# ENGLEWOOD LITTLE LEAGUE Statement of League Policy

Our league's Safety Program is based on the belief that the safety and well being of its players must be the primary consideration in all activities. Children are the league's most valuable and important assets and their safety is our greatest responsibility.

It is the objective of our league to take all reasonable and practical measures to ensure the safety, health, and welfare of its children on and around the field, and to ensure that other persons affected by league operations are not exposed to safety and health risks.

Safety is the primary importance in our organization and activities. Each of us, as parents and coaches, has the responsibility of making safety for our children and ourselves a fundamental concern.

All coaches, parents, players and umpires are required to cooperate and contribute to the overall success of this program by performing their assigned tasks in the safest manner possible and by conducting themselves in such a way that enhances their personal safety and that of others.

No game is so important; no practice is so urgent, that we cannot take time to perform them safely.

# ENGLEWOOD LITTLE LEAGUE Safety Code

- 1. The Safety Director is responsible for overseeing the overall safety of all league activities.
- 2. First aid kits are available at playing fields in the concession stand.
- 3. Emergency numbers are posted at each of the concession stands.
- 4. Don't practice or play if hazardous weather is in doubt. (Rain, lightning, or extreme wind, etc.)
- 5. Inspect playing area prior to any practice or game for holes, glass, damage, and other foreign objects.
- 6. Only Managers, Coaches, Umpires and Players are allowed on field during practice or games.
- 7. All players and coaches should be alert at all times during practice and games.
- 8. Inspect equipment on a regular basis. (Before and after each practice and game.)
- 9. Pitching Machines are in good working order (including extension cords, outlets, etc.), and are only to be operated by adult managers and coaches.
- 10. Batters must wear protective helmets during practice and games. ELL will provide helmets with face guards and encourage their use.
- 11. Catchers must wear a protective cup (baseball), catcher's helmet (with face mask and "dangling" type throat protector), long-model chest protector, and shin guards (Girls Softball and Junior/Senior League Baseball catcher's long or short model chest protect tor).
- 12. Except when a runner is returning to a base, headfirst slides are not permitted (does not apply in Junior/Senior League play).
- 13. At no time should "horse play" be permitted on the playing field.
- 14. Parents of players who wear glasses should be encouraged to provide "safety glasses".
- 15. Players must not wear watches, rings, pins, jewelry or other metallic items.
- 16. Regulations prohibit on-deck batters. This means no player shall handle a bat, even while in

an enclosure, until it is his/her time at bat (does not apply in Junior/Senior League play).

- 17. Use caution when entering and leaving ballpark.
- 18. Managers and/or Coaches never leave practice until all children are picked up.

#### **EMERGENCY PROCEDURE**

If an accident occurs that requires medical personnel, follow the steps listed below:

Have someone call proper medical personnel.

Give first aid.

Call 911 if head injury, possible broken bone or life threatening.

Call Safety Director or league official.

**What to Report:** Any incident that causes any player, manager, coach, umpires, or volunteers who receive an injury.

When to Report: All such incidents must be reported to the safety Director within 48 hours.

**Fill out Report:** Safety Director fills out incident/injury-tracking report.

1. Safety Director's Responsibility:

- **a.** Contact injured party or parent/guardian and check on status.
- **b.** Verify the information received.
- **c.** Obtain any other information deemed necessary.
- **d.** If injured party receives medical attention from ER or Doctor, advise of insurance coverage.
  - e. Follow-up on status until recovered.
  - f. Submit a qualified safety plan registration form with the ASAP plan to Little League Int.
  - **G.** Submit facility survey to Little League Int.
  - H. Submit Safety manual to Little league Int.

#### **EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS**

Police or Medical Emergency: 911

Englewood Police: 937-836-2678

Non-Emergency Montgomery County Sheriff: 937-225-4357

**Englewood Little League Officials** 

League President – Pete Bardonaro 432-5325

Safety Director – Ron McGilton 361-8484

Player Agent – Ryan Meeds 671-8009

Treasurer - Tim Woodard: 545-2670

## ENGLEWOOD LITTLE EAGUE SAFETY PROGRAM

**Part I: Safety Director.** I am Ron McGilton, the Safety Director of Englewood Little League and a Family Physician. I have been involved with the Englewood Little League program for more than 10 years. I have served as a Manager, Coach, and Safety Director. Safety is a very important part of the Little League program. We want to make it as safe and enjoyable as possible for the children we are around every day.

Part II: Safety Manual. The Safety Manual includes the following:

- 1. Statement of League Policy
- 2. Safety Code
- 3. Emergency Procedure
- 4. Emergency Phone Numbers
- 5. Safety Program
- 6. Communicable Disease Procedure
- 7. Weather Facts
- 8. Some Important Do's and Don'ts
- 9. Concession Stand Safety Rules

**Part III: Emergency Numbers.** Numbers are listed at the concession stand as well as in this manual.

**Part IV: First Aid.** The league provides First Aid kits at the playing fields for minor First Aid. We utilize local EMT'S and Paramedics for anything beyond a first responder type accident.

**Part V: Field Inspection.** As part of the continuing effort to free any games of hazards, we ask our Managers and Coaches to incorporate field inspection during their warm-up at practice. On the game fields, we include umpires in the pre-game inspection. We ask them to look for anything that would be unsafe, including player's equipment.

**Part VI: Facility survey.** The Facility survey in our safety package is completed and included with this package.

**Part VII: Concession area.** We have an individual that manages the operation of the concession stand on a full time daily basis for consistency of safe operation.

**Part VIII: Equipment inspection.** Prior to the start of this baseball season, league equipment has been inventoried and inspected by divisional VP's. Equipment that was unsafe or unfit for use was destroyed and discarded. Managers, Coaches and Umpires do inspection of league equipment during the season. During the season divisional VP's will replace equipment that is found unsafe or unfit. All equipment purchased by our league is Little League approved.

Part IX: Accident Reporting. The accident reporting procedure is included in our safety manual.

What to Report: Any incident to any player, manager, coach, umpires, or volunteer.

When to Report: All such incidents must be reported to the Safety Director within 48 hours.

<u>Fill Out Report:</u> The Safety Director fills out incident/injury-tracking report.

#### Safety Director's Responsibilities:

- a. Contact injured party or parent/guardian and check on status.
- b. Verify the information received.
- c. Obtain any other information deemed necessary.
- d. If injured party receives medical attention from ER or Doctor, advise of insurance coverage.
- e. Follow-up on status until recovered.

Part X: First Aid Equipment. First Aid kits are located at each park in the concession stand.

**Part XI: Continuing Education.** Assist all members of Englewood Little League in practicing good safety habits. Practice safety through "positive" re-enforcement and by setting an example for all to follow. When League Officers are on field duty, make an extra effort to ensure all safety rules are being followed. Managers were provided first aid training, the Little League Official Regulations and Playing Rules, and a copy of the Little League Safety Code.

**Part XII: Little League Volunteer Form.** We use the volunteer application for to screen our Managers, Coaches, league Officials, and Volunteers.

**Part XIII:** Player roster and Coach and Manager Data are to be sent to little league Int. via the Little League Data Center at <a href="https://www.LittleLeague.org">www.LittleLeague.org</a>. This is one of the Player agent duties.

**Part XIV:** Coaches, Managers and Umpires will be required to fill out the concussion and head injury information sheet supplied by Little League in addition to going online and taking and completing the free online training program every three years in recognizing the symptoms of concussion posted to the Ohio Department of Health's web site @ <a href="https://www.healthyohioprogram.org/concussion">www.healthyohioprogram.org/concussion</a>.

#### **First Aid Training**

**Purpose:** The purpose of safety training is to make coaches aware of proper procedures in the event of an accident or injury. The intent of this training is to allow recognition of potential situations and prevent further injury; anything beyond this scope should be referred to qualified medical personnel.

**ELL First Aid Trainer:** Ron McGilton is the safety director for the Englewood Little League. Ron will conduct a first aid training session at our coaches and managers meeting on March 21, 2021 an additional session will be made available if necessary.

#### Safety items covered in training session:

- First and foremost, everyone should have a medical form filled out for each player on your team. You should look at the forms to see if there are medical conditions to be aware of, such as asthma, allergies, etc.
- 2. If you are ever in doubt of what to do, you should call 911. It is their job to know what to do and that is why they are available. If there is a need to call 911, you will need to send someone to the park entrance to direct the personnel. Telling the dispatcher to look for a kid in a green shirt lying on the ground, it could be a while before they find you. Identify field number if possible.
- 3. The most common issue seen on the field is dehydration. Discuss this with yours players. Adequate hydration starts a day before; drinking lots of fluids right before the game during the game will only maintain not increase hydration. Watch catchers during the hot afternoons. Cramping is the most coming symptom (especially in the leg).
- 4. Sore muscles- talk to your players about making sure they alert the coaches when muscles are sore, and then the coaches need to make sure they don't overuse. Proper stretching can help prevent issues and ice can help with the healing.
- 5. Bug/ Insect bites- reading the medical forms will help make you aware of potential issues. If you have a player who is allergic to bee stings, talk to them so you can find out the potential risk to the player. The more info you have, the better you will be able to respond (or get the necessary help).
- 6. Joint injuries- as coaches, many times a player will slide in the base and say they hurt their ankle or knee etc., and a coach's reaction is to pull the kid up and start dusting him off, don't do this! Let the kid lie on the ground for a few seconds. Let them catch their breath. Ask them how they feel. If they are not getting better, don't move them. Get their parents.
- 7. Broken bones- this could be anything from a pinky to a femur. If you are not qualified to diagnose the injury, resist the temptation. Even a doctor will not look at your finger and say it is broken without more evidence. Don't try to splint or any of that call 911. Again, get their parents.

8. Head injuries- ELL provides helmets with face guards. They are good quality and provide much protection. If a player is hit in the head, keep them down for a moment. Many players want to show you they are okay and try to jump up. Inspect the helmet, if it has a crack that is an indication of how hard they were hit. (Also, discard the helmet.) This could be a situation for the EMT's. Get the child's parents involved. If the incident involves a fielding or throwing situation, there may not be a helmet involved. When in doubt, call 911.

**Conclusion:** This session is not intended to cover all possible solutions, but designed to make you think about proper first aid responses. We do not expect you to be able to administer to the player in very situations, but we want you to exercise caution in these situations.

#### **COMMUNICABLE DISEASE PROCEDURES**

While the risk of one athlete infecting another with HIV/AIDS during competition is close to non-existent, there is a remote risk that other blood born infectious diseases can be transmitted. For example, hepatitis B can be present in blood as well as in other body fluids. Procedures for reducing the potential for transmissions of these infectious agents include, but not be limited to, the following:

- 1. The bleeding must be stopped, the open wound covered, and if there is an excessive amount of blood on the uniform it must be changed before the athlete may participate.
- 2. Routine use of gloves or other precautions to prevent skin and mucous membrane exposure when contact with blood or other body fluids is anticipated.
- 3. Immediately wash hands and other skin surfaces if contaminated (in contact) with blood or other body fluids. Wash hands immediately after removing gloves.
- 4. Clean all contaminated surfaces and equipment with an appropriate disinfectant before competition resumes. (Available in the concession stand.)
- 5. Although saliva has not been implicated in HIV transmission, to minimize the need for emergency mouth-to-mouth resuscitation, mouthpieces, resuscitation bags, or other ventilation devices should be available for use.
- 6. Athletes, trainers/coaches with bleeding or oozing skin conditions should refrain from all direct athletic contact until the condition resolves.
- 7. Contaminated towels should be properly disposed of/disinfected.
- 8. Follow acceptable guidelines in the immediate control of bleeding and when handling Bloody dressings, mouth guards and other articles containing body fluids

#### **ELL Fundamental Training for Managers and Coaches**

**Purpose:** The purpose of the fundamental training is to make managers and coaches aware of the correct way to teach proper hitting, sliding, fielding, and pitching technique.

Ell Fundamental Trainers are the divisional VP's: The training takes place after the Safety Training sessions at our coaches and managers meeting. Fundamentals covered in this training session:

- Hitting bat selection, balance, footwork, hands, swing plane, mental attitude, bunting, drills.
- 2. Throwing grip, arm position, motion, follow through, drills.
- 3. Pitching mechanics for windup and stretch positions, balance point, stride, arm slot, drills.
- 4. Base running techniques, base coaches, situations, leadoffs, sliding, drills.
- 5. Fielding preparation, stance, charging, footwork, balance, backhand, setting for the throw, drills.
- Practice organization warm up, stations, team drills, and activities.
  Additional resources, league videos, books, other coaches, outside clinics.

These are all basic fundamentals that our coaches and managers are taught in this training session. The fundamentals are age specific (for instance, bunting is taught in the kid pitch divisions, but not covered in the younger age group).

#### **WEATHER FACTS**

The weather in Southwest Ohio varies greatly during the Little League season.

#### Rain:

If it begins to rain

- 1. Evaluate the strength of the rain. Is it light drizzle or is it pouring
- 2. Evaluate the playing field as it becomes more and more saturated.
- Stop practicing / game if the playing conditions become unsafe use common sense.
- 4. Prior to the start of the game, it is the responsibility of the managers to determine if conditions

Allow a game to be played. After the start of the game

#### Lightning:

The average lightning bolt is 5-6 miles long with up to 30 million volts at 100,000 amps. Flow in less than a tenth of a second. The average thunderstorm is 6-10 miles wide and moves at a rate of 25 miles per hour. Once the leading edge of a thunderstorm approaches, to within 10 miles, you are at immediate

risk due to the possibility of lightning strikes coming from the storm's overhanging anvil cloud. This fact is the reason that many lightning deaths and injuries occur with clear skies overhead. On average, the thunder from a lightning stroke can only be head over a distance of 3-4 miles, depending on terrain, humidity and background noise around you. By the time you can hear the thunder, the storm has already approached to within 3-4 miles! The sudden cold wind that many people use to gauge the approach of a thunderstorm is the result of down drafts and usually extends less than 3 miles from the storm's leading edge. By the time you feel the wind; the storm can be less than 3 miles away! With the safety in mind, Englewood Little League knowing that lightning can strike up to 10 miles from a thunderstorm. Knowing that lightning strikes kill we use the following rules based on the NOAA.

If you can HEAR, SEE, or FEEL a THUNDERSTORM:

- 1. Suspend all games and practices immediately.
- 2. Stay away from metal including fencing and bleachers.
- 3. Do not hold metal bats.
- 4. Get players to walk, not run to their parents or designated driver's cars and wait for the decision on whether or not to continue the game or practice. **Do not stay in the dugouts!**
- 5. Wait 30 min after the last lightning strike or last thunder heard.

#### Hot weather:

Precaution must be taken in order to make sure the players do not dehydrate or hyperventilate.

- 1. Suggest players take drinks of water prior to going onto the field and when coming off the field between innings.
- 2. If a player looks distressed while standing in the hot sun, substitute that player and get him/her into a shaded area as soon as possible.
- 3. If a player should collapse as a result of heat exhaustion, <u>call 911 immediately</u>. Get the player to drink water and use ice bags to cool him/her down until the emergency medical team arrives.

#### **Ultra-Violet Ray Exposure:**

This kind of exposure increases an athlete's risk of developing a specific type o skin cancer known as *melanoma*. The American Academy of Dermatology estimates that children receive 80% of their lifetime sun exposure by the time that they are 18 years old. Therefore, we recommend the use of sunscreen with SPF (sun protection factor) of at least 15, as a means of protection from damaging ultra-violet light.

#### **SOME IMPORTANT DO'S AND DON'TS**

#### DO'S

- 1. Know your limitations.
- 2. Reassure and aid children who are injured, frightened, or lost.
- 3. Provide or assist in obtaining, medical attention for those requiring it.
- 4. Assist those who require medical attention. Look for signs of injury.

- 5. Listen to the injured party, describe what happened and what hurts, if conscious.
- 6. Before questioning you may need to calm and soothe an excited child and/or parents.
- 7. Feel gently and carefully around the injured area for signs of swelling or grating of broken bone.
- 8. Have you player's medical release form with you at all times.

#### **DON'TS**

- 1. Be afraid to ask for help if you're not sure of the proper procedure.
- 2. Administer any medications.
- 3. Provide any food or beverage (other than water).
- 4. Hesitate in giving aid when needed.
- 5. Transport injured individuals except in extreme emergency.
- 6. Leave an unattended child at a practice game.
- 7. Hesitate to report any unsafe condition.

#### **CONCESSION STAND SAFETY RULES**

- 1. Wear gloves when handling food.
- 2. Fire extinguisher should be checked annually.
- 3. First Aid Kit is available and checked routinely.
- 4. No children are to handle food.
- 5. Emergency phone numbers are posted.
- 6. Keep entrance/exit free of obstruction.
- 7. Have a qualified electrician inspect all electrical equipment for proper wiring and grounding.

### 2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS/DIVISION CONTACTS

	Position	Email:	Phone:
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Leon Checca	<b>VP Challenger Division</b>	lachecca223@gmail.com	330-936-1921

# LIGHTNING SAFETY

Keeping The Game Safe: NOAA Teams With Little League on Lightning Safety Awareness

When the thunder that Little Leaguers hear is not the roar of the crowd, it is time to get inside, because lightning may be close behind. That's why the NOAA National Weather Service is teaming up with Little League Baseball and Softball to provide valuable

life-saving information regarding the dangers of lightning.

"NOAA is proud to partner with Little League on our effort to educate the public on the dangers of lightning, particularly the coaches, umpires, parents and children who are involved with Little League Baseball and Softball," said retired Navy Vice Adm. Conrad C. Lautenbacher, Ph.D., undersecretary of commerce for oceans and atmosphere and NOAA administrator. "Lightning is an underrated killer, claiming, on average, more lives than either tornadoes or hurricanes."

Little League has been proactive in providing lightning-safety information to officials across the country through their safety newsletter, ASAP (A Safety Awareness Program). In a recent newsletter, Little League included a copy of a "Coach's and Sports Official's Guide to Lightning Safety," developed by the NOAA Weather Service. Previously, the April 2002 issue of ASAP included an article written by NOAA on lightning safety.

"The safety of our players, parents, coaches and spectators is of utmost importance to us," said Stephen D. Keener, president and chief executive officer of Little League International. "Lightning is one of our greatest concerns on the field, and we appreciate the safety information that NOAA provides to us. We want everyone involved in Little League Baseball to understand the dangers of lightning so that they will take the appropriate action when thunderstorms threaten."

"The bottom line is that if you hear thunder, you need to get inside immediately," said retired Air Force Brig. Gen. David L. Johnson, director of the NOAA National Weather Service. "Lightning can strike up to 10 miles from a thunderstorm, which is about the distance that the sound of thunder can travel and be heard. All thunderstorms produce lightning, and each lightning strike is a potential killer."

Lightning casualties can occur at any time of the year but are most frequent in the late spring and summer thunderstorm season, when people tend to be outside. Annually, about 25 million cloud-to-ground lightning strikes occur in the United States. From 1971 to 2000, lightning killed an average of 73 people each year in the United States and injured hundreds more.

The NOAA National Weather Service is the primary source of weather data, forecasts and warnings for the United States and its territories. The NOAA Weather Service operates the most advanced weather and flood warning and forecast system in the world, helping to protect lives and property and enhance the national economy.

NOAA is dedicated to enhancing economic security and national safety through the prediction and research of weather and climate-related events and providing environmental stewardship of the nation's coastal and marine resources. NOAA is part of the U.S. Department of Commerce.