

West Scranton Little League (Covid-19) General League Guidance

In response to the current national health crisis and in conjunction with local, state, and federal health and governmental policies, District 17/32 Little League, in conjunction with all local leagues, has adopted the following general guidelines to be utilized in conjunction with associated "PA D17/32 LL General Participant Guidance" document regarding recommended safety protocols for Leagues, players, coaches, and spectators for the all District Interlock play during the 2020 Little League spring season.

It is recognized that participation by all individuals, players, coaches, officials, volunteers, parents, spectators is fully a voluntary act. These guidelines have been developed in accordance with Little League International "Best Practices" and the CDC "Considerations for Youth Sports" and they are exactly that, guidelines and implementation is to be guided by what is practical under the circumstances. It is the responsibility of all participants to self-regulate and self-monitor with respect to the safety guidelines provided in order to protect not only themselves but others. It is further recognized that the recommendations and guidelines employed by PA District 17/32 and the individual leagues is intended to provide a framework by which we can minimize the risk of coronavirus to a manageable and acceptable risk level in order to provide the players with the wholesome benefits of youth sports. Any individual whose behavior or actions are deemed to increase the coronavirus risk for the players will be given a chance to correct the behavior and should they choose not to do so may be asked by league officials to leave the premises. Any individual who has concerns that the implementation of the guidelines is not satisfactory for them and/or their child are encouraged to take respectful steps to address the concern, reach out to their league officials and/or remove themselves and their player from an environment they feel is unsafe.

GENERAL LEAUGE GUIDANCE

1. Leagues are encouraged to:
 - a. Review and follow CDC Coronavirus Considerations for Youth Sports
 - i. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/youth-sports.html>
 - b. Review and follow Little League "Best Practices Document"
 - c. Communications: disseminate information to all families, volunteers, and spectators about the Coronavirus risk and the efforts your league will be undertaking to mitigate those risks, as outlined below. Information should be disseminated by way of email, league website, social media, coach talks, and public announcements.
 - d. Evaluate individual facilities and provide applicable recommendations to aid in compliance with these guidelines. Considerations should include:
 - i. Develop a social (physical) distancing plan for the field for dugouts and spectators
 1. Consider drawing a map of the facility as per the field plan and distributing to parents and possibly posting on your website for reference of visiting teams. Consider posting these maps strategically at the facilities.
 2. Consider physically marking the facility using line paint, signs and or rope with locations for "dugout" players, players equipment, parent seating etc.
 3. Where possible, individuals should enter your complex through one point of entry and exit through another.
 - ii. Consider providing handwashing stations and/or hand sanitizer if possible and place hand sanitizer in common areas off-field.
 - iii. Posting COVID-19 awareness signs as appropriate
 - iv. Cleaning and disinfection plan that identifies areas requiring disinfection, frequency and responsible party
 1. This plan can be a simple check list of what, how, when and who
 2. Identify a safe storage method for appropriate league provided cleaning supplies to keep away from children
 3. Reference CDC "cleaning and disinfecting your facility"
 4. Facilities w/ restroom facilities should consider limiting use, instituting a "one-in-one out" policy and ensure it is included in the cleaning and disinfection plan, and disinfected on a regular basis.
 5. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/disinfecting-building-facility.html>

Excerpt from CDC "Cleaning and Disinfecting Outdoor Areas":

Cleaning and disinfecting outdoor areas

- Outdoor areas, like **playgrounds in schools and parks** generally require **normal routine cleaning**, but **do not require disinfection**.
 - Do not spray disinfectant on outdoor playgrounds- it is not an efficient use of supplies and is not proven to reduce risk of COVID-19 to the public.

- High touch surfaces made of plastic or metal, such as grab bars and railings should be cleaned routinely.
 - Cleaning and disinfection of wooden surfaces (play structures, benches, tables) or groundcovers (mulch, sand) is not recommended.
- e. Designate a COVID-19 Point of Contact (POC), recommend league safety officer, to be responsible for responding to COVID-19 concerns. Provide this individual's contact information to all volunteers, coaches and families.
- f. Develop a notification plan for any case of COVID-19 this should generally include:
 - i. Notifications should be in accordance with state and local privacy and confidentiality laws and regulations.
 - ii. Notification of local health officials (County Contacts listed in Appendix 1)
 - iii. Notification of close contacts
 - iv. Maintain Confidentiality when notifying close contacts (ie: simply indicate that they have come in close contact with a confirmed or suspected COVID-19 case – DO NOT divulge the name of the case or any additional information that could lead to identification.)
 - v. Develop form letter communication to notify families of any incidents
- g. While the use of shared equipment is discouraged it may not be practical in all circumstances. Consider developing a "shared equipment" plan. This may be most effectively accomplished on a team by team basis by identifying any necessary shared equipment and identifying a volunteer to assist / ensure proper cleaning and disinfection. This could be a "team parent" w/ background check.
 - i. Increased attention should be paid to detailed cleaning of all equipment directly contacting the head and face (catcher's mask, helmets).
- h. Review and revise practice and games schedules to allow one group to depart before the other group arrives at the facility.
- i. All active participants (Players, Managers, Coaches, Umpires, League Officers) of PA District 17/32 programs shall be required to sign the "PA D17/32 LL waiver/release for communicable diseases" document.