



# CALIFORNIA DISTRICT 17 RESPONSIBLE RESTART PROTOCOLS



## **SIERRA MADRE LITTLE LEAGUE** **“Where Safety comes First”**

Western Region, District 17  
League ID #: 4051715

## **SMLL 2021 Safety Plan** Updated as of 2/16/21

### Safety Mission Statement

Sierra Madre Little League is a non-profit organization run by volunteers whose mission is to provide an opportunity for our community’s children to learn and enjoy the game of baseball in a safe and friendly environment.

### PURPOSE OF THIS SPECIAL ADDENDUM

This Addendum defines new requirements and operational enhancements to the Safety Plan, focused in particular on mitigating infectious diseases, including but not limited to COVID-19.

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## LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL

The information herein must be provided to all players' families, coaches, officials, and employees as part of their registration to participate. It must also be maintained by team managers and available on the League website. A condensed version is intended to be posted onsite at Heasley Field. Any updates or amendments to this document must be immediately provided directly to participating families, coaches, employees, and officials.

### OVERVIEW

We have worked closely with our LL District 17 and Sierra Madre City Management to draft this Safety Plan. In this limited "Phase I" of reopening baseball play, SMLL seeks to:

- Provide our youth much needed activity outdoors, along with the vital development of their confidence, team mindset, sportsmanship, and passion to participate – all central motivations to SMLL.
- Maintain small, safely spaced groups to allow all SMLL volunteer-coaches to best implement the Safety Plan in their entirety.
- Demonstrate to our Families, City and County, our thoughtful attention to safety, and to continue to improve our policies as we carry out the Safety Plan for these limited-size groups

As of 2/16/21, this plan remains a living document - subject to change under State, LA County, SM City management's final requirements, and based on the evolving needs of our players and volunteers.

All Safety Plans and Addendums are subject to change under State, LA County, SM City management's requirements, or to continue to improve safety as determined by SMLL.

Regardless of the dates and to what levels baseball activities are cleared, SMLL WILL NOT authorize any play unless all facilities, equipment, teams, families, safety supplies, and health reporting platforms are ready.

### KEY PARTICIPANT PROVISIONS

Prior to Participants must utilize the Team Manager "App" Interface register DAILY and INDIVIDUALLY to attend every Camp event (see [TEAM MANAGER LINK](#)).

With their daily registration, all Participants must confirm A) their health, B) that they are not at risk of infection, and C) that they are prepared to uphold the ENTIRE Safety Plan (see Safety Plan "Arrival to Facility" p.2).

Families are participating voluntarily, subject to their own medical risk assessment as a family and as individuals. All participants will acknowledge through a City and SMLL waiver release of liability, including that NO "Safety Plan" or best practices can guarantee disease prevention (including COVID-19).

SMLL shall regularly provide to Camp Participants, member families, and to the public, safety updates, education, and direct contact information for the reporting of unsafe behavior, conditions, or suspected symptoms or risks of exposure to COVID-19.

### SMLL 2021 Camp Protocols

Subject to the objectives outlined above, and until such time when more expanded baseball activity may be approved, SMLL commits to operate only the following limited baseball activities, under:

- the provisions of LA COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH REOPENING PROTOCOLS FOR DAY CAMPS: APPENDIX K, DATED JULY 17, 2020, as well as
- the provisions of the SMLL 2020 Safety Plan and Special Addendum dated February 16, 2021

#### 1. LA COUNTY PROTOCOL FOR DAY CAMPS

- a. ALL APPLICABLE WORKPLACE POLICIES AND PRACTICES AS PROVIDED THEREIN, TO PROTECT CAMP VOLUNTEER HEALTH

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- b. ALL PHYSICAL DISTANCING MEASURES AS PROVIDED THEREIN, WITH THE FOLLOWING ENHANCEMENTS AND POINTS OF EMPHASIS
  - i. Limited number of attendees to the proposed practice clinics: SMLL shall initially authorize no more than six players (“Campers”) and three (“Counselors”) per clinic
  - ii. Camp Clinics may only be held the open field space, without utilizing Dugouts or Batting cages unless authorized for limited groups and conditions
  - iii. NO SCRIMMAGES: Until so authorized by the City, and LA County and SMLL under new protocols, no Counselors or Campers may have contact with or join activities with another Clinics that may be planned or active during their own Clinic, and no planning of such activity is permitted.
  - iv. All Campers and Family members must wear cloth face coverings
  - v. Cones or special drills shall be employed to maintain safe Camper spacing
  - vi. Minimize all contact between Campers, Counselors, and families
  - vii. Staggered arrival and drop off times, with designated entry and exit routes
  - viii. All applicable safety measures and policies as applied to recreational space
- c. ALL MEASURES FOR INFECTION CONTROL, WITH THE FOLLOWING POINTS OF EMPHASIS
  - i. Distribution of all safety policies to all participants and participant families
  - ii. Ongoing education and updates provided to Campers and families
  - iii. No shared food or beverages, including coolers or snack stations - all campers must bring their own
  - iv. Safety supply kits provided to every team’s counselor/coaching staff
  - v. Sanitation of frequently touched surfaces, as well as any shared equipment which shall be limited only to bats and ball
- d. PROTOCOLS AS PROVIDED THEREIN ON SCREENING
  - i. With their daily registration, all Participants must confirm that:
    - 1. They are prepared to uphold the ENTIRE Safety Plan, and
    - 2. They are not a risk to others (see Safety Plan “Arrival to Facility” p.2)
  - ii. Prior to permitting Campers to join Camp activities, Counselors will screen Campers at a safely spaced screening station - taking temperatures and interviewing them for other symptoms or potential recent exposure risks.
  - iii. Any Counselor(s) or Camper(s) deemed to be at risk, or demonstrating symptoms on the CDC COVID-19 list (included in the SMLL 2021 Safety Plan) must be immediately removed from the event, be instructed to wear a cloth face covering, and isolated from contact with others until they depart:
    - 1. The Counselor must immediately contact the Safety Officer noted below to discuss and document the nature of potential exposure to some or all participants in the given practice clinic,
    - 2. Return of any Counselors or Campers who were deemed to be at risk, or demonstrating symptoms, is subject to full medical clearance as provided in the SMLL 2021 Safety Plan
    - 3. All camp participants deemed to be at risk, demonstrating symptoms, or those who have confirmed to be positive COVID-19 cases, shall be immediately documented to the city of Sierra Madre and the local health Department to enable for optimal contamination tracing
- e. COMMUNICATION TO CAMP-PARTICIPANT FAMILIES & THE PUBLIC
  - i. The Team Manager App shall provide the first line of communication between Counselors participant families and camp participants regarding any risks and exposures
  - ii. As mentioned elsewhere here in this Addendum B, along with Special Addendum, will be posted at public entrances to the camp facility and signs regarding the safety protocols will be displayed throughout the area
  - iii. SMLL will provide regular updates on its League website, and maintain Direct PUBLIC email and telephone access to its board for all members
- f. SMLL shall make all necessary provisions to ensure equitable access for all Camp Participants to critical safety equipment, supplies and critical services

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g. SMLL shall include and attach herein, and uphold, any additional policies or provisions as may be required by the City of Sierra Madre and/or LA County

SMLL KEY CONTACTS:	Robert Bischoff	President	646.207.0878
	Chris Bragg	Vice President	626.840.1629
	Brannigan Scott	Safety Officer	626.705.4268
	Amy Zimmerman	Player Agent	626.252.3793
	Sean Hanrahan	Equipment	818.391.3835

	MANDATORY	RECOMMENDED BEST PRACTICES
<b>SUSPECTED COVID-19 CASES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Immediately isolate and seek medical care for any player, coach, umpire or employee who, or who has a person residing in their primary residence who develops symptoms.</b></li> <li>● All teams must work with League to maintain a complete list of coaches and players present at each practice or game. These records must include the date, beginning and ending time of the event, plus name, address, and phone contact to be made available upon request from the local health district.</li> <li>● If players are displaying ANY symptoms, including:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Fever</li> <li>● Sore throat</li> <li>● New cough</li> <li>● New shortness of breath</li> <li>● New muscle aches</li> <li>● Unexplained loss of taste or smell</li> <li>● Diarrhea</li> <li>● Headache</li> </ul> <p>The player must not participate in SMLL activities for 1 week. If symptoms continue, a negative COVID-19 test will be required to return to activities.</p> </li> <li>● If players are symptom free and have negative COVID-19 test from the last 48 hours, they are able to return to SMLL activities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● As provided herein, symptoms and exposure risks will be monitored daily for all individuals, with any qualifying concern resulting in quarantine/suspension of play for that individual until medically cleared again</li> <li>● Following testing, the League will contact the local health department to initiate appropriate care and tracing.</li> </ul>
<b>PREPARING FOR PLAY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>All participants, spectators, and employees will adhere to physical distancing while at the facility.</b></li> <li>● League officials must make facility accommodations to facilitate <b>physical distancing for all attendees to the facility</b>, including but not limited to floorplan/seating and foot traffic adjustments.</li> <li>● As the team playing defense handles and controls the ball, compliant game balls must be designated and provided to each team for separate use while that team is playing defense.</li> <li>● Restroom and foodservice facilities to be operated or overseen by the League must be prepared and maintained as per State, County and City health department requirements.</li> <li>● Prior to competitive tournaments, District 17 Officials will alert the local health department.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Sanitation “stations” at the facility are recommended to maintain safety during practice and game play.</li> </ul>
<b>EVENT SCHEDULING</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The League will schedule sufficient time between practices and games to minimize interaction between the teams exiting and entering the facility.</li> <li>● On-field warm-up to be limited as much as is reasonably possible and no more than 30 minutes.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Upon arrival during or after a prior event, players, coaches, spectators and umpires are encouraged to stay in their vehicles or at recommended social distances until the start of their event to prevent overcrowding of spectator spaces and walkways while the participants in the prior event exit the facility.</li> </ul>

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## ARRIVAL TO FACILITY

- All players, coaches and players' family members and employees must conduct symptom and exposure assessments (self-evaluation) upon arrival at the facility.
  - Anyone experiencing symptoms or having known exposure to a positive COVID case must stay home and immediately notify the given team manager, and/or the league, at [SmadrelLeague@gmail.com](mailto:SmadrelLeague@gmail.com).
  - COVID-19 Symptoms:
    - Fever
    - Sore throat
    - New cough
    - New shortness of breath
    - New muscle aches
    - Unexplained loss of taste or smell
    - Diarrhea
    - Headache
  - COVID-19 Exposure Risks:
    - Have you had close contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19 or have you been notified that you may have been exposed to it?
  - Any player, coach, player family member or employee who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 must be cleared by a medical doctor to return to the facility.
  - All individuals attending at the facility must prepare and maintain their own hydration. There will be no team water coolers or shared stations for food or beverage at the facility.
  - To limit interaction between events (game or practice), coaches, players and players' family members are to arrive at the facility no earlier than 40 minutes before the time of any event.
- Digital check-in and registration for players at all practices and games.
  - Lineups should be entered online or by spoken word and recorded by officials/umpires without exchanging any physical documents with coaches or players.
  - Athletes are strongly advised to travel to the facility with one member of their immediate household.
  - Where possible, individuals should enter the facility through one point of entry and exit through another.
  - The League prefers that all individuals who have suspended their attendance due to symptoms or potential exposure be cleared by a medical doctor to return to the facility.
  - Due to newly limited capacity for attendees in various areas, such as reduced seating in the bleachers, spectators are advised to be prepared (including bringing personal seating) to view games from locations other than the bleachers at the facility.

## PRACTICE

- **Players will adhere to social distancing during practices at games at all possible times.**
  - **A practicing team shall be limited to 4 coaches and a maximum of 12 players.**
  - Coaches must wear face coverings at all times.
  - Athletes must wear face coverings at all times.
  - A player's family member must conduct symptom and exposure assessments (self-evaluation) for the player upon arrival at the facility.
  - Any player who has, or who has a person residing in their primary residence that has, been diagnosed with COVID-19 must be cleared by a medical doctor to return to the facility.
  - No team water coolers or shared drinking or snack stations are permitted.
  - All players should use only their own equipment and personal items and shall be separated from other players' items. If equipment must be shared, proper sanitation should be administered between every user.
  - PRACTICE FACILITY: For the purpose of scheduling and spacing players, a practice facility consists of one half of a baseball diamond, including its adjacent dugout, batting cage, and/or bullpen. (Therefore, two teams may practice separately on their respective sides of a baseball diamond.)
  - If the coaches agree to divide the field and facilities differently (to accommodate certain drills or plans or otherwise), they may do so only while maintaining safe distancing.
- For each practice session, it is recommended that coaches divide players into groups and establish rotating shifts when possible.
  - Spectators are discouraged at practices so as to limit total attendance of individuals to the field.
  - The league will endeavor to provide each team with enough catchers' gear for each catcher to have his or her own gear.

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## PLAYERS

- **Players will adhere to social distancing during practices and games at all possible times.**
  - **Athletes must wear face coverings at all times**
  - A player's family member must conduct symptom and exposure assessments (self-evaluation) for the player upon arrival at the facility.
  - Any player who has, or who has a person residing in their primary residence that has, been diagnosed with COVID-19 must be cleared by a medical doctor to return to the facility.
  - Players must quickly clear from the site of occasional plays where other players are in close proximity (i.e., "vicinity plays" as they are traditionally called in the sport), such as baserunners passing fielders, tagging of runners by a fielder, and balls hit between defensive players.
  - Immediately at the conclusion of each half inning (when teams switch from offense to defense) proper sanitation must be applied to any physical areas where players have come into contact
  - Players must not share water or personal items, including, but not limited to, water bottles, gloves, batting helmets, hats, and other on- and off-field gear.
  - Players must abide by a "no touch rule" – players must refrain from high fives, handshake lines, and other physical contact with teammates, opposing players, coaches, umpires, and fans. (A "tip the cap" can be used following the game in lieu of the handshake line.)
  - Players must not spit on the field or any other part of the facility.
  - Players will not eat in the dugout or on the field of play (including, but not limited to, sunflower seeds, candy, gum, or similar products).
- Hand washing / hand sanitizing are strongly recommended for athletes during the games.
  - Face mask coverings for players are recommended on the field of play, however they are not required.
  - Players are encouraged to shower and wash their uniforms immediately upon returning to home.
  - Players are encouraged to have and use their own bats, but if bats need to be shared, they shall be sanitized between uses.
  - Upon arrival during or after a prior event, players are encouraged to stay in their vehicles or at recommended social distances until the start of their event to prevent overcrowding of spectator spaces and walkways while the participants in the prior event exit the facility.

## SPECTATORS

- **Must adhere to six foot safe distance practices, and wear face coverings at all times.**
  - Players' family members must conduct symptom and exposure assessments (self-evaluation) upon arrival at the facility. Anyone experiencing COVID-19 symptoms must stay home.
  - Must not enter the field of play or dugout areas at any time.
  - Must keep six-feet or more distance from the backstop.
- Hand washing or hand sanitizing is recommended strongly during the games.
  - Spectators should bring their own seating or portable chairs when possible.
  - The League will endeavor to develop streaming opportunities to provide virtual spectating.
  - Spectators are discouraged at practices so as to limit total attendance of individuals to the field.
  - Upon arrival during or after a prior event, spectators are encouraged to stay in their vehicles or at recommended social distances until the start of their event to prevent overcrowding of spectator spaces and walkways while the participants in the prior event exit the facility.

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## COACHES

- **Coaches will adhere to social distancing during practices and games at all possible times.**
  - **Must wear face coverings at all times.**
  - Must conduct symptom and exposure assessments (self-evaluation) upon arrival at the facility. Anyone experiencing symptoms must stay home and notify the League.
  - Any coach who has, or who has a person residing in their primary residence that has, been diagnosed with COVID-19 must be cleared by a medical doctor to return to the facility.
  - Must not spit on the field or any other part of the facility.
  - Must not eat in the dugout or on the field of play (including, but not limited to, sunflower seeds, candy, gum, or similar products).
  - Must abide by a “no touch rule” –should refrain from high fives, handshake lines, and other physical contact with players and coaches of both teams, umpires, and fans. A “tip the cap” can be used following the game in lieu of the handshake line.
  - Must not share water or personal items (among themselves or with players), including, but not limited to, water bottles, gloves, hats, and other on- and off-field gear.
- Coaches should, to the best of their ability, ensure the players are adhering to social distancing in dugouts and other seating areas, wearing face coverings while not actively participating on the field of play and complying with the other guidelines herein.
  - Upon arrival during or after a prior event coaches are encouraged to stay in their vehicles or at recommended social distances until the start of their event to prevent overcrowding of spectator spaces and walkways while the participants in the prior event exit the facility.

## OFFICIALS/ UMPIRES

- **Must adhere to six-foot social distancing practices at all times.**
  - **The primary umpire calling balls and strikes shall be positioned between shortstop and the pitcher’s mound.**
  - Must conduct symptom and exposure assessments (self-evaluation) upon arrival at the facility. Anyone experiencing symptoms must stay home and notify the League.
  - Any official or umpire who has, or who has a person residing in their primary residence that has, been diagnosed with COVID-19 must be cleared by a medical doctor to return to the facility.
  - New replacement game balls shall be kept by each team playing defense, and provided directly to the pitcher from that team’s designated ball supply.
  - Coaches and umpires must avoid exchanging documents or equipment with players, coaches, or spectators.
  - Lineups must be recorded by the Umpire, if necessary, from team scorekeepers on lineup cards provided to the umpires by the league.
  - Plate meetings shall be minimized, however necessary meetings must be conducted at safe 6-foot distance and should only consist of one coach from each team and game umpires (no players should ever be a part of plate meetings.)
- If physically able, umpires are encouraged to wear cloth face coverings while umpiring.
  - Hand washing or hand sanitizing is recommended strongly during the games.
  - Umpires are encouraged to shower and wash their uniforms immediately upon returning to home.
  - Upon arrival during or after a prior event umpires are encouraged to stay in their vehicles or at recommended social distances until the start of their event to prevent overcrowding of spectator spaces and walkways while the participants in the prior event exit the facility.

## LEAVING THE FACILITY

- **Individuals shall exit the facility promptly at the conclusion of an event and shall not congregate in common areas or parking lot following any game or practice.**
- Athletes are strongly advised to travel from the facility with one member of their immediate household.
  - Hand washing / hand sanitizing are strongly recommended for all attendees prior to leaving the facility.
  - Players and umpires are encouraged to shower and wash their uniforms immediately upon returning home.

## DUGOUTS

- Coaches and players must be assigned spots in the dugout, the bleachers or other seating areas so that they are **at least six feet apart** (and players shall be separated from the field of play by a fence).
- Players are to stay at their assigned spots when on the bench or while waiting their turn to bat.

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## SNACK BAR ("THE DINER")

- **All employees must wear face coverings at all times and adhere to six-foot social distancing practices.**
  - **Patron traffic plans must be designated with signage to maintain 6-foot safe distancing at all times.**
  - **No preparation of food is permitted (at least during 2020). Only prepackaged food and beverages may be sold.**
  - Each employee must conduct symptom and exposure assessments (self-evaluation) upon arrival at the facility. Anyone experiencing symptoms must stay home and notify the League.
  - Any employee who has, or who has a person residing in their primary residence that has, been diagnosed with COVID-19 must be cleared by a medical doctor to return to the facility.
  - All guidance from local municipalities will be implemented and strictly enforced. All relevant guidance documentation shall be maintained by the League and available to Staff for reference.
  - Hand washing / hand sanitizing is required with regularity according to Health Department protocols.
  - All staff must wear gloves during service hours.
  - Cleaning schedules must be established and adhered to for all Snack Bar appliances, fixtures and surfaces.
- Players, coaches, umpires and spectators are encouraged to bring their own water to reduce traffic at the snack bar.

## RESTROOMS

- Prior to and after any league activity, restrooms should be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected.
- Cleaning schedules must be established and adhered to for all facility restrooms.
- Individuals using restroom facilities should apply hand sanitizer or wash their hands for a minimum of 20 seconds with warm water and soap before touching any surfaces.

## SCOREKEEPING & ANNOUNCING

- **Scorekeeping should be done by the home team's official scorekeeper.**
  - **Any scoreboard operators and/or announcer in the press box must adhere to six-foot physical distancing.**
  - Any scoreboard or announcing equipment must be sanitized before and after use, and between all users.
- Digital scorekeeping (i.e., GameChanger is encouraged).

## EQUIPMENT

- If equipment inspection is required, players should space out equipment for inspection. Umpires should avoid direct contact with equipment where possible but, when required, sanitize hands and equipment after inspection.
  - All player and coaching equipment should be spaced accordingly outside the dugout to prevent direct contact.
  - Baseballs and softballs should be rotated through on a regular basis, at least every two innings.
  - Umpires should have no contact with baseballs or equipment.
  - Balls used in infield/outfield warm-up should be isolated from a shared ball container.
  - Foul balls landing outside the field of play should be retrieved by the then-defensive team. No spectators should retrieve the ball.
  - Players shall use their own hat, batter's helmet, glove, and other equipment.
- Players are encouraged to have and use their own bats, but if bats need to be shared, they shall be sanitized between uses.
  - The league will endeavor to provide each team with enough catchers' gear for each catcher to have his or her own gear.
  - 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 and out of the reach of children.
  - Player's equipment (e.g. bags, helmets, bats, gloves, etc.) should be cleaned and disinfected after each game or practice by an adult, if at all possible.

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## FIELD MAINTENANCE

- League officials will clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces (e.g., seating, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, and dugout and batting cage entrances) daily and in between practices and games.
- Field preparation equipment will be sprayed or wiped with cleaner and disinfectant before and after each use.

- The League will encourage volunteers that already are participating in the game or practice (e.g., coaches, parents and league officials) perform field maintenance and disinfecting tasks to limit individuals at the facility.

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## TRAINING

- **District 17 will provide remote training for all volunteers.**
- Volunteers will attend general training and role-specific training.

- The League will endeavor to conduct facility-specific training.
  - It is strongly encouraged, in the case of interleague games, that coaches be familiar with those leagues' facility-specific safety protocols.
-