

RETURN TO PLAY GUIDELINES

PERSONAL HYGENE FOUNDATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

These activities shall not be permitted:

- No sharing of water bottles or food of any kind
- No spitting, chewing gum or sunflower seeds
- No sharing of personal helmets
- No sharing of catcher's gear unless disinfected between personal uses
- No sharing of any other equipment unless disinfected between personal uses

All requirements in place for outdoor team sports, as dictated by the Saskatchewan Health Authority and the Government of Saskatchewan, in regard to the maximum number of people permitted in outdoor gatherings, physical distancing and other protective rules, shall be observed by Saskatchewan Little League and its membership.

- Anyone taking part in baseball shall observe proper hygienic practices while participating in any Little League sanctioned events.
- Anyone displaying ANY illness symptoms WILL NOT be allowed to participate.
- Anyone who has been in contact with anyone who is sick or not feeling well should also consider not participating.
- Ride Sharing is discouraged whenever possible.
- Bases and baseballs are to be disinfected after each session.
- All gear should be sanitized after each game/practice.
- All uniforms or clothing to be washed after each event.
- All participants to shower/bath at first opportunity after each event.
- No sharing of personal items like phones, wallets, etc.
- Physical distancing must take place in and outside the dugout, including players and coaches. Therefore, there can only be as many people in a dugout at one time as is permitted by physical distancing. For example, if a dugout is twenty feet long, there could be no more than four people in the dugout at once, and each person must stay at least six feet away from other people.
- If possible, hand sanitizer should be available to all players and coaches to use throughout the game/practice.
- All team meetings before, during or after the game/practice for coaching or teaching purposes shall respect physical distancing requirements.
- All commonly touched surfaces at the ballfield – benches, hooks on the back of the dugout, gates that are touched shall be disinfected at the end of each game/practice by the team using that area.
- For any baseball facilities that have bathrooms and/or canteens, both areas shall be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected before each evening in use. If these areas are being used for an entire day, these areas also should be cleaned and disinfected throughout the day as well.
- At any facility with more than one baseball field, each player, coach, official or person involved at a field must stay at the field their game/practice is taking place. They cannot go over to the other field(s) and watch as they may contribute to the breaking of the maximum number of people permitted in an outdoor gathering. Each field is considered one outdoor gathering, so long as people do not cross over into other fields

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PRACTICE

- All Foundational requirements to be met as outlined above.
- No team huddles before, during or after the practice for coaching or teaching purposes
- All drills to be created and implemented ensuring social distancing requirements are met.
- Only one team to practice at a time. No joint practices.

GAME

- All Foundational requirements to be met as outlined above.
- No plate meetings for pre-game lineup exchanges.
- No team huddles before, during or after the game for coaching or teaching purposes.
- Mound visits are permitted between the coach, pitcher, and catcher, although two meters physical distancing must be adhered to between all three individuals.
- No arguing with umpires within social distancing minimum requirements. Any instances to be met with a suspension for the remainder of the year.
- No postgame handshakes.
- All players to sanitize hands when returning to the dugout from the field, after each at bat and as required.

UMPIRE CONSIDERATIONS

- Bring your own water.
- Use hand sanitizer regularly throughout the game.
- A mask is recommended.
- Plate Umpire is permitted to work behind catcher, avoiding any contact with the catcher. However, they can choose to call balls and strikes behind the pitching mound.
- Limit the handling of baseballs, line up cards.
- Ensure proper social distancing (6ft) is followed when possible.
- Ensure baseballs were sanitized by home team prior to the start of each competition.

FACILITY ADAPTATIONS

- Indoor Events (practice, cage, meeting) are permitted, however, it is mandatory to follow guidelines for indoor gatherings. Social distancing must be maintained. Outdoor hitting facilities can be used providing social distancing requirements are adhered to.
- No changing or dressing rooms permitted.
- Signage advising and educating on social distancing measures should be present at every field and facility.
- All field prep equipment to be disinfected and cleaned after every use.
- Number of parents or fans attending (Including teams on the field) must not go above the current maximum outdoor social gathering limit.
- No gathering around the park until your scheduled start time (please wait in your car). Athletes must leave the park immediately after the practice or game

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GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

- Attendance must be taken at every event for all people in attendance including parents (drivers).
- Concessions to be open only with approval of the respective health department and considering both traditional and updated regulations related to COVID-19.
- Protocols to disinfect, after every use, team and personal gear (catchers and umpires) need to be in place.
- All discussion or coaching must include reminders to players regarding social distancing, no spitting, no face touching, no contact between the athletes.

ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Leagues should be aware that not all athletes originally registered will choose to or feel comfortable returning.
- Secondary registration drives may be required.
- Drafts may need re-doing
- Leagues are encouraged to immediately refund any athletes that choose not to return (minus any administrative fees agreed upon at the local association level) upon notice.
- Every League should convene a return to play committee with a Safety officer.
- Every League should implement Health and Safety roles within both the League as well as with EACH team.
- A waiver will likely be needed for EVERY participant in order to Return to play.
- Leagues will need to source Sanitizer, wipes and gloves and face masks (if needed) given stock issues related to the products.
- Field allotments will need to be modified to allow for all events to stay under the 30-person social gathering limits. It is suggested that you move to 1.5 times the traditional allotment window.
- Each League should perform a risk analysis on their ability to execute this protocol prior to committing to starting up programming.

GROUNDSKEEPING AND MAINTENANCE

- Minimize the number of maintenance personnel working on the field at one time. Consider splitting the crew into two teams that do not work at the same time.
- Always maintain physical distancing guidelines.
- Place hand sanitizer throughout maintenance area and access to hand washing stations.
- Regularly sanitize any surface that is commonly contacted by many people.
- If equipment (including mowers) must be shared, they must be sanitized before being used by another employee (i.e. steering wheel as well as all areas touched by operators pre and post use).
- Practice handwashing and standard hygiene practices.

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NORTH REGINA LITTLE LEAGUE- RETURN TO PLAY WAIVER

In consideration of being allowed to participate in any way in the NORTH REGINA LITTLE LEAGUE baseball season, related events and activities, the undersigned acknowledges, appreciates, and agrees that:

1. The risk of injury and/or illness from the activities involved in the program is significant, including the potential for permanent paralysis and death, and while particular rules, equipment, and personal discipline may reduce the risk, the risk of serious injury does exist;
2. The risk to have contact with individuals, who have been exposed to and/or have been diagnosed with one or more communicable diseases, including but not limited to COVID-19 or other medical conditions, diseases, or maladies does exist, and it is impossible to eliminate the risk that I could be exposed to and/or become infected through contact with or close proximity with an individual with a communicable disease;
3. I KNOWINGLY AND FREELY ASSUME ALL SUCH RISKS, both known and unknown, EVEN IF ARISING FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASEES or others, and assume all full responsibility for my participation;
4. I willingly agree to comply with the stated and customary terms and conditions for participation. If, however, I observe any unusual significant hazard during my presence or participation, I will remove myself from participation and bring such to the attention of the nearest official immediately; and
5. I, for myself and on behalf of my heirs, assigns, personal representatives and next of kin, HEREBY RELEASE AND HOLD HARMLESS THE _____ LITTLE LEAGUE, their officers, officials, agents and/or employees, other participants, sponsoring agencies, sponsors, advertisers, and if applicable, owners and lessors of the premises used to conduct the event ("Releasees"), WITH RESPECT TO ANY AND ALL INJURY, ILLNESS, DISABILITY, DEATH, or loss or damage to person or property, WHETHER ARISING FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASEES OR OTHERWISE.
6. I HAVE READ THIS RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK AGREEMENT, BEFORE ACKNOWLEDGING BELOW, FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS TERMS, UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE GIVEN UP SUBSTANTIAL RIGHTS BY AGREEING TO IT ON MY OWN BEHALF OR ON BEHALF OF THE YOUTH PARTICIPANT , AND I SIGN IT FREELY AND VOLUNTARILY WITHOUT ANY INDUCEMENT.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT BY PARENTS AND/OR LEGAL GUARDIANS OF YOUTH PARTICIPANTS: By acknowledging below, I agree to and verify the following: 1) I am the parent or legal guardian for the youth participant listed below, 2) I have been provided the NORTH REGINA LITTLE LEAGUE Guidelines for Players/Coaches and Parents/Fans, 3) that as parent/legal guardian with legal responsibility for this youth participant, I consent and agree to assume the risks of his/her participation in this program; and 4) that I specifically agree to his/her release as provided herein of all the Releasees, and, for myself, my heirs, assigns and next of kin, I release and agree to indemnify the Releasees from any and all liabilities incident to this youth participant's involvement or participation in this program as provided above EVEN IF ARISING FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASEES OR OTHERWISE.

PLAYERS NAME: _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME: _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE: _____