



Return to Play after COVID-19 A Guide for Families

PLEASE NOTE: THESE GUIDELINES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AS DETERMINED BY THE EVOLUTION OF NATIONAL, STATE AND LOCAL GUIDELINES.

CHANGES TO THIS DOCUMENT AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AVAILABLE AT OPLL.ORG.

Goals:

1. Safely return to participation in Orchard Park Little League Baseball and Softball
2. Comply with government and Little League regulations
3. Be leaders in the safe reintroduction of youth sports in Western New York
4. Supports and engage our families and community
5. Recognize potential need to "go backwards" and prepare for ramifications

Revised season Timeline:

1. 7/3/20 Teams finalized
2. 7/6/20 Practices begin
3. 7/13/20 Games begin
4. 9/6/20 Conclusion of Season

Screening/Self-Monitoring:

*** Our expectation is that you stay home if known exposure/symptoms/fever present ***

1. COVID symptom list (per CDC)
 - a. Fever greater than 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit
 - b. Cough
 - c. Shortness of breath
 - d. Sore throat
 - e. Loss of taste/smell
 - f. Headache
 - g. Diarrhea/Vomiting
2. Self-monitoring temperature
3. Coaches keep practice/game attendance records and turn in to facility daily
4. Parents attest to health/absence of symptoms at each game/practice
5. Employees sign in daily with same expectations as players

Changes to Facility:

1. Staggered start times to relieve congestion in parking lot
2. Arrival no earlier than 30 minutes before game and leave immediately after game
3. Pedestrian traffic will be directed by on-site signage
4. Maximum capacity as determined by local law

- a. 2 spectators per player at games
 - b. No spectators at the field during practice
5. Additional hand sanitizer stations and hand sanitizer available on bench
6. Masks on all fans/spectators/coaches and players not on the field of play unless seated and social distancing of at least 6 feet maintained. Those not in compliance will be asked to put on a mask or leave the facility.
7. Bathrooms remain open with one family at a time access and bathroom monitors
8. Removal of all public seating spectators responsible for their own seating
9. Removal of benches in the dugout – players in dugout while on deck only
10. Designated player areas to substitute for dugouts (likely bleachers)
11. Snack shack limited to sealed items
12. No spitting, seeds, or gum-chewing
13. Board member will be available on site for questions

Changes to Game Play:

1. Coaches will refrain from touching players for any reason
2. No post-game meetings on field
3. Umpire moved from behind catcher to behind pitcher
4. Umpire or board member will enforce masks/social distancing if necessary
5. Home plate meeting between 1 umpire and 1 coach for each team. No players.
6. No arguing calls on the field
7. No dugouts. Players will sit with their teams with masks and equipment will be kept with bags.
8. Younger players may be directed to sit with parents
9. No shared equipment, including catchers
10. Separate balls to be marked/used by only 1 defensive unit
11. Foul balls will only be retrieved by umpires, coaches, or players
12. Post-game handshake replaced by lineups on baseline and hat-tips
13. No high-fives or hugs
14. No shared water bottles or team coolers

COVID changes:

1. COVID officer to oversee implementation of plan and address COVID- specific concerns
2. If a player/coach/umpire becomes symptomatic during a game
 - a. Umpire or board member will stop game play
 - b. Isolate individual and they should go home and call their physician
 - c. No play on that field for 24 hours
3. If a player/coach/umpire tests positive:
 - a. No play on that field for 24 hours (time lapse may have already occurred)
 - b. Thorough cleaning of field with staff in full PPE (add goggles, gloves, gowns)
 - c. Confirm that proper procedures were followed
 - d. Notify families and advised self-MONITORING. No need to self-ISOLATE.
 - e. No need to stop game play if proper procedures were followed
 - i. CDC defined prolonged contact as <6 feet for >15 minutes
 - f. Return to play after 14 days symptom-free (At least 3 fever-free days)
 - g. If a player is hospitalized from COVID-19, they need physician clearance to return
4. If you or household members knowingly travel to states highlighted in the COVID-19 Travel Advisory, inform your coach and self-quarantine for a 14 day period
 - a. Information is available at <https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/covid-19-travel-advisory>