



RETURN TO PLAY PROTOCOLS

COVID-19 DISCLAIMER:

The threat of COVID-19 transmission and a resurgence or renewed outbreak is an ongoing concern. Response to and procedures related to the pandemic are ongoing, evolving and subject to change depending on the guidance of federal, state and local officials. Oviedo Little League (OLL) encourages all members, participants and spectators to monitor publicly available information and to always follow official guidance and government mandates. OLL has developed the following Return to Play Protocols with input from federal agencies and government entities, member associations and health officials. This information is specific to our organization and may vary from other protocols you may encounter. The league reserves the right to modify these protocols as needed. The intent of this document is to provide a framework and guidelines to allow our league, coaches, parents and its players to return to the game in a safe, thoughtful and responsible manner.

COACHING/VOLUNTEERS – RETURN TO PLAY PROTOCOLS

- The first priority will be to ensure the health and safety of all players. All players, coaches, umpires and other volunteers will be asked if they are experiencing any symptoms prior to participation in a practice, game or other activity on a daily basis
- All managers/coaches, volunteers, umpires, etc., should wear PPE whenever applicable and possible, such as cloth face covering.
- Coaching staff will maintain recommended social distance from players and other coaching staff.
- Practice and games will be staggered/spaced out to limit interactions with other teams or groups.
- Access to and handling of equipment will be limited. Coaching staff will set up and breakdown any equipment.
- After each practice and game all shared equipment will be disinfected using CDC approved products and methods.
- Drills and planned sessions will be modified as needed to maintain the appropriate recommended social distancing measures.
- Baseballs and softballs will be rotated through on a regular basis, at least every two innings, to limit individual contact.
- Umpires should limit their contact with the ball, and catchers should retrieve foul balls and passed balls where possible.
- Balls used in infield/outfield warm-up should be isolated from a shared ball container.
- Foul balls landing outside the field of play should be retrieved by participating players, coaches, and umpires. No spectators should retrieve the ball.

- All players and coaches are to refrain from spitting at all times. No Spitting, Sunflower Seeds, Gum, etc. will not be allowed on the premises.
- Practices should be limited to the managers/coaches and players.

PLAYERS – RETURN TO PLAY PROTOCOLS

- If you are not comfortable with returning to play at this time, you are not required to return. There is no penalty for delaying return to play. All players are welcome to return when they are comfortable. These protocols are in place to outline the manner in which we are making the opportunity available to utilize at YOUR discretion.
- Wash your hands thoroughly for 20-30 seconds before and after every practice and game.
- If you are coughing or sneezing do not participate.
- Bring and use hand sanitizer throughout practice and games.
- Bring plenty of water and your own equipment and ensure they are clearly labeled.
- Refrain from touching and sharing water, food, or equipment with other players.
- There will be no use of shared or team beverages.
- Maintain recommended social distance before, during and after practice and games.
- Place equipment in designated areas 6' away from other players.
- Refrain from handshakes, high fives, fist/elbow bumps, chest bumps, group celebrations, etc.
- Players should wear cloth face coverings when in close contact areas and in places where recommended social distancing is challenging or not feasible.
- No personal player bat bags/equipment bags will be allowed in the dugout. Player equipment will be spaced accordingly outside the dugout to prevent direct contact.
- Players should have their own individual batter's helmet, glove, bat, and catcher's equipment.
- Some critical equipment may not be able to be obtained by every individual. When it is necessary to share critical or limited equipment, all surfaces of each piece of shared equipment must be cleaned first and then disinfected with an EPA- approved disinfectant against COVID-19 and allowed sufficient time to dry before used by a new player. Increased attention should be paid to detailed cleaning of all equipment directly contacting the head and face (catcher's mask, helmets).
- Player's equipment (e.g. bags, helmets, bats, gloves, etc.) should be cleaned and disinfected after each use by a parent/ guardian/caretaker, where applicable with CDC approved products and methods before and after every practice and game.

PARENTS – RETURN TO PLAY PROTOCOLS

- If you are not comfortable with returning to play at this time, you are not required to return. There is no penalty for delaying return to play. All players are welcome to return when they are comfortable. These protocols are in place to outline the manner in which we are making the opportunity available to utilize at YOUR discretion.
- You must check your child's temperature before coming to any practice or game and ensure that they feel well and are not presenting with any symptoms. Do not bring your child to any practice or game if the child has had a fever in the past 48 hours or is presenting with any symptoms.

- Practices are limited to managers/coaches and players. Please remain in your vehicle or along the outfield or foul line fencing during practice. Parents are not allowed to watch from areas behind home plate or in the bleachers.
- We recommend washing all clothing after every practice and game.
- We recommend sanitizing all equipment with CDC approved products and methods before and after every practice and game.
- Notify coach and club immediately if your child becomes ill.
- Ensure that your child has individual hand sanitizer, plenty of water, and their equipment clearly labeled. The league is unable to provide communal water stations at this time.
- It is recommended that parents wear masks, if a mask cannot be worn due to medical reasons please practice social distancing.
- Maintain recommended social distance from players, parents and coaching staff.
- Cloth face coverings should not be placed on young children under age 2, anyone who has trouble breathing, or is unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance.
- Players and families should vacate the field/facility as soon as is reasonably possible after the conclusion of the game to minimize unnecessary contact with players, coaches, and spectators from the next game, ideally within 20 minutes.
- Players will be assigned spots in the bleachers so that they are at least six feet apart. Dugouts will be closed until further notice.
- Players are to stay at their assigned spots while waiting their turn to bat.
- No more than 4 individuals per player will be allowed to attend the games.
- Parents should bring their own seating or portable chairs when possible.
- Limit in person communication requests. When possible, communication should be done through email or telephone at this time.
- Mask will be available in the concession stand.

Entrance:

- The league will only have one entrance in and out of the fields; entry point will be at Main gate located near the batting cages. Please follow signs that will be posted.

Concession Stand:

- Concession stand will be open on a limited basis.
- No hot or prepared food will be served.
- No fountain drinks will be served.
- Bottled water, soda, Gatorade, and packaged snacks will be available for sale.
- Only two people will be allowed in the concession stand and volunteers must wear mask and gloves.
- We encourage debit/credit as method of payment, but will also take cash.
- Social distance safety shield and floor directional signage will be added.

Public Restrooms:

- Access to public restrooms will be limited. A “one-in-one-out”, where only one individual is permitted within the restroom at one time.

Updated on August 15th 2020