

Capitola Soquel Little League (CSLL)
2021 Season
COVID-19 Preparedness & Safety Plan
www.csllbaseball.com

General Information

These guidelines are intended to reduce the potential risk of COVID-19 exposure for players, coaches, league members and spectators. Adherence to this COVID-19 safety plan is a requirement for participation in any CSLL event.

CSLL Officials are responsible for enforcing this safety plan.

These recommendations are subject to change, based on guidance from the County of Santa Cruz Health Services Agency, California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and Centers for Disease Control (CDC). Notification of such changes may be sent via email or phone call.

CDPH classifies Baseball competition/training/practice with others as an *outdoor moderate-contact sport*. Moderate-contact sports are team sports that can be played with only incidental or intermittent close contact between participants. This classification is based on level of physical contact and transmission risk related to face coverings, physical distancing and level of exertion.

The status of return-to-competition is subject to change at any time given the level of COVID-19 transmission in California.

Inter-team competitions are authorized only if (a) both teams are located in the same county and the sport is authorized based on current tier status (b) teams are located in immediately bordering counties and the sport is authorized in both counties based on their current tier status.

(Source: CDPH Outdoor and Indoor youth and Recreational Adult Sports Guidelines)

Staff Training & Enforcement

A training meeting will be held to educate coaches and staff on the CSLL COVID-19 Safety Plan.

All CSLL staff members, players and spectators must comply with the outlined COVID-19 Safety Plan. Any person in violation of the outlined protocol, will be warned and re-educated on the safety plan. Continued violations may result in restricted participation in CSLL events.

Signage

Signage reminding individuals of established protocols, social distancing of 6 feet, the requirement to wear a face mask and to maintain proper hand hygiene will be posted at each field location.

Spectators

During games and practices, spectators are not allowed to congregate on fields, bleachers, picnic benches, or other areas on the CSLL complex or other fields utilized by CSLL for events.

Spectators may observe practices and games from designated observation areas outside of the playing field, but observers should be limited to ensure physical distance can be maintained and reduce potential crowding.

Observers must stay at least 6 feet from non-household members and wear face coverings at all times.

CSLL will designate an observation area outside of the playing field.

Arrival and Exiting

The start and end times of games will be scheduled to allow for adequate physical distancing of teams between games. Players and Coaches will be asked to not arrive before scheduled pre-game times.

Post-game huddles and team discussions will be limited and brief. All individuals will be asked leave the field area promptly after games.

Sanitation Schedule and Cleaning

Areas to be Cleaned

At the conclusion of games, Team Managers will ensure that all surfaces (i.e., benches, bleachers, etc.) are disinfected and that all trash and debris are picked up.

Equipment Sanitizing

CSLL will supply each team with equipment disinfection and hand sanitization supplies.

Players should use their own equipment whenever possible. If a player must borrow, they will coordinate with their coach or equipment manager for loaner equipment.

Shared equipment should be minimized and shared only when necessary. All shared equipment will be cleaned and disinfected between use and upon completion of the game.

When equipment is shared during an activity, participants should perform hand hygiene (wash hands with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer) before play, during breaks, and after the conclusion of the activity.

Balls or other objects or equipment (i.e., bats) can be touched by multiple players and used during practice and play if the above hand hygiene practices are followed.

During games, each team will use their own game ball to avoid cross contamination between teams.

Concession Stand

The concession stand will not be opened at this time.

If and when the concession stand opens, guidelines will include continuous cleaning throughout the day. Countertops and pay stations will be sanitized between customers. Food workers will use face coverings and proper hand hygiene including frequent hand washing and use of gloves when handling food. Single use condiments will be used. Hand sanitizer will be provided for concession stand workers and customers.

Additional food handling protocols may be required based on local and state guidelines.

Hand Hygiene

CSLL will supply each team with hand sanitizer. Participants will be required to use hand sanitizer before entering the field of play.

Alcohol based hand sanitizer will be located at all dugout locations.

Participants including coaches and players should perform hand hygiene (wash hands with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer) before play, during breaks, at half time, and after the conclusion of the activity.

Face Coverings

Face coverings (i.e., masks) are required at all times for players, unless it poses a hazard to the player during game play.

Face coverings must be worn when not participating actively in baseball activity, such as during team huddles and when on the bench/dugout.

Face coverings are required to be worn at all times by coaching staff and spectators.

Physical Distancing

Participants should maintain at least 6 feet of physical distance from others to the maximum extent possible, including when in the dugout and on sidelines.

There will be no after game high fives, handshakes or other physical contact celebrations.

Benches/bleachers will be marked with 6 foot spacing. If the dugout bench does not allow for the full team then additional chairs or bleachers will be utilized for players.

Team Snacks

Food, including sunflower seeds and gum, is not allowed in the dugout.

Players will be required to bring their own water bottle, labeled with their name.

Shared snacks (team snacks) will not be allowed.

Health Screening & Testing

Testing for COVID-19 before participating in youth sports is not required by CSLL.

Health symptom screening will be required at the start of each CSLL event (i.e., practice, games, evaluations) for players and coaches.

Parents or guardians must report if a player or household contact is ill or tests positive for COVID-19, even if asymptomatic. These individuals may not participate in practices and games until receiving a doctor's note, specifying a date for return to baseball.

Notification of potential or known exposure must be reported to the CSLL Safety Officer. The CSLL Safety Officer is responsible for contacting the County of Santa Cruz Health Services Agency for exposure reporting and contact tracing.

The County of Santa Cruz Health Services Agency and guidelines from the CDC will assist in determining when it is safe for players and exposed contacts to return to practice and games.

Exposure Protocol

In the event of a potential or confirmed COVID-19 exposure the following scenarios may apply:

1. A player or staff member has symptoms of illness (i.e., fever of 100 +, cough, breathing, loss of taste or smell, chills, body aches, sore throat, diarrhea, vomiting, headache, congestion or runny nose)
 - a. Parent or staff member should report to Safety Officer immediately.
 - b. Affected player or staff member will be removed from CSLL events.
 - c. Affected player or staff member may return to play with a doctor's note specifying a date for return to baseball.
 - d. Safety officer will follow up with affected player or staff member.
 - a. Based on recommendations from County of Santa Cruz Health Services Agency, practices and games may continue while continuing to implement the CSLL COVID-19 Safety Plan.
2. A player or staff member receives a positive COVID-19 test.
 - a. Parent or staff member should report to Safety Officer immediately.
 - b. Affected player or staff member will be removed from CSLL events.
 - c. Safety officer will follow up with affected player or staff member.
 - d. CSLL staff and player families will be notified of the COVID-19 exposure. Notifications may be via email or phone call.

- e. Safety officer will contact County of Santa Cruz Health Services Agency to report exposure.
 - b. Based on recommendations from County of Santa Cruz Health Services Agency, practices and games may continue while continuing to implement the CSLL COVID-19 Safety Plan.
 - c. Affected player or staff member may return to play with a doctor's note specifying a date for return to baseball.
 - d. County of Santa Cruz Health Services Agency Links:
 - <http://www.santacruzhealth.org/HSAHome/HSADivisions/PublicHealth/CommunicableDiseaseControl/DiseaseReportingInformation.aspx>
 - <http://www.santacruzhealth.org/HSAHome/HSADivisions/PublicHealth/CommunicableDiseaseControl.aspx>
 - <http://www.santacruzhealth.org/HSAHome/HSADivisions/PublicHealth/CommunicableDiseaseControl/CoronavirusHome.aspx>
3. A player or staff member reports having close contact to a person with suspected or known COVID-19.
- e. CDPH guidelines on what defines close contact:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/public-health-recommendations.html>
 - f. Parent or staff member should report to Safety Officer immediately.
 - g. Affected player or staff member will be removed from CSLL events.
 - h. Affected player or staff member may return to play with a doctor's note specifying a date for return to baseball.
 - i. Safety officer will follow up with affected player or staff member.
 - j. Based on recommendations from County of Santa Cruz Health Services Agency, practices and games may continue while continuing to implement the CSLL COVID-19 Safety Plan.

References:

California Department of Public Health: *Outdoor and Indoor Youth and Recreational Adult Sports*, December 14, 2020

American Academy of Pediatrics: *COVID-19 Interim Guidance: Return to Sports*, December 17, 2020

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: *Isolate If you Are Sick*, January 7, 2021; *When to Quarantine*, December 10, 2020.

County of Santa Cruz Health Services Agency: <http://www.santacruzhealth.org/>

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