



**WALLKILL VALLEY LITTLE LEAGUE
BASEBALL SAFETY PLAN
2016**

Deborah Zemieta

2016 Wallkill Valley Little League Safety Officer

Christopher Morciglio

2016 Wallkill Valley Little League President

March 1, 2016

Dear Wallkill Valley Little League Members,

Welcome to another season of Wallkill Valley Little League Baseball. We look forward to a fun and safe season.

The purpose of this document is to emphasize the importance of safety in the Wallkill Valley Little League and to identify important safety issues of which all individuals involved should be aware.

League administrators, coaches, parents and players should all take safety issues seriously.

In 1995, Little League Baseball introduced A Safety Awareness Program (ASAP) with the goal of re-emphasizing the position of safety officer to “create awareness, through education and information, of the opportunities to provide a safer environment for all participants of Little League baseball”. This program has been very successful by dramatically decreasing Little League baseball related injuries. This safety plan is qualified by the ASAP program.

This safety plan refers to play at the Franklin Pond, Wheatsworth Recreational Fields, Hamburg Elementary School, Franklin Elementary Schools, Ogdensburg School, Hardyston Middle School and Ogdensburg Field.

This document has been developed by the Wallkill Valley Little League to provide an overview of procedures, policies and activities that have been instituted by the League to provide a safe and healthy environment for those participating in the Little League baseball program. As part of maintaining awareness of the importance of safety, this document will be printed and distributed to all League officials and volunteers active during the season. It will be posted on the Wallkill Valley Little League website (WVLLBB.ORG) for reference by all volunteers, players, and parents participating in the Wallkill Valley Little League. It will also be submitted to the District Administrator.

We thank you for your devotion to the children of Franklin, Hamburg, Hardyston and Ogdensburg and for your support of the Wallkill Valley Little League Baseball program.

2016 Walkkill Valley Little League Safety Officer

Walkkill Valley Little League has an active Safety Officer on file with Little League headquarters. The Safety Officer for the 2016 season is:

Deborah Zemietra

30 Vernon Ave

Hamburg, NJ 07419

(973)570-9427

Emergency Response List

Emergency Phone Number:	911
Franklin Police (Non-Emergency)	(973)827-7040
Hamburg Police (Non-Emergency)	(973)827-6211
Hardyston Police (Non-Emergency)	(973)823-7022
Ogdensburg Police (Non-Emergency)	(973)827-3160

League Officers

Christopher Morciglio – President	(845)598-7645
Brian Westergaard – Vice President	(973)248-7992
Kristin Alexander – Secretary	(201)953-3267
Melissa Westergaard – Treasurer	(973)248-7992
Deborah Zemietra – Safety Officer	(973)570-9427
John Lorenzo-Jaqueth – Player Agent	(862)324-3696
Bob Hill – Head Umpire	(973)208-8598
John Zemietra – Equipment Coordinator	(973)896-5808

Full contact information sheet is included in Appendix as well as posted at the concession stand at the Franklin Pond.

Background Checks for Volunteers

Managers, coaches, board members and any other volunteers or hired workers who provide regular services to Walkkill Valley Little League and/or have repetitive access to or contact with players or teams are required to fill out a 2016 Little League Volunteer Application form and include a photocopy of a government issued photo identification card for ID verification.

Based on the volunteer application, Walkkill Valley Little League will conduct a nationwide criminal background check using First Advantage.

Anyone refusing to fill out the volunteer application is automatically ineligible to be a League volunteer or member in ANY capacity.

A copy of the 2016 Little League Volunteer Application is included within the appendix – copies may be made.

Fundamentals Training

It is the intent of Walkkill Valley Little League that ALL managers/coaches and assistant coaches attend and participate in at least one (1) fundamentals training session (fundamentals including hitting, sliding, fielding, pitching, etc.). The minimum requirement for this training is that at least one (1) member of the coaching staff from each team must attend. Every member of the coaching staff must attend the training at least once every three (3) years. The following fundamentals training session is being offered:

Monday, April 4, 2016

6:30PM

The Littell Center

**10 Munsonhurst Road
Franklin, NJ 07416**

First Aid Training

It is the intent of Walkkill Valley Little League that ALL managers/coaches and assistant coaches attend and participate in at least one (1) first aid training session. The minimum requirement for this training is that at least one (1) member of the coaching staff from each team must attend. Every member of the coaching staff must attend the training at least once every two (2) years. The following fundamentals training session is being offered:

Saturday February 27, 2016

11AM

The Littell Center

10 Munsonhurst Road

Franklin, NJ 07416

Field Inspections

Prior to the start of the 2016 season, inspections of all fields will be conducted by the Safety Officer and at least one board member. Throughout the season the fields and surrounding areas are also to be periodically checked by the Safety Officer and/or a board member. Members should check for exposed wires, dugout conditions, benches, etc.

In addition, Walkkill Valley Little League coaches will be required to check the field at which they are playing prior to each and every game to look for and correct any unsafe conditions (holes, broken glass, rocks, equipment, etc.). Please refer to the checklist in the appendix of this document.

2016 Annual Little League Facility Survey

Wallkill Valley Little League conducts a formal facility survey that is updated on an annual basis and is submitted to the Little League headquarters along with this Safety Plan.

You may contact the league safety officer or other board member for a copy or access to the survey if necessary.

Concession Stand Procedures

Wallkill Valley Little League operates a small concession stand at the Franklin Pond field. The concession stand consists primarily of pre-packaged food, drinks and snacks. Hot dogs and soft pretzels are also served.

Volunteers who operate the concession stand will be provided with clear instructions by the concession stand coordinator and given a copy of the concession stand procedures. These procedures can found in the Appendix and a copy is also posted in the concession stand at the Franklin Pond.

Equipment Inspection

Regular inspection of equipment is necessary to ensure safety. Replacement of defective equipment must be done immediately by contacting the equipment coordinator.

Equipment checks are done formally by three (3) sources:

1. By the equipment coordinator at the beginning of the season and periodically throughout the year
2. By coaches at the beginning of each game
3. By umpires at the beginning and during the course of each game

Inspect equipment for defects, damage and completeness. No incomplete or damaged equipment shall be issued or used. If a piece of equipment is not repairable, it should be destroyed. Equipment to be inspected includes gloves, bats, catcher's gear, batting helmets, pitching machines, bases and baseballs.

Accident Reporting and Tracking

An incident that causes any player, manager, coach, umpire or volunteer to receive medical treatment and/or first aid **must be reported to the Safety Officer within 48 hours of the incident**. The Safety Officer will log all reported incidents and track as noted below.

The league will provide hard copy printouts of the Incident/Injury Tracking Report with the first aid kit that is provided to every team as part of the standard issued equipment. This will allow teams to have the form available while traveling to other fields and towns. In addition, there is a copy provided in the appendix of this document as well at the concession stand at the Franklin Pond field.

A coach or league official must complete an Incident/Injury Tracking Report as soon as possible after the injury occurs and notify the league Safety Officer via e-mail or telephone of the incident. The coach or league official may either deliver the form to the Safety Officer or a board member or leave the form in the concession stand at the Franklin Pond field.

Within two (2) days following the incident, the Safety Officer will contact the injured party or the party's parents/guardians. He will:

1. Verify information received
2. Obtain any other information deemed necessary
3. Check on the status of the injured party
4. In the event that the injured party required other medical treatment (emergency room or doctor visit), he will advise the parent or guardian of Walkkill Valley Little League's insurance coverage and the provisions of submitting any claims. A copy of these forms can be found in the appendix

First Aid Kits

A first aid kit is required to be on hand for every game and practice. Wallkill Valley Little League supplies each team with a first aid kit with the team's equipment bag. In addition, first aid kits and supplies are located in the equipment trailer at the Franklin Pond. If supplies are depleted during the season contact the Safety Officer or other league official for replacements.

Little League Rules

Wallkill Valley Little League managers, coaches, umpires and league officials are required to enforce Little League rules at all games and practices, including proper equipment. Most Little League rules have some basis in safety so it is important to follow them.

Field and Dugout Safety

It is important to remember that we want to make baseball a safe and enjoyable experience for all players. A list of several of the key Little League baseball rules regarding field and dugout safety follows:

1. A phone list for emergency numbers, non-emergency numbers and League contact information is included in this document as well as posted in the concession stand at the Franklin Pond. A copy will also be given to each head coach. All towns within Wallkill Valley Little League have 911 services for emergencies. It is good practice to identify those coaches and parents who have cell phones available for all games and practices.
2. A first aid kit and supplies will be located in the concession stand at the Franklin Pond. In addition each team is issued a first aid kit with the team's equipment bag. If supplies are depleted during the season, contact the Safety Officer or a league official for replacement.
3. No games or practices should be held under severe weather conditions (especially lightning) or when field conditions are unsafe. It is important for coaches and officials to be diligent with regard to playing conditions.

4. The fields and surrounding areas must be inspected on a regular basis. The field will be reviewed before each game by the umpire and team coaches to look for any unsafe conditions (holes, broken glass, rocks, etc). Any field or area used for league practices shall be inspected for unsafe conditions by team coaches prior to all league practices.
5. A Little League Facility Survey is updated annually, submitted to Little League headquarters and kept on file.
6. Only players, managers, coaches and umpires are permitted on the playing field during play and practice sessions.
7. All bats and loose equipment must be kept off playing fields. Bat racks should be placed behind screens is applicable. Organized equipment will prevent tripping hazards.
8. Coaches should establish a procedure for retrieval of foul balls batted out of play during practice sessions or games, all players should be alert and watching the batter on each pitch.
9. Coaching staffs, the Equipment Coordinator and umpires are responsible for the regular inspections of league equipment and equipment brought by the player. Non-safe equipment must be removed immediately and replaced as soon as needed. Make sure equipment is properly fitted to the players.
10. Ensure players have required equipment at all times, even catchers warming up pitchers.
11. All fields are to use bases that disengage for their anchors, as required by Little League.
12. Pitching machines will be maintained in good working order and must be operated only by adult managers and coaches.
13. "Horseplay" should not be permitted on the playing fields.

Player Safety

Wallkill Valley Little League and Little League key rules pertaining to player safety are outlined below:

1. Coaches should inspect equipment on a regular basis, making sure it fits correctly and is in proper working order. Broken or improper equipment can be replaced by contacting the equipment coordinator or league officials. Batting and catching helmets are not permitted when they have been painted by anyone other than the manufacturer.

2. Batters must wear protective helmets during practices and games.
3. Catchers must wear a catcher's helmet with face mask and throat guard, chest protector and shin guards.
4. Male catchers must wear a chest protector, protective supporter and cup at all times.
5. Warm up catchers must wear catcher's helmet, facemask and throat guard while warming up pitchers. This applies between innings, during bull pen warm-ups and pre-game infield drills. Adults may NOT warm up a pitcher. This is a safety issue for both the player and the adult.
6. Coaches shall instruct all players in safe sliding techniques as well as how to avoid a pitched ball.
7. Players must not wear watches, rings, pins, jewelry, or metallic items by Little League Rule.
8. Parents of players that wear glasses should be encouraged to provide safety glasses.
9. No on-deck batters are allowed. No player should handle a bat even while in an enclosure, until it is their turn to bat.
10. Players who are ejected, ill or injured should remain under coach supervision until released to their parent or guardian.
11. After a game or practice, coaches should not leave the area until all players are picked up.
12. Players will be instructed in proper stretching and general sports health maintenance procedures, including proper throwing, fielding and hitting techniques to limit injury.
13. Injuries should be reported immediately as per Walkkill Valley Little League "Accident/Injury Tracking Report" procedures as outlines in this safety plan.

Qualified Safety Plan Registration form

A quality safety plan registration form was submitted with this safety plan.

League Registration Data Reporting

Each year, Little League Baseball requests player roster, coach and managers listings to be submitted to the Little League Data Center. Walkkill Valley Little League will submit to Little League Data Center all player, coach and manager listings by the required date for an approved ASAP plan in 2016. League registrations, however, will not be completed prior to the submission of this plan. In 2016 registration is completed online through the Walkkill Valley Little League website between January 9, 2016 and March 6, 2016.