

WHLL FALL 2020 COVID-19 RETURN TO PLAY PROTOCOLS

Western Hills Little League (WHLL) is prepared to host a Fall 2020 baseball season. These protocols have been developed to guide WHLL, parents, players, coaches, umpires, and staff as we all work together to restart youth baseball in a reasonably safe manner. WHLL will base its protocols on the information currently available and the guidance that has been provided by our national, state, county and city governments and our local health authorities. These protocols will be reviewed regularly and adjusted for effectiveness and if/when government guidance changes.

All coaches, parents, umpires, and staff will be provided with a copy of these protocols and required to self-enforce these protocols in order to attend practices and games. Parents should monitor the health of their children and refrain from sending them to participate in WHLL activities if they exhibit symptoms of COVID-19.

CRITERIA FOR ATTENDING EVENTS ASSOCIATED WITH WHLL (PRACTICES AND GAMES):

- Coaches, parents, participants, volunteers and staff should not attend events if they have had known close sustained contact with a person that is lab confirmed to have COVID-19 in the past 14 days or if they have displayed any of the following symptoms: cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, chills and/or repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, loss of taste or smell, diarrhea, feeling feverish or displaying a fever greater than or equal to 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit in the past 14-days.

HEALTH PROTOCOLS FOR SPECTATORS:

- All spectators must follow social distancing guidelines outlined by state and local authorities and are encouraged to wash hands frequently.
- Face coverings are recommended for everyone (over age of 10) that is entering in the WHLL ballpark.
- Do not congregate in groups larger than 10 individuals. Within groups, maintain 6 feet of separation from individuals not in your household. When maintaining 6 feet of separation is not feasible, face coverings over the nose and mouth are recommended.
- In order to minimize the number of people at the ballpark, we recommend only two spectators per family attend each event per participant.
- Spectators are encouraged to bring their own chairs as social distancing in the stands will be necessary.
- If you are sick or feeling unwell, stay home

HEALTH PROTOCOLS FOR Coaches/Players/Umpires:

- Players will be encouraged to wear face coverings over the nose and mouth while in the dugout whenever it is not possible to maintain social distancing from other individuals not from the same household.
- Players may, under the supervision of a coach, remain outside of the dugout and playing area in order to social distance.
- Coaches will be allowed and encouraged to remain in front of the dugout when it is not otherwise possible to maintain social distancing from other individuals not from the same household.
- Umpires will have the option to officiate the game from behind the pitcher's mound in minor and major divisions.
- Equipment sharing is prohibited unless sanitized between uses.
- Each player is expected to bring their own water, equipment and hand sanitizer with their name on it and kept with the parent (not in the dugout).
- Teams to clear out of the dugout and baseball field promptly after their game has concluded. The next team in that dugout will be required to wait until the previous team has completed exited the dugout.
- No handshake lines – after games, teams will line up in front of their dugout and tip their cap toward the other team as a sign of respect for the game.
- Post-game snacks provided by team parents are prohibited.
- If you are sick or feeling unwell, stay home.

HEALTH PROTOCOLS FOR SICK PARTICIPANTS, VOLUNTEERS AND STAFF:

- Coaches, parents, volunteers, participants and staff that have attended WHLL events and subsequently test positive for COVID-19 are responsible for notifying WHLL and their team immediately so they can take action to prevent further spread. Anyone testing positive for COVID-19 may not return to WHLL events until 72 hours have passed since the resolution of their fever without use of fever-reducing medications, their symptoms have improved, AND at least 10 days have passed since their symptoms first appeared.
- Individuals that desire to return prior to the completion of the self-isolation period must obtain a note from a medical professional clearing the individual for return to play based on a negative COVID-19 test.

ADDITIONAL WHLL INITIATIVES INTENDED TO HELP PREVENT SPREAD OF COVID-19:

- Restrooms and concessions will not be available on any day other than game days.
- The concession stand may be open but will only offer pre-packaged food and drinks.
- Parents make the final decision on whether their child should participate presuming no affirmative answers to the symptom checklist.
- If you are sick or feeling unwell, stay home

At any time during a pandemic, we may be forced into a delay or add restrictions per state and local authorities. We will do our best to keep you informed of all changes as we will comply with state and local jurisdiction.