

## 2021 NY DISTRICT 20 LITTLE LEAGUE SAFETY PLAN—UPDATED 5-20-21

D20 is implementing the below plans and procedures in order to help ensure the safest possible re-introduction of little league baseball and softball within NY District 20 for all regular season, interleague play & Tournament play. All participants (including coaches, umpires and players) are required to expressly agree to endeavor to comply with the same to the best of their ability. League Presidents are responsible to have parents of all Interleague & Tournament participants sign their leagues Covid-19 Return to Play Waiver release form & must have it present at all interleague & tournament games. Most of our little league participants are unvaccinated children, whose safety is our #1 priority. Unvaccinated children should be required to continue to wear face coverings in the dugouts and in situations where social distancing is not possible.



1. Coaches and umpires must wear face coverings at all times and players must wear face coverings at all times [except when actively participating in the field of play].
  - a. Participants will be expected to provide their own face coverings.
  - b. Any coach, umpire or player without a face covering will not be permitted to participate
2. All non vaccinated spectators must adhere to six-foot physical distancing with non-household members. Those observed not adhering to distancing requirement will be asked to comply or leave the premises. All non vaccinated spectators must wear a face covering while on the premises. Those not wearing a face covering will be asked to comply or leave the premises.
  - Umpires, coaches and D20 personnel reserve the right to suspend the applicable game if spectators continue to fail to adhere to required physical distancing.
3. Players, coaches and umpires will be encouraged to use sanitizing wipes, cleansers, etc., between innings on their hands, game balls and other applicable equipment.
4. Shared drinking stations, team water coolers, spitting, eating sunflower seeds and gum chewing is prohibited.
5. There shall be no more than 1 coach and 3 players in any enclosed dugout at any time during the game – additional participants will be required to remain in foul territory, behind fencing, in a socially distant manner, under coach/adult supervision at all times.
6. Equipment and belongings should be used only by the individual owner or operator including, but not limited to water bottles, gloves, bats, hats, helmets, catcher's

equipment and other on- and off-field gear. Catcher's equipment must be sanitized before another player can use it.

7. Players should refrain from high fives, handshake lines, and other physical contact with teammates, opposing players, coaches, umpires, and fans (a "tip of the cap" can be used following the game in lieu of the handshake line).
8. Umpires must avoid exchanging documents (including lineup cards) or equipment with players, coaches, or spectators.
9. The home plate umpire may call balls and strikes from a position between the pitcher and 2nd base (6 feet behind the pitcher) or from no less than 6 feet behind the catcher.
10. Each league should have a Safety Officer on premises at each game, where possible, in order to endeavor to ensure compliance with the foregoing.
11. Leagues may open their concession stands, but must abide by both the Board of Health and Little League Internationals guidelines.
12. All divisions / age groups will use roster batting except Majors, which will be line-up batting.
13. Teams may play with 8 players. You may start the game with 8 players. You should borrow the last batted out from your opponent for defensive half innings. No penalty or automatic out. The 9<sup>th</sup> spot in the batting order is skipped over.
14. Batting cages can be open for usage:
  - a. Two adults are required with each team. One inside to pitch & one to supervise outside the cage.
  - b. One player in the cage at a time. All other players must be positioned 6 feet apart outside the cage, and must wear a face covering. Coaches must wear face coverings as well.
15. If you are having multiple games on the same day (not double headers with the same two teams):
  - a. Only if there are multiple games, no inning may start after 1 hour & 45 minutes and has a drop dead time of 2 hours. This applies to all games on that day. Even the last game.
16. Each team will be allowed three adult coaches plus one (+1) volunteer. All adults must wear face coverings the entire time. One coach will be in the dugout & two coaches in the extended dugout when their team is on defense, and while on offense they will have a 3<sup>rd</sup> & 1<sup>st</sup> base

coach, and one coach in the dugout. The (+1) volunteer will be in charge of the players in the extended dugout located outside of the regular dugout. This person must stay in the designated area during the entire game, and cannot enter the spectator area. All coaches and/or volunteers must have cleared required background checks. The minimum amount of adults per game is two. One must be in the regular dugout & one in the extended dugout. If you only have two adults or three, then you may use players to coach the bases. They must wear a helmet & face covering.

17. Extended dugout:

- a. It is recommended that each league mark off a designated area outside the team's dugout in foul territory on the opposite side of the fence from the playing field.
- b. Area should be marked off with tape or plastic fencing and poles with a sign restricted for players & coaches only. There should also be enough seating for the team 6 feet apart. Only 3 players are allowed in the dugout at a time. All players in the dugout & extended dugout must wear a face covering.
- c. There should be a table set up in the extended dugout with hand sanitizer and wipes.

18. All guidelines above are subject to change due to Little League and/or NY State official guidelines.

19. Bathrooms will be open at the discretion of each league.

20. Any subsequent modifications to this plan, pertinent to the District 20 tournament will be provided at the mandatory pre-tournament meetings.

Updated May 20, 2021