



Shorewood Little League COVID -19 Safety Plan

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Introduction

While we hope to have a productive and fun season, the safety of our child athletes, coaches, and families is our highest priority. Accordingly, based on the recommendations of Little League International as well as the requirements and recommendations of local and state public health officials and the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Shorewood Little League (SLL) has adopted the following COVID-19 mitigation strategies and tactics for the summer and fall 2020 season.



SLL believes that employing these mitigation strategies and tactics will allow us to play baseball this year and significantly reduce the possibility of COVID-19 transmission at SLL events. **However, like with any gathering, there is still a risk of COVID-19 transmission at practices and games, so if you have serious reservations about your child participating in SLL this year, please withdraw their registration.**

Hand Sanitizing

- i. Alcohol-based hand sanitizer will be available for all practice and games.
 - i. During practice players and coaches should clean their hands frequently. Here are some suggested opportunities:
 - At the start of practice
 - Between drills
 - **Required:** After any hand contact with saliva or respiratory secretions (e.g. coughing or sneezing into hand, licking fingers, picking nose) or any skin to skin contact with another individual

- At the end of practice
 - Other times at the discretion of coaches
2. During games players should sanitize their hands:
 - Upon taking and after returning from the field
 - After an at bat
 - After returning from base or scoring a run
 - After coming into contact with another individual
 3. Any player with an allergy or sensitivity to alcohol-based sanitizers must provide his or her own hand sanitizing solution or soap and adhere to the above guidelines

Social Distancing

1. Coaches and players will adhere to “no touch” rule. This means no handshakes, high-fives, “hands in” cheers, or other physical contact during practice or games.
2. Coaches and players will attempt to maintain a safe distance from one another of up to 6ft or more at all times. Exceptions to this can occur during games and scrimmages when the ball is in the field of play.
3. During games, only the on deck batter and a coach are allowed in the dugout. The remaining players/batters are located behind the fence parallel to the baselines at predesignated distance of $\geq 6ft$ &/or seated with a parent or guardian.
4. During games, umpires will call the game from behind the pitcher
5. All parents / spectators that are not in the same household will be required via signage and seating markers to maintain predesignated distance of $\geq 6ft$ when seated in the bleachers or elsewhere around the venue.
 - a. To help maintain a safe distance and minimize the number of spectators at the venue **it is recommended that only one family member per player attend games**
 - b. Parents or guardians are encouraged to bring their own portable chairs or other seating arrangement to each game
6. When arriving to or departing from games or practice, parents and children should exit immediately and refrain from congregating in common areas in or around the venue
 - a. No postgame team meetings are allowed
7. When a game or practice is ongoing, parents and/or players arriving to the field for the following game or practice should remain in their vehicles until the other participants exit.
 - a. Those arriving by means other than automobiles must maintain a safe distance from points of entry and exit
8. Parents or guardians of players should avoid carpools or otherwise transporting other non-family member children to games or practice



Face masks

1. During practice and games all players & coaches will wear cloth or other appropriate face masks.
 1. SLL will attempt to acquire and provided by masks as part of team uniforms.
2. If physically able, umpires are also required to wear face masks
3. During games parents and any other spectators are strongly encouraged to wear face masks

Minimizing Exposure Between Teams

1. Coaches will limit game day rosters to no more than 11 players
2. Whenever possible, opposing teams will play multiple games in a row against the same team
3. Double headers will be considered as a way to limit exposures between teams over a given timeframe



Health Assessments

1. Parents or guardians of players should conduct regular self-health assessments and avoid coming to games or practice if they feel sick.
2. SLL recommends that participants, spectators, and umpires should have their temperature taken prior to practice or games. SLL cannot feasibly take temperatures of attendees prior to practices or games.
3. General assessments of coach and player health will be conducted at the beginning of every practice and game.
 - a. Any coach or player who exhibits or reports the following symptoms is prohibited from participating:
 - Fever
 - Respiratory symptoms (cough, wheezing, shortness of breath)
 - Loss of sense of taste or smell
 - Diarrhea
 - Profound fatigue
 - Body aches or pains.
 - b. Please notify SLL immediately for any coach or player who tests positive for COVID-19 or has symptoms consistent with this infection regardless of test results.
 - a. SLL will follow public health guidelines to help determine safe return to play.

- SLL will abide by any recommendations for isolation or quarantine of any players, coaches, or other individuals as directed by public health officials.
 - The minimum timeframe for return to play will be 14 days from first symptom onset
4. Any player with a significant medical condition or with a vulnerable or high-risk family member at home (e.g. serious heart or lung disease, active cancer on chemotherapy, immunocompromised) is discouraged from participating in SLL

General Mitigation Tactics

1. No sharing of gear or equipment
 - a. Every batter will have his or her own helmet, bat, & batting gloves (if needed). If a player does not have their own bat or helmet, the equipment will be supplied and designated for their sole use throughout the season.
 - If a bat is shared, it must be decontaminated using an appropriate sanitizing cloth or similar means between uses.
 - b. Each catcher will be issued his/her own gear to keep throughout the entirety of the season.
 - a. Catcher's gear can be shared only between games & once thoroughly cleaned
 - c. No sharing of gloves is permitted
 - d. No player's personal bat bags or gear is allowed in the dugout
 - a. Player's gear should be spaced accordingly outside the dugout to avoid direct contact
 - e. Each team will maintain its own game baseballs during the course of a game while on defense. A minimum of 3 game baseballs will be on hand by each team for this purpose. These baseballs will be cleaned using a sanitizing cloth or other appropriate decontamination method at the end of each 1/2 inning or after any potential exposure with saliva or respiratory secretions at a minimum.
 - a. Foul balls should only be retrieved by coaches or players. If a spectator touches a ball it must be cleaned with a sanitizing cloth or similar means before returning to play.
2. The water fountain is off limits.
 - a. Each player will bring his/her own water or beverage to practice and games. No sharing of any beverage between players, coaches, or other participants is allowed.
3. The concession stand will remain closed for the entire season.



- a. No player or coach is to chew gum, seeds or other similar products
4. Bathrooms will not be available unless cleared for public use by the Village and the North Shore Public Health Department. Parents should plan accordingly.
 - a. If cleared for use, bathrooms will be cleaned in accordance with public health guidelines and before and after each practice and game
5. Players and coaches are to refrain from spitting
6. Batting cage use is permitted for practices only. During games, the batting cage is off limits.

Record Keeping

1. Coaches are required to keep attendance for practice and games and must maintain this log throughout the season
2. Electronic sharing of records or scoresheets and obtaining signatures are preferred over hard copies and use of traditional pens or pencils

The Shorewood Little Board has discretion to revise these guidelines at any time