

BEND SOUTH LITTLE LEAGUE
2026 SEASON SAFETY GUIDE



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EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN

In case of an emergency, the Team Manager should take the following steps:

- 1. Suspend play:** Stop all activity on the field and remove players from the immediate vicinity of the emergency. If the field is unsafe due to threat of violence, inclement weather, or other immediate safety concern, the manager should direct all players, volunteers, and spectators to immediately withdraw to safety.
- 2. Call 911:** Designate one specific person to call 911 and provide the field's address.
- 3. Provide first aid:** Render assistance to injured parties to the level of your training, and/or request help from qualified adults.
- 4. Deploy a "Greeter":** Send a volunteer to the facility entrance to direct EMS and/or law enforcement to the exact field location
- 5. Report the Incident:** As soon as it is safe to do so, contact the BSSL Safety Officer or another member of the board of directors. Then submit an incident report to safety@bendsouthll.org.

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

In case of emergency, call 911.

For less urgent situations requiring law enforcement or Fire/EMS, call the Deschutes 911 non-emergency dispatch at 541-693-6911.

FIELD ADDRESSES

When calling 911, be prepared to provide the address of your emergency:

- Bend Tech Academy (Marshall): 1291 NE 5th St.
- Buckingham (North or South field): 62560 Hamby Rd.
- Caldera (Baseball Field): 60925 SE 15th St. (entrance off Caldera Dr.)
- Elk Meadow (North or South field): 60880 SW Brookwood Blvd.
- High Desert: 61000 Diamondback Ln.
- Jewell (North field, South field or South lawn): 20550 SE Murphy Rd.
- Pine Ridge (East or West field): 19840 Hollygrape St.
- Silver Rail (North or South field): 61530 SE Stone Creek Ln.

After the emergency has been resolved, contact the BSLL Safety Officer, Oliver Tatom, at (310) 562-6637. If the Safety Officer cannot be immediately reached, contact one of the BSLL officers listed below.

President, Bobby Evers (Interim)	541-948-9440
VP of Baseball, Randy Munch	541-706-1939
VP of Softball, Dawn McClendon	541-310-2494
Director of Coaches, Bobby Evers	541-948-9440
Umpire-in-Chief, Freeman Daniels	503-915-6979
Secretary, Mariah Smith	541-578-0166
Treasurer, Taryn Arnold	503-440-5635
Conflict Officer, Christy Barlow	971-678-6338
Communications Officer, Eric Walter	206-851-2951

PRE-EVENT SAFETY CHECKLIST

Team Managers should check the following before each game and practice:

- Take note of evacuation routes in case of a safety threat. Ensure gates are unlocked and open. Be sure to lock all gates when you leave.
- Ground Condition: Check for holes, tripping hazards, or excessive mud/water.
- Fence: Ensure fencing is free of sharp protrusions.
- First Aid Kit: Ensure the team first aid kit is stocked and present on the bench.
- Hydration: Confirm all players have access to water.
- Equipment Check:
 - All helmets are NOCSAE approved and fit snugly without obstructing vision.
 - Pads and gloves are the correct size and intact.
 - Bats meet Little League standards and appear age and skill-appropriate.
 - Shoes appear to provide adequate support and traction with no metal cleats (except in Juniors)
 - Catcher has full set of gear, including helmet with full face mask, dangling throat guard, chest protector, and leg guards.
 - All equipment appears undamaged, free of cracks and excessive wear, and unmodified.
- Weather Check:
 - No thunder/lightning within the last 30 minutes.
 - Temperature is between 32°F and 100°F.
 - Air Quality (AQI) is below 200.

EMERGENCY PLANNING

MEDICAL EMERGENCIES

Team Managers should review medical release forms before the team's practice and discuss any medical conditions with the player and their parent/guardian to ensure a plan is in place in case they experience a medical event.

If a player, volunteer, or spectator experiences a medical emergency during a Little League event, the Team Manager or the Umpire should immediately suspend play and remove players from the immediate vicinity of the emergency.

The Team Manager should ensure 911 has been called and EMS are responding to the correct location. A volunteer should be delegated to stand at the gate to direct EMS to the location of the emergency.

The Team Manager should provide First Aid to the extent they are trained to do so. If another individual with a higher level of training is available, they should be allowed to take over management of the incident if the player and their parent/guardian consents to treatment.

SECURITY THREATS

All BSLL volunteers, parents, players, and spectators at league events are expected to follow the Code of Conduct. This code expressly forbids physical abuse and threats of violence.

Additionally, all members of the BSLL community are expected to follow the community use policies of Bend-La Pine Schools. Firearms are prohibited on all school district property. Dogs must be on a leash and all dog waste must be disposed of properly.

Volunteers are expected to de-escalate situations where tempers may run high. In the event that a volunteer believes they cannot safely de-escalate a situation, they should withdraw and immediately contact the Safety Officer, the Conflict Officer, or another member of the Board of Directors for assistance.

If a member of the BSLL Community is the victim of physical attack, or if they believe physical harm is imminent, they should immediately call 911 to request an emergency law enforcement response. Volunteers should withdraw and seek a safe place to wait until the scene has been secured. Volunteers should only render First Aid if it is safe to do so.

Violations of the Code of Conduct should be promptly reported to the Conflict Officer using the Code of Conduct Incident Form. The Conflict Officer will follow the process outlined in the BSLL Bylaws to collect information and report their findings to the Conflict Review Committee.

SEVERE WEATHER

BSLL expects all volunteers to know and follow Little League's Lightning Safety Guidelines (Appendix A of the Rulebooks) and Heat Illness Prevention Protection Policy (Appendix E) for all league events, including games, practices, field days, and opening ceremonies.

When there are reports of thunder or lightning, BSLL volunteers should follow the adage: "If you hear it, clear it; If you see it, flee it." Practices and games may not resume until at least 30 minutes has passed since thunder was last heard.

Team Managers should check the weather forecast prior to all games and practices. Because some apps and websites may be inaccurate, BSLL encourages basing decisions on local weather information provided by the National Weather Service (weather.gov). Generally, practices and games should be canceled if temperatures fall below 32°F or exceed 100°F.

On days with stagnant air or visible smoke, Team Managers should check the Air Quality Index (AQI) using either the [Watch Duty website or mobile app](#) or the [EPA Air Now Fire and Smoke Map website or mobile app](#). When AQI is between 100 and 200, consider shifting to lower intensity drills during practice. If a player has a history of asthma, ensure they have their rescue inhaler available and consult with the parent/guardian to determine the appropriate activity level. *Games and practices should be canceled when AQI exceeds 200.*

For rain without thunder or lightning, the Team Manager should follow the Bend South Field Maintenance protocol for wet/rainy games. Games and practices should be canceled if there is standing water in the field of play that is unable to be cleared or absorbed with proper field maintenance.

Team Managers should clearly communicate the expectations around inclement weather to their players and parents before or at their team's first practice. Whenever possible, they should designate a non-coach volunteer to monitor weather during practices and games so coaches are not distracted while supervising children at play.

Once a game has started, it is the umpire's discretion to end it early due to weather or darkness.

PLAYER INJURIES

INJURY PREVENTION

All volunteers share responsibility for prioritizing the safety and well-being of players. BSLI expects every member of the league community to follow the safety practices outlined in this guide as well as the Little League Safety Code (Appendix B of the Little League Rulebook). To promote a culture of safety, any coach or umpire should feel empowered to stop a game for a safety concern, and the game may not be resumed until both Team Managers and the umpire agree it is safe to do so.

FIRST AID/CPR

All volunteers are encouraged to undergo training in First Aid and CPR. Team Managers are required to complete the First Aid Awareness Training through League University each season. In lieu of this training, volunteers may submit a current First Aid certification card from a recognized training organization to the Safety Officer for approval.

Before the first practice of each season, the BSLI Safety Officer will ensure fully stocked First Aid kits are deployed to each field. The manager should inspect the First Aid kit prior to each game or practice to ensure it is fully stocked and easily accessible in the event of an injury. Missing supplies should be immediately reported to the Safety Officer for replacement.

The Team Manager may designate a parent volunteer to serve as the primary responder in case of an injury or medical emergency, but this does not relieve the manager of their responsibility to complete the First Aid Awareness training. The volunteer must meet all requirements for Little League volunteers, including consenting to a background screening.

INJURY REPORTING

Any injury resulting in a player's removal from play or which may require evaluation and treatment by a medical or dental provider must be documented in an [injury/incident tracking report form](#). Team Managers may delegate the report to an assistant coach or other volunteer, but the head coach has ultimate responsibility for ensuring the report accurately records the events leading up to the injury and any care provided. The completed form must be emailed to the Safety Officer (safety@bendsouthll.org) within 24 hours of the incident.

For injuries requiring evaluation or treatment by a medical or dental provider, the Safety Officer will assist the player's parent/guardian (or the injured party, if aged 18 or older) with the process of submitting an accident insurance claim with Little League International. The claim should be submitted within 20 days of the incident.

For more information on the process for submitting accident insurance claims, refer to: <https://www.littleleague.org/university/articles/how-to-submit-an-accident-insurance-claim/>

CONCUSSIONS

In compliance with Oregon Revised Statute 417.875 ("Jenna's Law"), every player aged 12-18 and a parent or legal guardian of each player will be provided educational materials on the symptoms and warning signs of concussion during the registration process.

All coaches and umpires must receive annual training on how to recognize the signs and symptoms of a concussion and how to seek proper medical treatment for a person who is suspected of having a concussion. They may complete this requirement by attending a live training conducted by the BSLI Safety Officer, or by completing an approved online training. Approved online training courses include *CDC Heads Up for Youth Sports Coaches* and *NFHS Concussion in Sports*. The training must be completed prior to the first practice.

HEAD INJURY PROTOCOL

1. If a player exhibits signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with concussion after an observed or suspected blow to the head or body, or if the player has been diagnosed with a concussion, the Team Manager will immediately pull the player from participation in all Little League activities, including practice and game play.

If it is unclear whether the player has a concussion, the Team Manager will follow the "When in doubt, sit them out" rule.

If the player shows any red flag signs/symptoms, such as loss of consciousness, seizure, repeated vomiting, or worsening mental status, the Team Manager will ensure 911 is called immediately.

2. The Team Manager or their designee will submit an incident report to the BSLI Safety Officer, who will follow up with the player's parent/guardian.
3. The player will not be allowed to participate until ALL of the following conditions have been met:
 - a. At least 1 day has passed since the injury.
 - b. The player has no symptoms of concussion at rest or exertion.
 - c. The player's legal guardian provides a *written* medical release from a qualified healthcare provider clearing the player for FULL participation.
4. The Team Manager will ensure a copy of the player's medical release is submitted to the Safety Officer.

CHILD PROTECTION POLICIES

ANNUAL BACKGROUND CHECKS

All BSLL volunteers must submit government-issued identification, consent to a background screening, and complete a background questionnaire. Background screenings are conducted by Little League's provider, J.D. Palatine ("JDP"). A new background screening must be completed for each volunteer each season. Volunteers will not be allowed to interact with children until they have passed a background screening.

Upon receipt of the background screening report, the BSLL President or the Safety Officer will review the report, verify the applicant's government issued identification, and determine if the applicant is eligible to volunteer. The following offenses prohibit an individual from participating:

- Any charge, conviction, no contest plea or guilty plea, or admission to any crime involving or against a minor.
- An individual is listed on either of the [U.S. Center for SafeSport's Centralized Disciplinary Database](#) and/or Little League International Ineligible List.
- If an individual has any charge, conviction, no contest plea or guilty plea, or admission to any crimes that are considered sexual in nature or listed on the National Sex Offender Registry, they must contact the Security Manager at Little League International (570-326-1921) before appointing the individual as a volunteer to participate in any capacity in the league.
- NOTE: If an individual involved with a league, or any activity of the Little League program, is under investigation for any type of child abuse, or has a pending charge against, or involving, a minor, they must be suspended until the outcome of the investigation or pending charges are complete and the allegations are resolved.

A letter or email, which includes a copy of the completed background screening report & Summary of Rights, will be sent to every volunteer where a criminal record from the public records database is reported to your local Little League. A toll-free number is listed on the letter if the volunteer decides to dispute the information reported.

Volunteers can learn more about Little League International's background screening policy at: <https://www.littleleague.org/player-safety/child-protection-program/local-league-background-check-information/>

ABUSE AWARENESS TRAINING

All BSLL volunteers must complete the Little League Abuse Awareness training course annually. The training course is free and available through Little League University. No volunteer will be allowed to interact with children until the BSLL President or Safety Officer has verified the volunteer has completed the training course for the current season. Course completion may be verified by a course completion certificate or by the training completion report in the Little League Data Center.

MANDATORY REPORTING

Abuse is defined under Oregon law to include any physical injury to a child cause by other than accidental means, any mental injury to the a child which shall include cruel or unconscionable acts or statements made, or threatened to be made, to a child if the acts, statements or threats result in severe harm to the child's psychological, cognitive, emotional, or social well-being and functioning, sexual abuse, sexual exploitation and neglect

Every BSLL volunteer, including Coaches, Umpires, Board Members, and Parent Volunteers, have a duty to report known or suspected child abuse as soon as possible and no later than 24 hours after they became aware of the possible abuse.

The volunteer must make the report either to a local law enforcement agency by calling 541-693-6911, or to the Oregon Department of Human Services by calling 855-503-SAFE. If the reporting volunteer believes the child to be in imminent danger, they should call 911.

The volunteer must also report the abuse concern to the BSLL President, or to the Safety Officer if the President is the subject of the allegation. Reporting to the President or Safety Officer does not replace a report to law enforcement or state authorities.

Abuse concerns do not need to be substantiated prior to reporting, and volunteers should not investigate allegations. If the alleged abuser is affiliated with BSLL, the league will follow protocols outlined in the Little League International Child Protection Program, including immediately suspending the alleged abuser from all league activities to ensure they will have no contact with children in the league pending the results of an investigation by appropriate authorities.

ONE-ON-ONE INTERACTION POLICY

All individual interactions between BSLL volunteers and players must be observable and interruptible by another adult at all times. Volunteers are prohibited from spending any length of time alone with a minor athlete during the league's programs and events unless:

- There is an emergency.
- There is written permission from the player's parent/legal guardian.
- The volunteer is the player's parent/legal guardian, sibling, or personal care assistant.

Volunteers are prohibited from contacting players directly through social media or electronic communication unless another adult volunteer or the player's parent/legal guardian is copied on the communication.

If a Team Manager or other volunteer discovers an athlete's parent/guardian or other responsible adult has not arrived at the scheduled time after conclusion of a game or practice, the volunteer should make every effort to have another adult remain with them while they await parent/guardian's arrival. Similarly, if a child is injured and must be transported to a hospital, urgent care, or treatment center, the volunteer should attempt to have another adult volunteer accompany them. Under no circumstances should a child be left on a field or at a hospital alone.

Physical contact between volunteers and players should be very limited. Some examples of appropriate physical touch include high fives or administering appropriate first aid.

NON-RETALIATION POLICY

Any individual who makes a good faith report of suspected child abuse will not be retaliated against, even if the allegation is later determined to be unsubstantiated. Suspected retaliation should be reported to the as a Code of Conduct violation to the Conflict Officer.

Volunteers are encouraged to review the Child Protection Policy requirements in their entirety at the Little League International website:

<https://www.littleleague.org/downloads/ll-child-protection-program/>