



**2020  
COVID-19  
SAFETY PLAN**



**League ID # 03091211**

League Acting President:  
League Safety Officer:

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## Purpose

Safeguarding the health, safety and well-being of our players, coaches, volunteers, family members and support personnel is our number one priority. Specific measures will be introduced to protect all parties who continue to play, coach and help take care of the children in our league.

***The COVID-19 safety plan should be viewed, in conjunction with, Countryside Little League's 2020 Safety Plan. In no way is this plan meant to replace or supersede any protocols or restrictions outlined by the Center for Disease Control (CDC) or by state and local authorities.***

The league will not resume league sanctioned activities unless Little League International, state and local authorities grant the League permission to do so. The League may resume activities in "phases" in order to ensure proper social distancing and to adhere to state, local and CDC guidelines. We have indicated in each section, when applicable, the differences that may result in resuming activities in phases.

## Reporting Player Illnesses

- 1). Players are strongly encouraged to stay home if they are feeling ill.
- 2). Any player experiencing a temperature or symptoms as outlined by the CDC, must notify their team manager immediately.
- 3). If the player is experiencing symptoms during a league sanctioned activity, the player will be segregated to an area away from the rest of the team and will be asked to leave once a proper guardian is present. A player should never be left unattended (must have adult supervision).
- 4). The team manager must report the illness to the league safety officer immediately.
- 5). The league safety officer will discuss the illness with the player's parent, document and notify the City of Clearwater.
- 6). The City of Clearwater will close any areas the player came in contact with for 24 hours to limit further exposure.
- 7). Player will be required to provide a written note from a doctor or physician in order to return to play.
- 8). ***Failure to report an illness is subject to disciplinary action including dismissal from the remainder of the season.***

## Reporting Volunteer Illnesses

- 1). All volunteers are strongly encourage to stay home if they are feeling ill.
- 2). Any team manager or assistant coach experiencing a temperature or symptoms as outlined by the CDC, must notify the league safety officer immediately.
- 3). The team manager or assistant coach will be asked to refrain from league activities until a doctor's or physician's note is provided to the league safety officer.
- 4). Any board member experiencing a fever or symptoms as outlined by the CDC, must notify the league president immediately. The board member will also be asked to refrain from league activities until a doctor's or physician's note is provided.

- 5). The league safety officer or president will notify the City of Clearwater. The City of Clearwater will close any areas the volunteer came in contact with for 24 hours to limit further exposure.
- 6). ***Failure to report an illness is subject to disciplinary action including dismissal from the remainder of the season.***

## **Fields and Equipment**

- 1). **Fields, batting cages and bullpens will be closed** until the City of Clearwater grants approval for use.
- 2). Player equipment/bags must be spaced six feet apart. **Bat racks will not used.** Players should keep their equipment in their bag when not in use. Eliminate equipment bags in the dugout (except for catcher's and the team equipment bag) when possible.
- 3). **NO FOOD** will be allowed in the dugouts, this includes gum and sunflower seeds.
- 4). All players **MUST** bring their own water bottles, no team coolers allowed.
- 5). Shared equipment **MUST** be sanitized between each use (catcher's gear, gloves and bats).
- 6). Any equipment used by team managers/coaches **MUST** be sanitized before and after each use, this includes pitching machines and any other items used from the coach closet.
- 7). Players and coaches are permitted to wear PPE items (excluding the pitcher) if it is not deemed a safety hazard. The league operates in a very hot and humid climate, PPE items should be avoided if they could cause a player or coach to become overheated. If there any disputes regarding the use of PPE items please contact the league's safety officer or board member on duty.
- 8). Parents are encouraged to provide their players with sanitizer or antibacterial hand wipes for use during practice.
- 9.) Disposable PPE will be added to all first aid kits.

### ***When games or scrimmages are allowed to resume as directed by the City of Clearwater:***

- 10). Game balls should remain in their original packaging until game time. Games balls should be rotated and cleaned every 2 innings.
- 11). Dugouts will be extended to the bleachers to allow for players to safely social distance. In no event should the dugout be extended on to the field or in foul ball territory.
- 12). Parents are encouraged to provide their players with sanitizer or antibacterial hand wipes for use during games.

## **Practices**

- 1). Practices will resume when the league receives approval, from the City of the Clearwater, that the fields are open and available for use.
- 2). Practices will be held in groups as directed by the City of Clearwater. The count provided by the City **includes** the team manager and any assistant coaches. The league will communicate the count to all coaches prior to commencing practices.
- 3). The team manager **MUST** keep attendance (electronically or manually) for all players. This is required for COVID tracing purposes.
- 4). Dugouts **MUST** be sanitized both before and after practice (all hard surfaces include benches and bat racks). This includes removing all trash.
- 5). Fields in use will be limited to adhere to gathering requirements in accordance with city and state regulations (limiting the amount of players, parents and volunteers at the fields at any one time).
- 6). Practices will be scheduled to allow time for a team to exit the fields before the next team arrives, no less than a 30 minute window or gap.

- 7). Teams will be asked to arrive at their scheduled practice time (no earlier) and wait in their cars until the previous team has left/vacated the fields.
- 8). Parents are encourage to remain in their cars during practice. If a parent wishes to watch their child, they must bring their own chair, adhere to social distancing guidelines and maybe be limited to 1 parent per player based on current gathering restrictions issued by the state and local government.

## **Game Play**

- 1). **Games will resume when the league receives approval from the City of Clearwater.**
- 2). Dugouts **MUST** be sanitized both before and after practice (all hard surfaces include benches and bat racks). This includes all trash.
- 3). Fields in use will be limited to adhere to gathering requirements in accordance with city and state regulations (limiting the amount of players, parents, spectators, visitors and volunteers at the fields at any one time).
- 4). Games will be scheduled to allow time for a team to exit the fields before the next team arrives, no less than 30 minutes.
- 5). Games **MUST** end by the designated end time (excluding weather delays).
- 6). **NO** team meetings should occur after the game ends, on the field or in the dugouts. Teams **MUST** exit the fields immediately. Coaches must exit once the dugout is cleaned and sanitized.
- 7). Teams will be asked to wait in their cars until the previous game has ended (if necessary due to weather delays) and the teams have exited the fields.
- 8). Home plate umpires may call strikes and balls from behind the plate. The league understands that there are times where proper social distancing may not be feasible such as between the batter and catcher.
- 9). Managers meeting at home plate should be limited to one coach per team plus the umpire (no players at the plate). Eliminate the meeting if possible.
- 10). Players should be lined up and socially distanced in batting order. Players will enter the dugout when they are next in line to bat. No more than **3** players should be in the dugout at any one time.
- 11). Eliminate player to player and player to coach contact when possible. Players will be encouraged to not socialize or touch one another when on base.
- 12). **NO** high-fives or hand shakes after the game. Players and coaches should tip their hat to the opposing team.

## **Parents, Spectators and Visitors**

- 1). Parents, spectators and visitors are **NOT** allowed in the dugouts, on the fields or on the bleachers (if bleachers are in use by the players). This excludes team coaches and assistant coaches.
- 2). Households may sit together. Anyone from separate households **MUST** engage in social distancing and remain at least six feet apart.
- 3). The Board Member On-Duty has the right to refuse admittance of any person if the number of individuals on the premises exceeds the facility's capacity to maintain social distancing.

## **Concession Stand Operation**

- 1) **Concession stand will remain closed until the league receives approval from the City of Clearwater to resume concession stand sales.**

***When concession sales resume:***

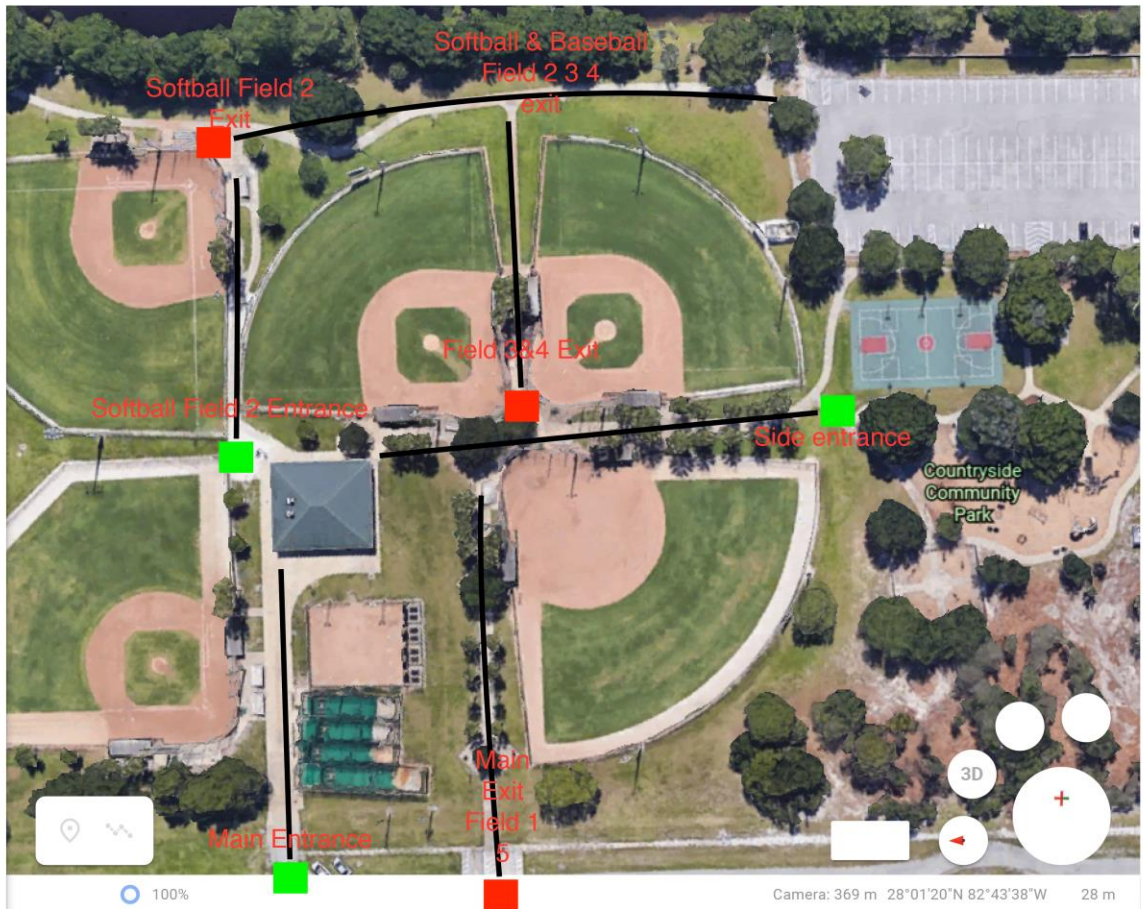
- 2). Volunteers will be required to submit to a “temperature check” before entering the concessions stand.
- 3). Volunteers **MUST** wear a mask when working in concessions.
- 4). Hands must be washed or sanitized frequently both before, during and after a volunteer’s shift is complete.
- 5). **NO CASH** will change hands, credit cards will be the only accepted method of payment.
- 6). **NO HOT FOOD** will be served, drinks and pre-package snacks only.
- 7). **NO** sunflower seeds, gum or lollipops will be sold.
- 8). The board will place markings six-feet apart to ensure those waiting in line are practicing social distancing.
- 9). The concession stand will be sanitized and cleaned thoroughly before opening and after closing each day.

**Volunteer Training Program and Compliance**

- 1). The safety officer will assemble a virtual training session on this plan.
- 2). The training session will be **REQUIRED** for all board members, team managers and assistant coaches.
- 3). Potential concession stand volunteers will also be encouraged to attend one of the sessions.
- 4). This safety plan will be posted on the league’s website and communicated via email blast and social media.
- 5). The safety officer, all board members and all team managers are responsible for enforcement and ensuring all league participants are compliant with this safety plan.

**Countryside Community Park Maps**

Please refer to attached Exhibit A for the leagues plans to provide a separate point of entrance and exit for players and parents when league activities resume.



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