



## Wayne Little League Outdoor Play Guidelines

### Recommended Best Practices for the Field-of-Play:

1. Follow all local and state guidelines for facilities and events.
2. Where possible, consider options for limiting both the pitching and the scorecard exchanges, in order to reduce person-to-person contact.
3. Dugouts will not be utilized. Teams will utilize Team Congregation Areas as designated by Wayne Little League and social distance to the best of their ability.
4. Parents are encouraged to supply their players with antibacterial wipes and hand sanitizer for disinfecting shared playing equipment and cleaning hands between innings.
5. PPE (Personal Protective Equipment):
  - a. All managers/coaches, volunteers, umpires, etc., are required to wear face coverings (masks) while on the fields and within the Little League Complexes.
  - b. Players are required wear cloth face coverings (masks) when in close contact areas and in places where recommended social distancing is challenging or not feasible, such as in dugouts. Player do not have to wear face coverings while on the field.
  - c. If unable to satisfy face covering requirements due to a medical condition, a doctor's letter is required stating such prior to the season.
  - d. Players should not wear protective medical gloves on the field during game play.
  - e. Players, especially at younger divisions, are not required to wear a cloth face covering while on the field during game play.
  - f. Players will be permitted to wear a cloth face covering on the field during game play, if physically able to do so, based on any directive of a medical provider or individual determination of the player/parent/guardian.
  - g. Cloth face coverings should not be placed on young children under age 2, anyone who has trouble breathing, or is unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance.
6. Teams must clean their dugout of all trash and other items after each game, and to wipe down (clean) hard surfaces such as benches, bat racks, etc.
7. Upon arriving at a dugout for the first time, teams are to disinfect hard surface areas (benches, bat racks, etc.). Procedures #6 and #7 here will comply with the CDC recommendation of a two-step process for cleaning and disinfecting.
8. Consumption of food, gum and sunflower seeds on the field and in the dugout is prohibited.
9. Player Equipment:
  - a. No personal player bat bags/equipment bags should be allowed in the dugout. Player equipment should be spaced accordingly outside the dugout to prevent direct contact.
  - b. Players should have their own individual batter's helmet, glove, bat, and catcher's equipment.
  - c. Avoid, or minimize, equipment sharing when feasible
  - d. Some critical equipment may not be able to be obtained by every individual. When it is necessary to share critical or limited equipment, all surfaces of each piece of shared



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- e. equipment must be cleaned first and then disinfected with an EPA-approved disinfectant against COVID-19 and allowed sufficient time to dry before used by a new player. Increased attention should be paid to detailed cleaning of all equipment directly contacting the head and face (catcher's mask, helmets).
  - f. Player's equipment (e.g. bags, helmets, bats, gloves, etc.) should be cleaned and disinfected after each use by a parent/guardian/caretaker, where applicable.
  - g. Individuals disinfecting equipment are encouraged to use gloves while using disinfectants and follow the manufacturer's directions for use. All disinfectants should be stored properly, in a safe area, out of reach of children.
10. The home plate umpire shall position themselves behind the pitcher's mound to allow for social distancing.
11. Drinks / Snacks:
- a. Athletes, managers/coaches, and umpires should bring their own personal drinks to all team activities. Drinks should be labeled with the person's name.
  - b. Individuals should take their own drink containers home each night for cleaning and sanitation or use single-use bottles.
  - c. There should be no use of shared or team beverages.
  - d. Teams should not share any snacks or food. Players should bring individual, pre-packaged food, if needed.
12. Sunflower seeds, gum, etc.
- a. Sunflower seeds, gum, etc., should not be allowed in dugouts or on the playing field.
  - b. All players and coaches are always required to refrain from spitting, including in dugout areas and on the playing field.
13. Team/player handshakes and team/player high fives are eliminated. Alternatively, player / coaches should tip their caps the opposing team.
14. No group prayers between teams on the field.
15. Baseballs:
- a. Should be rotated through on a regular basis, every ½ inning, to limit individual contact. Each team will use their own baseballs.
  - b. Umpires should limit their contact with the ball, and catchers should retrieve foul balls and passed balls where possible.
  - c. Balls used in infield/outfield warm-up should be isolated from a shared ball container.
  - d. Foul balls landing outside the field of play should be retrieved by participating players, coaches, and umpires. No spectators should retrieve the ball.
16. Dugout Conduct:
- a. Managers/coaches and players should be assigned spots in the dugout or on the bleachers so that they are at least six feet apart and must be placed behind a fence.
  - b. Players are to stay at their assigned spots when on the bench or while waiting their turn to bat.
  - c. Players and managers/coaches should wear a cloth face covering while in the dugout.



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17. All staff and spectators are encouraged to continue social distancing on and off the field during an event. Practice social distancing of six feet wherever possible from individuals not residing within their household, especially in common areas. Face coverings (Masks) are encouraged.
18. Players and families should vacate the field/facility as soon as is reasonably possible after the conclusion of their game to minimize unnecessary contact with players, coaches, and spectators from the next game, ideally within 15 minutes.
19. Manager will conduct body temperature measurements on players prior to entering the field. Pass / Fail threshold is 100° F. Anyone exceeding the temperature threshold and / or displaying symptoms of cough, or worsening respiratory conditions, or any known exposure to a person with COVID-19 will be sent home. In addition, written clearance from a medical professional will be required to return to field of play, with a copy to the team manager who shall promptly provide to Tim Crowe.
20. Any individual, including players, at risk for severe illness or with serious underlying medical or respiratory condition should only attend Little League activities with permission from a medical professional.
21. Public Restrooms:
  - a. A “one-in-one-out” policy, where only one individual is permitted within the restroom at one time, is implemented to ensure adequate distancing in the confined restroom space.
  - b. Restrooms will be disinfected on a regular basis.
  - c. Use of refillable water stations is not permitted.
22. Concession Stands:
  - a. Food / concession sales will not be available.
  - b. Families are encouraged to bring their own food/beverages.
23. Any coach or player testing positive for COVID-19 must promptly notify their team manager. The team manager must promptly notify Tim Crowe if any player, coach or manager on their team has tested positive so that the League may consult with the local board of health when appropriate.
24. No player, coach, manager, volunteer or spectator should come to the facility/field if he/she has any of the following symptoms: fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, headache, congestion or running nose, nausea, vomiting or diarrhea.
25. No player, coach, manager, volunteer or spectator should come to the facility/field if any of the following is true: **A)** Within the last 10 days, you have been diagnosed with COVID-19, had a test confirming you have the virus, or have been advised to isolate by your doctor or a public health official. **B)** In the last two weeks, you were in close contact with a COVID-19 positive individual (within 6 feet, for more than a cumulative total of 15 minutes over a 24 hour period). **C)** You have traveled to or from a state listed on the NJ.gov travel advisory list.

**Please direct any questions / concerns to Tim Crowe (973) 557-7468.**