

## **Black Rock Little League Pandemic Safety Plan**

### **Overview**

1. This plan is designed to create a safe environment for players, coaches, umpires, volunteers, and families while they are participating in youth baseball and softball activities with Black Rock Little League.
2. The plan is focused on minimizing risk while still allowing for fun competition. The plan provides guidelines, but we cannot always guarantee adherence by all participants. Families should make their own choices on participation and the best interests of their family and players.

### **Universal Guidelines**

1. All players, coaches, parents, and spectators must always follow these rules.
2. Families will be asked to take the temperature of all players before leaving home for practices or games.
3. Anyone with symptoms of fever, cough, or worsening respiratory symptoms, or any known exposure to a person with COVID-19 should not attend any Little League activity until cleared by a medical professional.
4. All coaches, volunteers and players shall take their temperature to ensure that no fever is present prior to participating or attending each Little League activity.
5. Every team must have a designated safety parent on site. The safety coordinator is an adult volunteer (cannot be a coach) who is designated to:
  - a. Take infrared temperature of all players and coaches before games and practice. Any participant with a temperature above 100F should stay home.
  - b. Enforce social distancing among players
  - c. Reminds players, coaches, and umpire about proper protocols with equipment
  - d. Wears mask at all times
  - e. Assist the coaches with disinfecting multi-used items (bats, helmets) as required if players do not have their own, clean/disinfect team equipment and clean/disinfect high touch surfaces before and after games/practices.
6. A safety parent must be present for all BRLL events, including clinics and Sandlot Fun Days.
7. Parents and guardians are encouraged to supply their players with antibacterial wipes and sanitizer for cleaning hands between innings.

### **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**

1. All coaches, volunteers, and umpires shall wear PPE whenever applicable and possible, such as cloth face coverings and protective medical gloves.
2. When not in the field, players must wear PPE if not able to keep social distancing.
3. Players are not required to wear a cloth face covering while on the field during game play, however, may wear one if physically able to do so, based on any directive of a medical provider or individual determination of the player/parent/guardian.

### **Game and Practice Guidelines**

1. All players and coaches shall arrive no sooner than 30 minutes before game or practice time.
2. Upon arriving at the field, teams are to disinfect hard surface areas (benches, bat racks, etc.).
3. 15-minute maximum pre-game warm-ups for each team.
4. Any pre-game meeting at the plate with umpires and coaches must maintain social distancing requirements.
5. New baseball/softball every 2 innings.
6. Between inning warm-ups must use same balls.
7. Foul balls will be retrieved by players only, not spectators, not coaches, not umpires. If touched by another, the ball will be disinfected before being reintroduced.
8. No physical contact celebrations between players (i.e. high fives, fist bumps, etc).
9. Alternatively, players and coaches should tip their caps the opposing team.
10. Teams must clean their dugout of all trash and other items after each game, and wipe down (clean) hard surfaces such as benches, bat racks, fences, gate latches, benches, etc.

### **Dugout Conduct**

1. Only 1 coach inside the dugout at a time.
2. Only 2 players inside the dugout at a time.
3. The remainder of the team is separated outside the field of play in assigned places.
4. Dugouts surfaces must be cleaned and disinfected after each game/practice using EPA approved household disinfectant or a solution of diluted household bleach.

### **Equipment Guidelines**

1. No personal player bat bags/equipment bags shall be allowed in the dugout.
2. Player equipment should be spaced accordingly outside the field of play to prevent direct contact.
3. Players are strongly encouraged to use and touch only their own equipment.
4. If players must share team equipment, all surfaces must be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected with an EPA-approved disinfectant and allowed sufficient time to dry before used by a new player.
5. Increased attention should be paid to detailed cleaning of all equipment directly contacting the head and face (catcher's mask, helmets).
6. Player's equipment (e.g., bags, helmets, bats, gloves, etc.) should be cleaned and disinfected after each use by a parent/guardian/caretaker, where applicable.
7. Individuals disinfecting equipment are encouraged to use gloves and follow the manufacturer's directions for use. All disinfectants should be stored properly, in a safe area, out of reach of children.

### **Umpire Guidelines**

1. Umpires are to always follow these guidelines.
2. Umpires must wear PPE if unable to keep social distancing.

3. Plate umpire will call game from behind the pitcher's mound on the grass.
4. Base umpires will keep distance in set-up positions.
5. Umpires will not handle baseballs. All passed balls and foul balls will be retrieved by players.
6. Pre-game equipment checks will be visual only.

### **Drinks / Snacks**

1. Players, coaches, and umpires should bring their own personal drinks to all team activities. Drinks must be labeled with the person's name.
2. Individuals must take their own drink containers home each night for cleaning and sanitation or use single-use bottles.
3. Teams should not share any drinks, snacks or food.
4. Players should bring individual, prepackaged food, if needed.
5. Sunflower seeds, gum, etc., are not allowed in dugouts or on the playing field.
6. All players and coaches are always required to refrain from spitting, including in
7. dugout areas and on the playing field.

### **Public Restrooms**

1. The public restrooms at Ellsworth Field are operated and cleaned by the City of Bridgeport.