

West Warwick L.L. COVID-19 Guidelines



- **STABLE GROUPS (TEAMS):** Participants are required to be organized in “stable teams” of a maximum of 15 people. “Stable teams” mean the same players, coaching staff, scorekeepers etc., remain in the same team over the entire season.
 - *It is recommended that parents should select one stable group for their sons/daughters.*
- **PHYSICAL DISTANCING:** Physical distancing is encouraged within each stable team of at least 6 feet when possible. When not in active play, members of a stable team should be 6 feet apart in or out of the dugout.
- **SPACE BETWEEN STABLE GROUPS:** Stable groups are required to maintain a minimum of 14 feet between the other team, umpires, and passersby.
- **SCREENING:** Screen adult coaches and youth participants prior to the activity for any symptoms of COVID-19. Any person (player or coach) exhibiting signs of illness or who have been exposed to a person with COVID-19 must be excluded from the activity in accordance with CDC and RI Department of Health guidelines.
- **HAND CLEANING:** Teach and reinforce hand washing with all members of your stable team. If soap and water are not available, hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol may be used. Each player and coach should bring a bottle of sanitizer for their own use. The team should provide a bottle for team use also. Hand washing and/ or sanitizing should occur before, during, and after stable team practices or games.
 - *It is strongly recommended that Hand Sanitizer be used by all players in between innings, especially players coming back to their designated area (dugout) after being in the field.*
- **BASEBALL FACILITIES:** For any baseball facility used and any field maintenance equipment used, a cleaning schedule needs to be implemented. Frequent cleaning of high touch areas or equipment should be done daily. You should document if you are cleaning your facility. If you are using a public field, you should wipe down the dugout and any high touch areas. Each team should have wipes with them both home and away for cleaning.
 - *Coaches can thoroughly spray dugouts with disinfectant after games*
 - *Coaches should keep a record of cleaning.*

- **SHARED OBJECTS/EQUIPMENT:** Discourage sharing of items: helmets, bats, gloves, drinks etc. All players should bring their own equipment. Equipment should be labeled and spaced apart from other players to limit any touching of equipment. Players must have their own beverage/food. Cups, bottles, and food are not to be shared.
 - *All equipment needs to be spread out.*
 - *It is recommended that the same balls be used during practices.*
 - *During “game” play, it is recommended that each team have their own baseballs to use when they are on the field. In other words, when Team “A” is on the field they use their baseballs to pitch and when Team “B” is on the field, they use their own baseballs to pitch.*
 - *It is recommended that new baseballs are used after every two innings of play.*
- **PRACTICE VS TEAM PLAY:** Stable team practice and drills only are allowed in the month of June. Team play may be allowed when physical distancing can easily be maintained. Competition between groups or teams and travel to play other groups/teams are prohibited in June.
- **FACE COVERINGS:** Coaches and staff are required to wear a face covering during all baseball activity. Players are encouraged to wear face coverings when not in the game. While engaged in the active play of the practice or game, the players do not have to wear a face covering. However, players should be encouraged to wear face coverings at all other times.
 - *Face coverings shall not be required of those who are unable to comply for health reasons.*
- **STAYING HOME:** Coaches, players, family should stay home when sick, tested positive for or are showing COVID-19 symptoms.
- **HYGIENE AND RESPIRATORY ETIQUETTE:** No spitting. No gum. No seeds. Cover coughs, sneezes with a tissue or use the inside of your elbow.
 - No sharing/drinking out of the same bottle.
- **MODIFIED LAYOUTS AND SOCIAL DISTANCING:** Discourage unnecessary physical contact, no high fives, no fist bumps, no hugs. No lines after games. Encourage players to wait in cars until due at practice or a game. Don’t form groups in the parking lot. Short meeting after games or practices. Let the players go quickly.
 - *There should be a designated area (part of stands) for players to sit.*
 - *There should be no congregating after games with teammates and players from the other teams.*
- **UMPIRING** – Recommendation is for one umpire to officiate from behind the mound.
- **PLAN AND COMMUNICATIONS:** Each team shall provide parents and players with the WWCRL COVID-19 plan.

Note: As for the legal responsibility of the league and coaches, keep in mind that one needs to “act reasonably by following guidelines and adhering to strict compliance of the CDC guidelines.”