

Return to Play Plan July 8th, 2020

Paxton Little League

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Overview

This plan is designed to create a safe environment for players, coaches, umpires, volunteers, and members of their household or immediate family while they are participating in youth baseball activities at the Paxton Little League, Tivnan Field in Paxton, MA. Failure to adhere to any and all guidelines outlined in this plan may result in your removal from the facility, your player's removal from the game/facility and player's removal from the Paxton Little League.

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Universal Guidelines

All persons using Paxton Little League (coach, player, volunteer, umpire, spectator, employee) must abide by these universal guidelines while at the facilities.

- **If you or a member of your household are sick, please stay home.**
- **If you or a member of your household becomes sick or begins experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, notify Paxton Little League immediately. Symptoms may include:**

Fever or chills

Cough

Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing

Fatigue

Muscle or body aches

Headache

New loss of taste or smell

Sore throat

Congestion or runny nose

Nausea or vomiting

Diarrhea

- **Practice social distancing (minimum of 6 feet distance) when outside *at all times* when not around your immediate family or other household members. When not able to socially distance, wear a well-secured paper or cloth mask that covers your nose and mouth (PPE)**

- **When inside, wear PPE.**

- **Frequently wash your hands for a minimum of 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer, especially after touching surfaces (doorknobs, light switches, gate latches, handles, etc.)**

- No spitting, eating of sunflower seeds, or chewing of gum on the premises.

- **When parking on the premises, please use best efforts to park with one parking place in between another vehicle.**

Coach/Volunteer Guidelines

Coaches, managers, and other assistants follow these guidelines.

****ALL COACHES ARE REQUIRED TO WEAR A FACE COVERING AT ALL TIMES DURING WARM-UPS, PRACTICES AND GAMES.**

- Disinfect multi-used items (bats, gloves) if players do not have their own.
- Minimize number of coaches and assistants for games/practices.
- Clean/disinfect high touch surfaces before and after games/practices.

Player Guidelines

Players are to follow these guidelines at all times.

- When not in the field, they must wear a face covering, even if able to keep proper social distancing.

- When in the field of play, wearing PPE is optional but encouraged. Per MA state guidelines, it is required that facial coverings be worn while engaged in a moderate risk sport/activity where intermittent contact might occur and it is safe to do so (i.e., baseball/softball player while at bat/on base).

- Use or touch only their own equipment.
- If they do not have their own equipment, use team's which will be cleaned between uses.
- Bring their own beverage and do not share.
- Follow dugout guidelines.

Umpire Guidelines

Umpires are to follow these guidelines at all times.

- Wear PPE AT ALL TIMES if unable to keep social distancing.
- Plate umpire will be calling from behind the pitcher's mound on the grass.
- Umpires will not handle baseballs.
- Passed balls and foul balls will be retrieved by players.
- Pre-game player's equipment check is visual only.

Game Guidelines

Pregame, in-game, and post-game guidelines to be followed at all times.

- Show up maximum of 30 minutes before game time.**
- Game field must be exited completely and cleaned by previous teams before new teams enter the field and dugouts.**
- 15 minute maximum pre-game warm-ups for each team.**
- No pre-game meeting at the plate with umpires and coaches.**
- New baseball/softball every 2 innings.**
- Between inning warm-ups must use same baseballs.**
- 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.

- No physical contact celebrations between players (i.e. high fives, fist bumps, etc).**
- End of game - line-up out front of dugouts and tip hats in good sportsmanship.**
- All high touch surfaces must be sanitized before any other team is permitted on the field or in the dugout. Clean and disinfect common contact points of field: dugouts, fences, gate latches, benches, bleachers, etc.**
- Must leave premises no later than 15 minutes after the end of the game.**

Family Member Guidelines

Household and immediate family members are to follow these guidelines at all times.

- Household or immediate family only (parents, guardians, brothers, sisters).**
- Bring their own seats and sit along the outfield fence or in their cars.**
- Do not retrieve foul balls.**

Equipment Guidelines

Guide to equipment use (must be followed at all times).

- Players are not to share their equipment.**
- Players MUST use their own batting helmet. Players who do not have their own batting helmet will be assigned a league helmet that only they may use for the season. The helmet will be returned at the end of the season.**
- Players who need equipment, will use team's equipment.**
- If team equipment is used, it must be disinfected after each use and again at the end of a practice/game session using a product from the list of disinfectants meeting EPA criteria for use against the novel coronavirus.**
- Equipment bags are to be placed outside of dugout separated from each other.**
- Players must bring their own beverages.**
- New baseball/softball must be used every 2 innings.**
- Warm-up baseballs between innings must be the same.**

Dugout Guidelines

Guide to dugout use at all times.

- Only 1 coach inside the dugout at a time.**
- Maximum of 3 players inside the dugout at a time maintaining six feet between players.**
- Remainder of the team is separated on the bleachers outside the dugout or along the fence in assigned places, maintaining six feet between players.**
- Must be cleaned and disinfected after each game/practice using EPA approved household disinfectant or a solution of diluted household bleach.**

Restroom Guidelines

Guide to restroom use at all times.

- One occupant at a time.**
- Wash hands before exiting.**
- Restrooms will be cleaned and disinfected each day.**