledging additional risk and pledge their responsibility to adhere to the new safety guidelines for this season.
- The waiver will emphasize the greater risk for those 65 years of age or older, as well as those with moderate to severe asthma, immunocompromised, or have a chronic illness.

CDC Guideline: Are you able to screen children and employees upon arrival for symptoms and history of exposure?

YCLL Safety Actions:

- Prior to taking the field for the first practice, parents and volunteers will sign-off on a well-check survey. This will be kept with student medical release forms and destroyed at the end of the season. Parents are responsible for alerting the team manager if the status on the well-check survey changes from practice to practice.
- Parents must adhere to the following health guidelines:

If a volunteer or player or spectator has had any of the following symptoms in the past 24 hours, we ask that you keep you/him/her home until the symptoms are gone or until your physician has stated it is safe to return.

The symptoms include:

- Fever (Must be fever free for 24 hours without the assistance of medicine prior to returning to practice)
- Moderate to Severe Coughing
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Chills
- Muscle pain
- Sore throat

- New loss of taste or smell

If any of the above symptoms are present or if someone is exhibiting unusual behaviors to include: malcontent, lethargy, and/ or just seems generally unwell at home, parents/players/ volunteers/ [spectators](#) are asked to err on the side of caution and remain home. It is imperative that we all work together.

- If a player, volunteer, [or spectator](#) has been in close contact with someone who has tested positive, awaiting test results, or is presumed to be positive for COVID-19, that player/ volunteer may not return to practice for 14 days from last contact. Team managers are required to keep an attendance log for each practice.
- [The Team Manager or Team Safety Officer of the HOME TEAM will ask the volunteering umpires the Well Check Survey questions before the game begins. If an umpire fails a screening, they will not be eligible to umpire the game and will be asked to return home for the safety and welfare of the players, other volunteers, and spectators. The Well Check Survey will be maintained by the home team manager.](#)

CDC Guideline: Promote healthy hygiene practices such as hand washing and employees wearing a cloth face covering, as feasible

YCLL Safety Actions:

- YCLL promotes parent choice to provide their player with a mask to use off the field [or in the dugout](#).
- YCLL also requires that ALL volunteers practice social distancing and wear a facial covering when in close contact with players.
- YCLL will equip each manager with hand disinfectant and cleaning products.
- Players are required to use their own equipment. Each manager's equipment bag will also include disinfectant.
- [Hand sanitizing stations are in each dug out. Players will sanitize their hands coming off the field each inning.](#)

CDC Guideline: Intensify cleaning, disinfection, and ventilation of facilities and transport vehicles/buses

YCLL Safety Actions:

- YCLL managers will be given hand disinfectant and cleaning products.
- [Dug outs will be permitted for use in Phase 3. Dugout benches and other high touch areas will be sprayed with disinfectant 10 minutes prior to use.](#)
- Players must use their own equipment. As an additional safeguard, we ask that parents highly mark their player's equipment and sanitize it between practices.

- Baseballs and softballs should be rotated so that each team uses its own ball during the game. (Home team uses its ball on the field and Visiting team uses their ball). This limits the exposure of a shared ball.
- Foul balls landing outside the field of play should be retrieved by participating players, coaches, and umpires. If a spectator should retrieve the ball, the ball needs to be disinfected before putting back in play.
- Sunflower seeds, gum, etc., will not be allowed in dugouts or on the playing field.

CDC Guideline: Encourage social distancing through increased spacing, small groups, and limited mixing between groups, and staggered scheduling, arrival, and drop off, if feasible

YCLL Safety Actions:

- YCLL scheduler will schedule practices **and games** with a 30-minute break between to allow the field to clear out. Managers are to dismiss players accordingly. Parents **and spectators** are asked to leave the field promptly.
- Managers will receive training on appropriate social distancing drills.
- Dugouts will be marked with tape to adhere to the 6' social distancing rule. Bleachers will be an extended dug out for players to socially distance. Bleachers will be closed to spectators. When batting, only one manager is permitted in the dugout. When the team is on the field, all coaches can be in the dugout.
- Players and coaches should take measures to prevent all but the essential contact necessary to play the game. This should include refraining from handshakes, high fives, fist/elbow bumps, chest bumps, group celebrations, etc. YCLL suggests lining up outside the dugout and tipping caps to the opposing team as a sign of good sportsmanship after a game.
- All spectators should follow best social distancing practices — stay six feet away from individuals outside their household and avoid direct hand or other contact with players/managers/coaches during play. Spectators **MUST** bring their own seating or portable chairs when possible and space them accordingly away from non-household members.
- The plate umpire is **highly encouraged** to call the game from behind the pitcher's mound. In this case, no umpire mask is required. If for some reason this cannot be done, the plate umpire **MUST** always stay 6 feet away from the catcher. All umpires are encouraged to keep a safe distance from players as much as possible

CDC Guideline: Where feasible, adjust activities and procedures to limit sharing of items such as toys, belongings, supplies, and equipment

YCLL Safety Actions:

- Players are required to use their own equipment. Each manager's equipment bag will also include disinfectant.
- Players are required to provide their own water/ water bottle for practice. No communal water coolers allowed.
- No sharing of gum, seeds, or anything else.

CDC Guideline: Train all employees on health and safety protocols

YCLL Safety Actions:

- A manger or coach from each team will attend a training on new YCLL Phase 2 Safety Guidelines via ZOOM. Training will also include appropriate social distancing drills. Additionally, managers will be trained to alert the YCLL Safety Officer immediately in the event of a potential COVID case. YCLL has developed a decision-making tool that will ensure prompt action to keep all players and volunteers as safe as possible.
- [YCLL will post our Phase 3 Safety Plan on our social media site and email the YCLL Phase 3 Safety Plan and Rules for Spectators to all participating families.](#)