



A Little Common Sense About Safety

From a Million Little League® Volunteers

A Little Common Sense About Safety

INTRODUCTION

Safety ideas, safety ideas, safety ideas.

If you've been involved with ASAP for more than a month, you've probably heard the term "safety ideas" many times. The newsletter begs for them. Send in your safety ideas, call in your safety ideas, fax in your safety ideas, E-Mail your safety ideas.

Well, here's the payoff. This booklet contains hundreds ideas from leagues in all states, proof that the network of safety officers created by ASAP is producing results. Maybe ASAP has provided an idea for your league in the last year. Maybe you've provided an idea for someone else. Either way, Little League Baseball and Softball, Musco Lighting, and Chartis Insurance would like to thank you for your involvement in the program and challenge you to keep up the good work.

By the way, if your ideas were left out, we apologize. As always, we ask that you simply call the ASAP Hotline and let us know your thoughts . . .

There we go, asking for safety ideas again.

ASAP HOTLINE
24 HOUR TOLL-FREE
800-811-7443

*"It is just amazing
the ideas that come
through."*

*Butch Faber
District 6 – Wisconsin*

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EDUCATION . . .

Hold an instructional and safety minicamp at the beginning of the season.

*Groves National LL, Texas
Oakland LL, Maryland*

A local chiropractor held seminars for the league on proper stretching techniques and injury prevention.

Murietta Valley American LL, California

NEW

Know where the closest emergency shelter is in case of severe weather.

Snyder Co. Area LL, Pennsylvania

Members of the local Double-A professional team taught our kids about the dangers of drugs and alcohol.

Minersville LL, Pennsylvania

NEW

Managers and coaches will receive a laminated, pocket-size card with all emergency contacts, board members, district staff, and central & international numbers.

Roselawn LL, Indiana

Create a safety manual for all managers.

Upland National LL, California

We made a community safety awareness opening day. We're making it community-wide to get more people involved in our league.

SW Norwalk LL, California

We make sure to promote the safety materials provided by Little League. The "Safety Code" is excellent.

SAFETY CODE FOR LITTLE LEAGUE

- Responsibility for safety procedures should be that of an adult member of the local league.
- Arrangements should be made in advance of all games and practices for emergency medical services.
- Managers, coaches and umpires should have some training in first-aid. First-aid kit should be available at the field.
- No games or practice should be held when weather or field conditions are not good, particularly when lighting is inadequate.
- Play area should be inspected frequently for holes, damage, glass and other foreign objects.
- Dugouts and bat racks should be positioned behind screens.
- Only players, managers, coaches, and umpires are permitted on the playing field during play and practice sessions.
- Responsibility for keeping bats and loose equipment off the field of play should be that of a regular player assigned for this purpose.
- Procedure should be established for retrieving foul balls batted out of the playing area.
- During practice and games, all players should be alert and watching the batter on each pitch.
- During warm-up drills players should be spaced so that no one is endangered by wild throws or missed catches.
- Equipment should be inspected regularly. Make sure it fits properly.
- Batters must wear approved protective helmets during practice and during games.
- Catchers must wear catcher's helmet, mask, throat protector, long model chest protector, shin-guards and male catchers must wear a protective supporter at all times.
- Except when runner is returning to a base, head first slides are not permitted (12 years old and under).
- During sliding practice bases should not be strapped down and should be located away from the base anchoring system.
- At no time should "horse play" be permitted on the playing field.
- Parents of players who wear glasses should be encouraged to provide "safety glasses."
- Players must not wear watches, rings, pins, jewelry or other metallic items.
- Catchers must wear catcher's helmet and mask with a throat protector in warming up pitchers. This applies between innings and in bull pen practice.

District 3, Michigan

One of our local physical therapists came down and gave a talk on pitching technique and stretching, along with some ideas on arm strengthening.

Reynolds LL, Pennsylvania

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EDUCATION . . .

Tell your coaches to watch for kids that might need their eyes checked. If a kid continually misses the ball, it could be that his eyes are bad and he doesn't know it.

District 4, Virginia

Put an article about safety in each issue of the league newsletter.

Abbott 'O' Rabbit LL, Alaska

NEW

We have a recommended safety tip of the week. The purpose of this program is to have different topics discussed with the players to have them start thinking about safety all the time. It is recommended to have a brief meeting the first part of the week.

Hesperia American LL, California

The "Keep 'Em Safe" video was shown at the first general meeting of the year.

Northeast Garden Grove LL, California

We acknowledge one team per week with a team safety award that promotes and demonstrates good safety practices.

Deer Park LL, Virginia

NEW

Each practice will include 20 minutes of safety training for the kids on subjects like safe sliding, bat handling and proper use of safety equipment.

District 46, California

We required all of our teams to have at least two adult volunteers, be they coaches or parents, certified in first-aid and CPR.

Reynolds LL, Pennsylvania

Each year most of our leagues develop a "coaches' package." As part of this, we've developed the "Ten Commandments of Safety."

District 4, Virginia



NEW

We have a safety suggestion and comment page on our website for parents, umpires, and spectators.

Fairfax LL, Virginia

Our managerial and coaching staff will attend a seminar on children's sports injuries.

Washington Township LL, Pennsylvania

EDUCATION . . .

We developed a code of ethics for all participants to follow as part of our commitment to provide for the emotional “safety” of our players.

Northside Suburban LL

NEW

At the end of each year we discuss the following questions: “Did anything happen this season that could have been prevented?” “Was anything seen that could have been potentially unsafe?”

Fleming-Neon LL, Kentucky

We encourage the managers or coaches to talk to the rest of the team when an injury occurs. Often players are upset and worried when another player is injured. They need to feel safe and understand why the incident occurred.

Missouri Valley East LL, Missouri

NEW

Bicycle and traffic training is available to all players. A bicycle and traffic brochure is available in the snack bar and from the manager.

Loma Linda LL, California

We established a safety banner program to promote safety. They’re donated by different organizations and hung up at each field.

Crystal Lake National LL, Illinois

A Safety Clinic will be offered to all children of the league.

Blackwood Kiwanis LL, New Jersey

NEW

Work individually with the catchers showing them the proper equipment and the proper way to wear the equipment. Instruct them in proper catching techniques and positioning.

Boling – New Gulf Youth LL, Texas

NEW

Have a five-minute safety meeting with the team each week.

Kihei LL, Hawaii

“Stranger Danger” program was implemented to stress the dangers of accepting rides from strangers.

Ashley-Newtown LL, Pennsylvania

We used information from the Internet to gain further information about safety.

*South Beaches LL, Florida
Nyack-Valley Cottage, New York*

NEW

Set an annual budget for safety and field improvements.

Buchanan County North LL, Virginia

The Safety Director will hold a mandatory mid-season meeting with all division directors and coaches to discuss injuries and review preventive measures.

North Springs LL, Florida

The player whose safety suggestion was deemed “suggestion of the year” will receive a \$100 savings bond.

Nyack-Valley Cottage LL, New York

A Little Common Sense About Safety

EDUCATION

NEW

The “Hey Coach... Have You?” sign is used as the front cover of the Safety Notebooks.

North Mason LL, Washington

NEW

In an effort to provide managers and coaches an opportunity to enhance their knowledge of baseball/softball, we are in the process of compiling a library of books and videos.

Osolo LL, Indiana

NEW

Email sent to coaches throughout season to promote safety.

Madison LL, Connecticut

During the season we had a safety poster contest. Each division had the opportunity to have one winner. Each winning team received a free pizza party. This contest was held to push safety awareness.

North Anaheim LL, California

Safety parents are given a packet of information which includes:

- Introduction and thank you letter
- District and league inspection rules & tips
- Safety check-out form for pre-game registration
- Preliminary accident report forms
- Suggested items for first-aid kit
- Instructions on assembling a blood borne pathogens clean-up kit
- First-aid guidelines on “When to Call for Aid.”

Foster LL, Washington

I used a local physical therapist as a resource for teaching coaches and managers about stretching, recognizing overuse injuries, evaluating players’ return from injury and pitching techniques from an injury prevention standpoint.

North Issaquah LL, Washington

We issued a window cling sticker to each player at registration to let everyone know our commitment to safety. The kids loved them!



Bolingbrook Associated LL, Illinois

I made umpire guideline cards and had them laminated for the umpires.

North Issaquah LL, Washington

Managers shall give extra attention and training to players whose physical handicap, lack of coordination or experience might make them susceptible to injury.

North Issaquah LL, Washington

EDUCATION . . .

Parents with cellular phones are encouraged to bring them to games and practices in case of emergencies.

Abbott 'O' Rabbit LL, Alaska

NEW

We purchased Automated External Defibrillator (AED). The clinic trained volunteers on how to use the AED.

Several Leagues

NEW

We are using the benefits of our web site to relay important safety messages, which will be updated weekly via the web.

Several Leagues

NEW

Maps to all fields and practice locations were provided to the fire department.

Harney LL, South Dakota

All managers are CPR and first-aid certified.

Several leagues

Have one parent or coach certified to teach CPR and then he or she can teach the rest of the league.

Sahuaro LL, Arizona

NEW

The Little Leaguers of Kenosha will be instituting a safety campaign entitled "Play Hard – Play Safe – Play Fair."

Little Leaguers of Kenosha, Wisconsin

The sheriff's department talked about drug and alcohol abuse and what to do in emergency situations such as finding old needles.

Nederland North LL, Texas

Educate coaches and parents on the dangers of riding in the back of pickup trucks.

Several leagues and districts



Leagues can work with school health teachers, physical education instructors and coaches to develop safety awareness programs that are taught in the schools and to the leagues.

District 3, New York

Inside our first-aid kits we have directions on how to get to the field. Also, we have directions to the nearest urgent care facilities.

Reynolds LL, Oregon

NEW

We have a safety bulletin board for all the players, parents, and league volunteers to read safety posters, newsletters, and other safety briefings.

Several Leagues

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EDUCATION . . .

The local police department came to fingerprint our kids.

Lampeter-Strasburg LL, Pennsylvania

Don't put kids' names on the back of their jerseys. It could increase the risk of abduction.

District 4, Virginia

Make sure that all league personnel know how to contact EMS rescue personnel.

District 10, Florida

We're committed to having 50 people trained in Little League's Emergency Management Training Program course.

Millsboro LL, Delaware

NEW

When we experience a "near miss" situation; we discuss it with the team and figure out a better way of doing things.

Nanticoke LL, Delaware

In the future, each of our fields will have a 4' x 4' billboard expressing the importance of safety.

Darlington American LL, Rhode Island

NEW

Managers should meet with the team's parents prior to or at the first practice to discuss the league's philosophy and safety.

Lacey LL, New Jersey

NEW

We provide pre-season training for all our players.

South Tonka LL, Minnesota

We opened the doors of our Emergency Management Training Program to all the leagues in our district.

Vista American LL, California

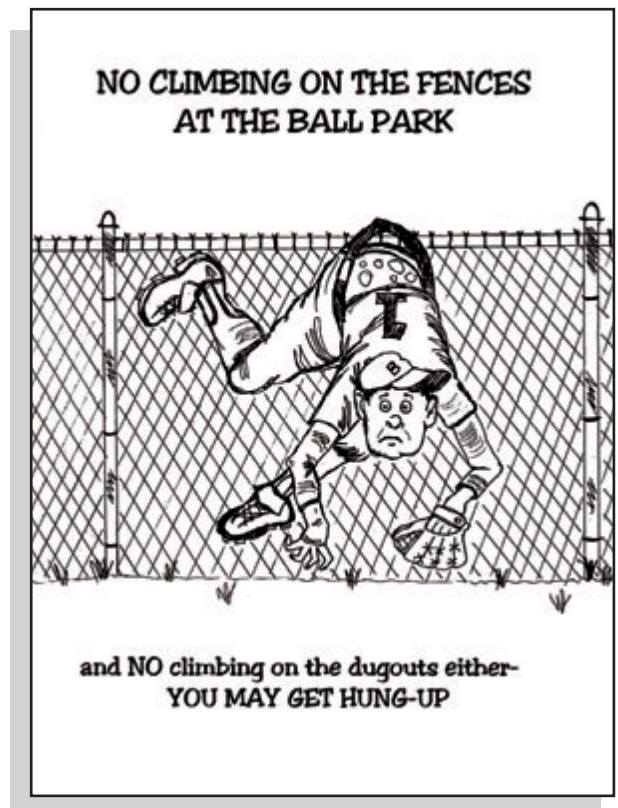
Every coach is given a copy of "Play It Safe."

Nederland South LL, Texas

No game is so important, no practice is so urgent, that we cannot take time to perform safely.

Englewood LL, Ohio

We held a safety poster contest to increase kids' awareness of safety.



Blackwood Kiwanis LL, New Jersey

Peninsula LL, California

EDUCATION . . .

Rather than reinventing the wheel, we refined and implemented the safety program of a league in our district who won the national ASAP award.

Fletcher Hills LL, California

Encourage parents to teach children safety awareness.

Medford American LL, Oregon

Each team in each division provides a safety ambassador to instruct and nurture the division below them. They are to present themselves as a role model to younger children.

Benson LL, Nebraska

Each player is issued a Safety Patrol membership card to make them all aware that safety is #1.

Santee Pioneer National LL, California

ASAP is presented to managers on draft night.

Middlebury LL, Indiana

NEW

Before managers can sign out their equipment, they must attend the basic skills training to include proper stretching and warm-up.

North Anaheim LL, California

NEW

Players should play hard but in a safe and responsible manner and should not intentionally endanger another player in any way.

Middlesex, New Jersey

Provide mail slots at the ballpark for all managers where they can receive regular safety reminders.



South Beaches LL, Florida

Safety parents hold a five minute safety meeting with the team each week.

Antioch LL, California

Hold an umpire clinic before the season. Walk all umpires to the field and explain the proper places to stand, to keep from blocking a player's view.

Federal LL, Florida

Tell coaches of minor and T-ball players to be alert to kids in the outfield who tend to not pay attention to the play.

Clendinin LL, West Virginia

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EDUCATION . . .

Our district safety officer called a meeting of all the safety officers in our district. As a result, other leagues are using all or part of our manual.

Millsboro LL, Delaware

We actively recruit volunteers from local senior citizen organizations to assist in concession stands, operate scoreboards, and act as team grandparents for Tee Ball and instructional leagues.

Westville LL, New Jersey

The crash test dummies appeared at our safety meeting.

Peninsula LL, California

Before managers can sign out their equipment, they are required to attend a meeting that covers proper warm up and stretching.

Bolingbrook Associated LL, Illinois

We displayed a banner to show players and visiting teams that safety is our first priority.



South Beaches LL, Florida

Note: South Beaches Little League won 1996's National Best Safety Program award.

Educate coaches on the importance of wearing safety glasses and helmets while operating pitching machines.

Roger Allen LL, New Hampshire

Because of the on-deck rule, we have posted "no on-deck" signs on our fences.

Ashley-Newtown LL, Pennsylvania

We have a bulletin board in our clubhouse where we post clippings of safety ideas.

Pallisades Park LL, New Jersey

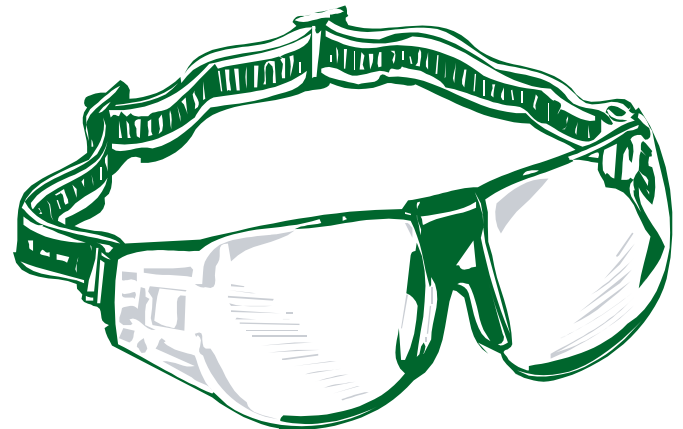
NEW

Dedicate 5 minutes every practice session and pre-game to discuss safety with your team.

Port Townsend LL, Washington

We provide an "Eyes Down Clinic" run by professional instructors. Every child receives special glasses, designed to train the eyes when catching ground balls.

Great Kills LL, New York



We're working with the local optical departments in providing discounts for safety glasses.

Ashley-Newtown LL, Pennsylvania

EDUCATION . . .

NEW

A member of each team will be certified in CPR.

Vacaville LL, California

NEW

Arrange for local EMS personnel to attend meetings to help teach the parents the importance of safety and how to assist in giving basic First Aid.

Belvedere LL, South Carolina

NEW

We have suggested all coaches make a list of any parent who has a medical background and would be able to assist in an emergency.

Mason City Youth Baseball, Iowa

We have a guest speaker at our banquet speak on drug, alcohol, and steroid education.

Barnstable National LL, Massachusetts

NEW

We give two first-aid quizzes to test the knowledge of our training program.

Foothill LL, California

NEW

We provide diagrams on how to support different joints with athletic tape.

Grass Valley LL, California

NEW

All players will have a mandatory 5-10 minute presentation on traveling safely to and from games, and how to play it safe at practice/games.

Clare LL, Michigan

Dr. John McShane visited the Aston-Middletown Little League field house and spoke during the General Membership meeting. Dr. McShane's resume includes being a member of the Philadelphia Phillies' medical staff and a foremost physician at the Rothman Institute in Philadelphia. One of the most noted sports orthopedists in the region, Dr. McShane gave a riveting PowerPoint presentation in which he explained how arm injuries occur in young ballplayers, how to prevent them, and the importance of pitch counts. He concluded with a 40-minute question-and-answer session with parents, managers, and coaches.

Aston-Middletown LL, Pennsylvania

NEW

Managers are required to devote one practice before the season starts to discuss safety practices in coming to and from events, the main focus being bicycle safety.

Mount Jumbo West LL, Montana

Clinics are scheduled for Tee Ball players and their parents to teach basic throwing and catching skills to avoid injury and encourage parents to practice while not at the field.

Monticello LL, Virginia

The Safety Committee meets on the first Monday of each month at the ball field to discuss safety issues and review the ASAP News release.

Virginia Beach LL, Virginia

A Little Common Sense About Safety

EDUCATION . . .

We sold candy bars for a fundraiser and implemented the following rules:

- never carry lots of cash;
- have an adult accompany you when selling;
- older kids who go without parents should take a buddy, and always tell a parent where you are going and when you will return home;
- be smart and safe pedestrians;
- riding a bike is not recommended – if a bicycle is used, obey traffic rules and signs, and wear a protective helmet;
- never give out your full name or telephone number;
- never go inside anyone’s home;
- and never approach cars.

Elmhurst LL, Indiana

We are bringing back our safety tip of the week program. Each team will be assigned one week during which they will be responsible for a safety tip of the week. Each player on the team writes a tip and the winning tip is posted at the park and on the web page.

Hopkins Area LL, Minnesota

NEW

Dedicate 5 minutes every practice session and pre-game to discuss safety with your team.

Port Townsend LL, Washington

NEW

Established evacuation plan for 2011. Managers are responsible for taking a head count during evacuation.

Black Rock LL, Connecticut



We have a safety mascot, “Safety Sam” the safety gorilla, who promotes safety to all our leagues. We have the “Safety Sam” Club where:

- Pamphlets about bicycle safety, drug awareness, and dangerous situations are distributed throughout the season
- Any player recognizing an unsafe condition and finding ways to better our safety program is given a certificate to the refreshment stand
- Poster contest is held to create a safer playing environment held throughout the season

PAR Troy West LL, New Jersey

NEW

Inclement Weather Red/Yellow Flag System:
Red—No games on any field
Yellow—Some fields playable
“No games, No play” rule—if red flag is up and games are cancelled, no practices are permitted on ANY outdoor fields.

Keizer LL, Oregon

EDUCATION . . .



We use the “Buddy System” among our coaches. We match a new, inexperienced coach with a more experienced coach to help with drills, skill building, and general, overall assistance.

Mountaineer LL, West Virginia

We provide special training for managers and coaches incorporated with the Challenger Division.

Hopkins Area LL, Minnesota

All managers and coaches wear red shirts and hats with the Little League logo printed on the front. This allows players and spectators to know who should be on the playing field and gives them a contact person if any emergencies occur.

Frederick County LL, Virginia



The billboard outside the concession stand will have one side dedicated to safety information.

Maugansville LL, Maryland

NEW

To promote safety, the league has established a Team Safety Award for the team that promotes the best safety environment during the season.

Beech Grove LL, Indiana

First-time managers and coaches are requested to read books or view videos on Little League Baseball mechanics furnished on a library loan-out basis from the league.

Los Osos LL, California

Managers and coaches will have the opportunity to observe a practice of the Everett High School varsity baseball team. They will see first hand the effective use of practice time and skills drills.

Everett LL, Pennsylvania

Select those players whose lack of coordination or physical handicap might make them susceptible to injury and give them extra attention and training. Play these players at positions that minimize their risk of injury.

Costa Mesa American LL, California

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EDUCATION . . .

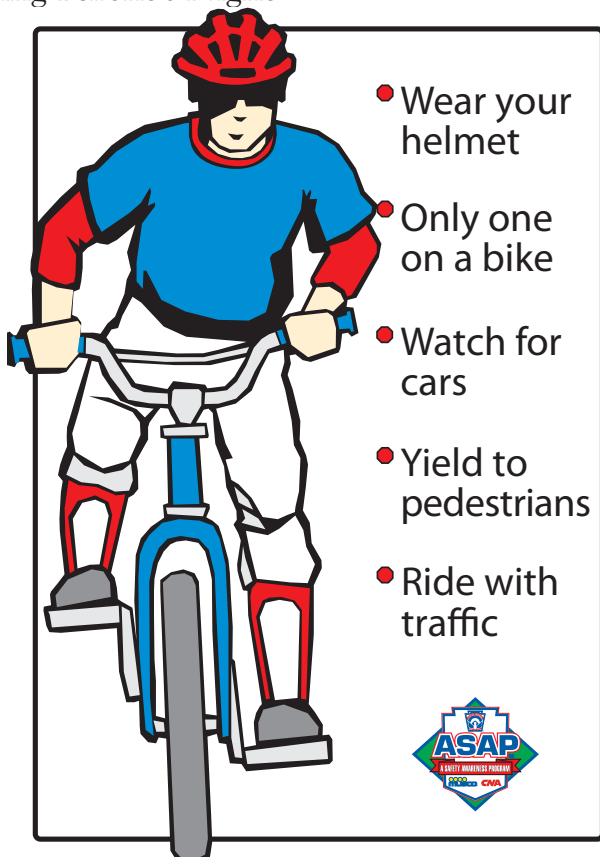
This year we have added a business card size, “SCLL Safety Big Five.” This is a check-off card for coaches to refer to before games. It is the main points and most important things to remember.

Santa Cruz National/American LL, California

Each team shows a video on the use of smokeless tobacco.

Omar Community LL, West Virginia

Flora Little League will sponsor a bicycle and anti-drug seminar for all players due to the number of players on bicycles this summer. This safety seminar will be held during Parent’s Night.



Flora LL, Indiana

We teach our players never to throw the ball until they “see the glove,” meaning the receiving player’s glove is up and in the ready-to-catch position.

Nanticoke LL, Delaware

We have a Lower Level Mentoring Program: Starting in 2003, each Majors team will “adopt” a team from our A/Instructional level. This mentoring program will allow younger players to learn from kids closer in age but more skilled. All Majors players are expected to assist in scheduled practices of the A/Instructional teams. In turn, the younger players are encouraged to attend and watch their “older siblings” play their games.

Stoughton LL, Massachusetts

We are developing a program for players to take active roles in safety. Ideas include, “team safety player of the week.” Each player will have a week where they work with the manager to inspect fields and equipment, and report any safety hazards.

Huntington Valley LL, California

Teach your players to be decisive when sliding. Most injuries are caused by indecision on the part of the runner.

Foothills LL, California

NEW

Be sure the SkyScan detector is being operated on electrical power rather than batteries whenever possible. When the batteries are low, false readings are possible.

Mahaska County LL, Iowa

EDUCATION . . .

In our Safety Manual, we include a page on self-esteem and what parents can do to help build their child's self-esteem.

Clay County LL, West Virginia

Safe kids know whom they can ride with. The magic word is a code that you share with your parents. No one is to know this word other than you and your parents. It is used as a code word in special ways. If your parent can't pick you up from ball practice, they may send someone else to bring you home. You should only go with that person if he or she knows the magic word. If a person tries to pick you up who doesn't know the magic word, you should run from them, find help, and call 911.

Tucson International LL, Arizona

Umpires go through a series of classroom sessions and a 3-hour field mechanics session, and get tested to ensure that they adequately understand the material presented and can succeed when called on to umpire.

Fairfax LL, Virginia

We make our own ice packs with 1 cup of water and $\frac{3}{4}$ cup rubbing alcohol. Then we put them in a freezer in a self-closing bag. This cuts down on the cost of ice packs.

Several Leagues

We had the local high school boys baseball and girls softball teams hold a camp for ages 8 and up. They instructed players on pitching mechanics, defensive drills, batting skills, and base running techniques.



Essex County LL, Virginia

The Unicoi County Little League is continuing the "Outfield Angels" program. Under this program, any adult volunteer, who has passed an approved background check, will wear a yellow or other highly visible T-shirt with a vest. This "Outfield Angel" will patrol the Little League complex, moving around watching for anyone who may need assistance. This person will be equipped with a 2-way radio to call for help if the need arises. The vest will also be equipped with basic first-aid supplies and deterrent spray for dogs in the case of a dog attack. The 2-way radio will be monitored during all game times by a league official in the press box that can then provide additional assistance or call for additional help.

Unicoi LL, Tennessee

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COMPLIANCE . . .

We are adjusting our concession stand menu to include apples, bananas, oranges, teriyaki rice bowls, turkey sandwiches, and 100% fruit juice to promote a healthier diet.

Benicia LL, California

First-In-First-Out: The food first put into storage or refrigeration should be the first food to be used.

Pt. Acres LL, Texas

NEW

No player shall be allowed to go alone to any bathroom or bathroom area. Players will use the buddy system and go in pairs of 2 or be accompanied by a responsible adult.

Rillito Girls Softball LL, Arizona

NEW

We go one step beyond the requirement of background checks and check all volunteers for any criminal conviction. Our board carefully scrutinizes anyone who is convicted of a felony or any crime against another person.

Fort Des Moines American LL, Iowa

NEW

When transporting children other than your own, our policy is that two should be present. This is for the safety of all involved.

Painesville National/American LL, Ohio

NEW

All board members are required to wear photo ID tags at all times when on the property of Penfield Little League. This will be mandatory for all managers and coaches.

Penfield LL, New York

NEW

We provide a booklet on Child Abuse, Handling Angry Parents — includes the “Parent Sportsmanship Checklist” and “10 Things Kids Say They Don’t Want Their Parents to Do.”

District 43, California

NEW

Children should not be encouraged to play through pain. Pain is a warning sign of injury. Ignoring it can lead to greater injury.

Hopatcong Little League, New Jersey

NEW

Players who are ejected, ill or injured should remain under supervision until released to the parent or guardian.

Chambersburg LL, Pennsylvania

NEW

All injuries are reported by telephone to the Safety Officer on the date of injury. Injury/incident written report must be submitted to the Safety Officer within 48 hours.

Crystal Lake Am. LL, Illinois

NEW

When injury occurs make sure to stop all play to protect the player from further injury, as well as those not being closely monitored due to the focus on injured player.

Boling–New Gulf Youth LL, Texas

COMPLIANCE . . .

The safety officer will visit each team periodically to ensure that safety regulations are being followed.

Pembroke Pine Optimist LL, Florida

We've developed an umpire card that highlights the items to discuss with the coaches in the pregame meeting at homeplate.

Pembroke Pine Optimist LL, Florida

Our safety checklist is given out during a mid-year coaches meeting. It's another way for us to remind everyone to keep thinking about safety.

District 4, Virginia

NEW

Do not allow players who have been injured, which required medical attention, to return to practice or play without a written release from a parent or physician.

Sequim LL, Washington

Issue written safety citations to coaches for unsafe actions. Three strikes and you're out!

Plaza LL, California

NEW

Rest is by far the most powerful therapy in youth sports injuries. Nothing helps an injury heal faster than rest.

Middlesex, New Jersey

Only league-approved coaches are allowed to practice teams.

San Mateo LL, Florida

We use positive reinforcement safety tokens to reward coaches and players who identify safety problems. The tokens are redeemable at the concession stand.



Lakeside American LL, California

Note: This idea was one of the reasons Lakeside American won 1995's Best Safety Program award.

We installed a misting system in our two permanent dugouts which can be dismantled at the end of the season. The estimated reduction in dugout temperature is 20 degrees.



West Redding LL, California

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COMPLIANCE . . .

All equipment must be inspected before every game by both managers and the umpire using our “Safety Inspection Sheet.”

District 28, California

NEW

Digital camera is kept in the concession stand to document accidents and injuries during the season.

Homer LL, New York

If a heat wave hits, rent commercial fans, keep cold rags in the dugout and take a 10-minute break after the third inning.

Benson LL, Nebraska

NEW

We added an air horn to each equipment box to be used as a signal for the need of assistance in a medical emergency or suspension of play due to weather.

Leo Boys League, Indiana

Leave a blank for “parent occupation” on registration forms. Those parents with medical or safety backgrounds are asked to volunteer for the safety committee.

Abbott ‘O’ Rabbit LL, Alaska

Managers are required to fill out a pre-game safety check card before every game.

Berkeley Little League—Pregame Checklist	
Team: _____	Date: _____
Field: _____	Teams Phone Numbers: _____
Field Conditions: _____	Playing Field, Bases, Benches, Fences, Bleachers
Helmets: _____	Bats: _____ Spike Check: ____
Catchers: _____	Chest Protector, Helmet, Mask, Shin Guards, Cup
First Aid Box: _____	Ice Packs, Cleansing Packs, Band Aids, Bee Sting, Accident Reports, Rubber Gloves, Change for Phone
Emergency Phone Numbers: _____	Manager Signature: _____

Berkeley LL, New Jersey

NEW

We have a small container of milk that is changed weekly in the concession stand in the unfortunate event that a tooth is knocked out or broken. A pediatric dentist gave the idea to us.

Central LL, Illinois

At each monthly Little League board meeting safety rules and improvements are discussed and implemented.

Brockton-West LL, Massachusetts

I got our medical information forms printed up with carbonless paper. The coaches keep the original copy and the carbon copy is kept in a central file in our canteen.

Teaneck LL, New Jersey

COMPLIANCE . . .

We developed a team safety rating card for each team to fill out after a game. Safety points are accumulated throughout the season and good safety performance is rewarded with a year-end pizza party.

Team Safety Rating				
Team	_____			
	T-Ball	Minor U-10	Minor	Major
RATING:	1	2	3	4 5
FIELD INSPECTION:	Yes	No		
INJURY:	Yes	No		
	Player	Coach	Spectator	Umpire
	Bat Throwing		Sliding	
	Helmet Wear		Equipment	
COMMENTS:	_____			

Sundown LL, California

NEW

Anyone with an open wound will not be allowed on the playing field until the wound is treated and dressed properly.

Raymond LL, Maine

Safety parents pick up an air horn before each game to blow in case of emergency.

Peninsula LL, California

At all levels of tournament play, any time the temperature or heat factor is above 90 degrees, all players of all ages and all divisions will rest after the second inning and fourth inning for a full five minutes.

Palos Hills LL, Illinois

One member of the board is responsible for monitoring the weather and the lightning detector each night. That person makes the call to cease play until weather conditions improve.

Palisades Park LL, New Jersey

NEW

Blood or Chemical Spill: SWIM-S: Stop Spill, W: Warn other people, I: Isolate Area, M: Minimize Own Exposure.

South Berkeley LL, West Virginia

Coaches have been told not to carry more children in their vehicle than they have seatbelts for.

Pinecrest LL, Florida

In our state it is a law that all bicyclists under 16 must wear a helmet. We will post this law at all our fields.

Clackamas LL, Oregon

A Little Common Sense About Safety

COMPLIANCE . . .

Umpires will be designated “Acting Safety Officers” of games they officiate.

Pacifica National LL, California

Make sure players and spectators keep their fingers out of the fencing.

Clackamas LL, Oregon

In my district, all my pitchers when warming up in practice wear batting helmets so they won't be hit by fielders taking infield.

District 2, New York

City ordinance to keep dogs out of the park was posted and the ordinance is strictly enforced.

West Haven American/National LL, Connecticut

Coaches do not leave until every boy and girl is picked up.

Page LL, Arizona

No bats and balls are permitted on the field until all players have done their proper stretching.

Williamson LL, West Virginia

Establish a safety monitor or team safety parent to help coaches monitor and improve safety during games and practices.

District 2, Nevada

Ask each team to appoint a safety patrol person.

Statham LL, Georgia



Two parents from each team retrieve foul balls during games.

District 18, Florida

When the heat becomes excessive (95 degrees or above) we will observe a 10 minute break at the end of the third inning of play. This will be enforced! Coaches and umpires should address this in a pre-game conference.

Princeton Youth Baseball LL, Illinois

COMPLIANCE . . .

We purchased eight Camelbak® hydration systems for our umpires to prevent heat illness.



West Redding LL, California

NEW

Pets are not allowed during league functions at the ball complex, unless they are used to assist a handicapped person.

Ankeny LL, Iowa

As part of our maintenance policy, maintenance operations should not be done by a lone individual. There should always be another person present in case of an injury or accident.

East Jefferson LL, Washington

NEW

A net will be hung over the minor and major fields to avoid foul balls from falling into the stands.

Bristol LL, Indiana

NEW

During games, foul balls out of the playing area and retrieved should be collected and held, and returned to the umpire in charge only between the ½ innings or at his or her request.

Cape Elizabeth, Maine

NEW

Once a ball has become discolored, it will be discarded.

Phelps LL, Kentucky

A Little Common Sense About Safety

COMPLIANCE . . .

There will be no chattering allowed while the pitcher is in his pitching motion.

Bucksport LL, Maine

Pitchers shall be instructed not to “quick pitch or quick return” with the obvious intent to catch a batter off balance.

West Islip LL, New York

All players will have a buddy with them at all times until the manager determines they can safely play alone.

Tri-County Challengers LL, Florida

Observe the “no jewelry rule” at all games as well as practices.

Tualatin City LL, Oregon

Long hair must be pulled back off the face and in a ponytail.

Several Leagues

When a pitcher is warming up between innings, another player wearing an approved Little League protective batting helmet and field glove is required to stand in the vicinity to alert and protect the pitcher and catcher of any balls coming their way.

Nottingham LL, New Jersey

If a player does not slide and it results in a collision, the player will be called out.

Upper Keys Athletic Association, Florida

Any pitcher with three hit batters outside of the strike zone during a game shall be removed from the pitching position.

Gold Valley, Oregon

Any batter that fakes a bunt and then pulls back for a full swing will be called “out.” This is a dangerous play.

Bradley-Bourbonnais LL, Illinois

NEW

All bleachers will have protective awnings to stop fly balls and safety rails.

Elgin National LL, Illinois

COMPLIANCE . . .

Choral chanting, continuous razzing, and the use of name-calling are strictly prohibited. Positive chanting is allowed as long as it is not disruptive to the game.

Seaview LL, California

Pitchers shall not wear under shirts with long, white sleeves, or use a glove that is white, gray, or with no uniform stitching.

Several Leagues

The umpire-in-chief may set temporary ground rules on a single game basis to accommodate such conditions as standing water or other issues as determined by the umpire.

Cape Elizabeth LL, Maine

No Catcher's Chatter – Catchers are not allowed to talk to opposing batters during a pitch.

San Mateo National LL, California

NEW

We use the "RIF" balls for the Super Pee Wee League.

Ottumwa American LL, Iowa

Runner is out when sliding into first except when returning to base or avoiding collision or being hit with an errant throw.

Merillon LL, New York

Pitchers may not wear any metallic items, sunglasses, long white sleeve shirts or any object that may distract the batter.

Merillon LL, New York

All little league baseball/softball participant's ages 8-12 must attend player evaluations.

Continental Ranch LL, Arizona

If a player misses more than 7 consecutive games and practices the player must have a doctor's note to return.

Rutland LL, Massachusetts

We have implemented the S.K.I.P. (Safety "Kone" Inspection Plan) for pre-game field inspection. Managers, coaches, and umpires must walk the field prior to each game and pick up the 8 cones that have been placed on each of the bases and in the outfield positions. After each game, these cones must be replaced in the same spots.

Hilliard LL, Florida

Every manager should have a rulebook with him at all games. Suggestion: keep with scorebook or first-aid kit.

Macomb Township LL, Michigan

A Little Common Sense About Safety

COMPLIANCE . . .

No manager, coach, or player, shall at any time, whether from the bench or the playing field or elsewhere make any move calculated to cause the pitcher to commit an illegal pitch or take a position in the batter's line of vision with deliberate intent to distract the batter.

Par Troy East LL, New Jersey

All girls' teams will have a female coach at practices and games at all times. (Team mother substitute permitted in absence of coach.)

East LL, Rhode Island

We require managers and coaches to attend an in-house clinic to review rules and procedures before they receive their equipment. Withholding equipment assures compliance, since managers need their equipment to begin their practices.

Bolingbrook Associated LL, Illinois

Managers are responsible for having at least one other adult present at all practices to assist in an emergency. Should an accident occur, one adult could provide assistance to the injured person while the other contacts emergency medical personnel .

Daniel Boone LL, Missouri



There must be at least two coaches at each game and practice.

West Bend LL, Wisconsin

Each manager must hold a minimum of two practice sessions per week during the pre-season and one practice session per week during the regular season. This does not include league games.

Niles FOP LL, Michigan

During practice, each manager should establish pick-up and drop off rules with parents and enforce them.

West Altadena LL, California

Both managers and the umpire using our "Safety Inspection Sheet" must inspect all equipment before every game.

District 28, California

COMPLIANCE . . .

Managers are required to fill out a pre-game safety check card before every game.

Berkeley LL, New Jersey

Should equal to or greater than three injuries occur specific to one team, the Safety Committee shall meet to review and determine if any action is needed.

Blacksburg LL, South Carolina

Franklin Little League will provide a safe area for all children in the park. The ultimate responsibility lies with the parents to know the whereabouts of their children at all times. If a situation arises, a Code Red will be implemented immediately. An air horn located in the concession stand will be sounded. Two long blasts will signal an emergency. All play will be stopped. All board members at the park will seal off the exits immediately.

Franklin LL, Louisiana

We do not allow flash photography at our night games, so as not to obstruct the vision of our players.

West Brownsville LL, Texas

A minimum of three practices are required before the first game is played.

ATYAA, Michigan

Each team is expected to maintain a supply of ice sufficient to treat minor injuries during the course of a game or practice.

Lionville LL, Pennsylvania

A maximum of four events, practices or games, is allowed in a week.

*Arrowhead LL, Arizona
Newport Beach LL, California*

Every practice must have two to five gallons of water with ice available.

Conestoga Valley LL, Pennsylvania

The playing area should be inspected frequently for holes, damage, stones, glass, or any foreign object. Attention should also be toward sprinklers that are still in the up position.

Greater Dunedin LL, Florida

A Little Common Sense About Safety

COMPLIANCE . . .

All pre-game warm-ups should be performed within the confines of the playing field and not in spectator areas.

Happy Valley LL, North Carolina

Our safety checklist is given out during a mid-year coaches meeting. It's another way for us to remind everyone to keep thinking about safety.

District 4, Virginia

Tennis shoes are suggested for beginning sliding and tagging practice to avoid injury to the defensive player.

Several Leagues

New safety signs each year. Also, give a copy of game schedules to police and fire department.

Huntington Tri-Village LL, New York

The league is equipped with a bed and an air conditioner for those suffering from overheating.

Robinson LL, Texas

People . . .

No spectators around the dugout or talking to the players. It distracts them from listening to managers and coaches and from watching the game. They could be hit by a foul ball if not paying attention.

Oceanside National LL, California

At registration before each season, we set up a table where we ask each parent as they come by about any medical conditions of their players the league should know about.

Dr. Phillips LL, Florida

One member of the board is responsible for monitoring the weather and the lightning detector each night. That person makes the call to cease play until weather conditions improve.

Palisades Park LL, New Jersey

The league will maintain a list of those within the league who are qualified EMT's, nurses, doctors, and paramedics. This information will be gathered during sign-ups and tryouts. This information will be used only in case of an emergency during a game.

Rehoboth Beach LL, Delaware

We have a commitment from the Fulton City Police to stop at the fields during the games. This sends a subtle message.

Fulton LL, New York

COMPLIANCE . . .

Tobacco and alcohol on the premises are strictly prohibited. Do not carry snuff cans, cigarettes, cigars, etc. in your pocket if anywhere they are visible to the children.

Mt. Pleasant LL, Pennsylvania

No one is permitted behind the backstop area during a game.

*Half Hollow Hills LL, New York
Fort Belvoir LL, Virginia*

Concession stand workers under the age of 18 are not allowed to handle any hot food or money.

Sparks LL, Nevada

No one under the age of 16 is allowed to work in the concession stand.

Gladwin LL, Michigan



We have a Zero Tolerance Policy toward unsportsmanlike harassment of players, coaches, or umpires. There is no use of profane, obscene, or vulgar language in any manner at any time.

Central Greenbrier LL, West Virginia

(Snack Bar Rules)

Hats and plastic gloves must be worn at all times.

North Providence East LL, Rhode Island

Anyone who handles money in the concession stand is not allowed to touch unwrapped food.

Several Leagues

We discard any cooked foods that are not served within 45 minutes of being cooked.

Warren County LL, Ohio

Microwave popcorn is used in place of conventional popcorn as it is much more sanitary and yields a safer method of preparation as there are no hot warmers, butter, or oil to be concerned with.

Fort Belvoir LL, Virginia

A Little Common Sense About Safety

COMPLIANCE . . .

We have a list of barbecue safety tips and how to deal with meat. This sheet deals with safely transporting food, precooking, and preventing cross-contamination. We also listed some resources on the internet and in books to check out.

Logan LL, New Jersey

We provide food, free of charge for any ambulance personnel who comes and parks at our facility during their standby time.

Baytown North LL, Texas

When lightning is detected in the area, one of our concession stand employees will sound a horn signifying an immediate halt to play and evacuation of the fields.

Penokee Range LL, Michigan

The Safety Officer will be at the park every night observing and enforcing safety rules and policies to help prevent injuries.

The safety officer will visit each team periodically to ensure that safety regulations are being followed.

Pembroke Pine Optimist LL, Florida

The Safety Officer/Director will visit nearby leagues to get a fresh perspective and new ideas.

Several Leagues

The Safety Director will work with each coach/team to build a team of Safety Parents so at all times safety will be covered.

Western LL, Michigan

One coach per team shall be designated "Team Safety Coach." The league provides a cap that will be used to maintain visible emphasis on safety.

Glastonburg American/National LL, Connecticut

NEW

Most ball handling accidents occur from inattention due to inaction or boredom. Idle fielders are encouraged to "talk it up." Plenty of chatter encourages hustle and enthusiasm.

Morgan County LL, Kentucky

NEW

Do not put the ball into play unless all players are in their set position, and masks are on appropriate players and umpires.

East Greenwich Little League, New Jersey

NEW

Baseball helmets cannot do double duty as bike helmets.

Newport, Rhode Island

COMPLIANCE . . .

NEW

No bikes or roller skating are allowed at any of our stadiums.

Several Leagues

NEW

We have made our safety manual in a smaller size after talking with the coaches and coming to the conclusion that a smaller size would be easier to carry around with them.

Prescott Valley LL, Arizona

NEW

Each coach has to take a rule book test that must be turned in on or before tryout day. If they aren't turned in by then, the coaches will be suspended and the Player Agent will draft their team.

Fenton LL, Delaware

NEW

The coach must treat every player as a valuable, worthwhile individual that has potential to grow in stature and understanding.

Grandville LL, Michigan

NEW

Coaches should greet the players as they arrive and make sure they are feeling all right.

North Rialto, California

NEW

No game will be played when the temperature is below 35 degrees or above 105 degrees heat index.

Tri County LL, Iowa

NEW

No honking of horns or use of artificial noise makers during the games.

Belen, New Mexico

NEW

Our AED is stored in an AED 10 compact alert/alarm wall cabinet in the rear of the concession stand. The wall cabinet is equipped with an alarm that will sound at any time the cabinet has been opened to ensure proper safety response by the SLL board members.

Southport LL, Indiana

NEW

One of the best purchases this season has been Heart Protectors. Twenty-five were purchased and are being distributed evenly among all fields. We have offered the parents the opportunity to purchase their own at league cost.

Eastlake National LL, Ohio

NEW

Delta Little League has purchased for the league, the new batter-chest protectors. Each batter will need to get used to the feel of this "metal-like" plate worn to protect the heart. We are striving to commit to equipment that will keep our children safe.

Delta LL, Indiana

NEW

A cool, wet towel around your neck between innings can lower your body temperature.

American LL, Georgia

A Little Common Sense About Safety

COMPLIANCE . . .

NEW

Drinking fountains are located in all dugouts.

Wharton Barrett LL, West Virginia

NEW

The league shall supply each team with a large drink cooler. The cooler should be filled and brought to all practices and games.

North Miami Beach LL, Florida

NEW

A new partnership with Hopkins Police Department has been formed. They will coordinate their visitations with our scheduled closing times.

Hopkins Area LL, Minnesota

NEW

Each manager is given a list of “eligible” volunteers so they know who can help and who, for lack of being on the list, cannot. This list is updated and redistributed as needed throughout the season. A copy of the list is posted at the concession stand.

Dr. Phillips LL, Florida

NEW

Managers and coaches are responsible to not subject pitchers to injury due to overwork.

Red Hook LL, New Jersey

NEW

A Manager must not leave the field until *all* players have been released to an adult or (major league only) have left the field.

Fairfield American LL, Connecticut

NEW

If a manager knowingly disregards safety, he or she will come before the CFLL Board of Directors to explain his or her conduct.

Cactus Foothills North LL, Arizona

NEW

No medications will be taken at the facility unless administered directly by the child’s parent. This includes Tylenol and aspirin.

Joplin Softball, Missouri

NEW

Coaches should encourage parents/players to bring sunscreen and bug spray to practices and games.

Berlin LL, Massachusetts

NEW

We instituted a “no Show-You Must Call” policy. This instructs all players that if they are not going to make a game or practice they must call their coach. If a player is a “No Show” and does not call, the coach should call the player’s home. A child who is sent to a game/practice alone who never makes it there could be located faster this way.

Brooklawn Athletic Association, New York

COMPLIANCE . . .

NEW

Pitchers are removed from the game if three batters are hit in the same inning or for intentionally hitting a batter.

Live Oaks LL, California

NEW

Pitchers must wear mouth guards.

Shoreham-Wading River LL, New York

NEW

FLL encourages the use of chest protectors. Our league had a player suffer from Commotio Cordis last season after being hit in the chest with a pitched ball.

Fairborn LL, Ohio

NEW

Bethesda Little League highly recommends that all players be given pre-participation physical exams by their family physician prior to participating in any activity.

Bethesda LL, Maryland

NEW

There must be at least two coaches at each game and practice.

West Bend LL, Wisconsin

NEW

All players must complete proper warm-up prior to participating in practice or game.

Fredrick National LL, Maryland

NEW

Practice away from cars and moving traffic.

Port Townsend LL, Washington

NEW

Players will practice with pants or similar athletic gear specified for baseball or softball. No shorts will be allowed under any circumstances.

Warren Township, Indiana

NEW

At the first sign of lightning, the game must be called. All should leave the field immediately.

Massapequa International LL, New York

NEW

Acknowledge one team, each week, with a team safety award that promotes and demonstrates good safety practices.

Deer Park LL, Virginia

NEW

We put cones and traffic flags on the main roadways leading into and surrounding the fields to control speed and flow of traffic to ensure the safety of pedestrians.

Lakewood LL, New Jersey

NEW

We have added "No Parking" signs on our emergency gates and put up marker flags onto poles of emergency gates for ambulance and fire personnel to easily see.

Cocoa LL, Florida

A Little Common Sense About Safety

COMPLIANCE . . .

NEW

Parking or driving vehicles outside of designated areas is prohibited.

Keizer LL, Oregon

NEW

Each team must choose a team safety player and a team safety parent to police for violations to safety rules and regulations.

Pawcatuck LL, Connecticut

NEW

After the game, the coach will discuss any safety problems with the Team Safety Officer that occurred before, during or after the game.

La Marque/West Texas City, Texas

NEW

The safety officer will conduct the Safety Incentive Program drawing to reward the individuals that “Always Put Safety First”.

Fulton LL, New York

NEW

All sliding practices must be conducted in the outfield on the sliding pad.

Naples Girls Softball, Florida

NEW

Remember to keep your eyes open so you don't slide into another player.

Herscher Lions LL, Illinois

NEW

Coaches and managers remind your players that they must slide or avoid when there is a play at that base.

Yoakum, Texas

NEW

Let the coach know if you have practiced with your child (i.e. if you have had him throw 50 pitches prior to practice or a game).

Sissonville LL, West Virginia

NEW

Coaches must not over-use pitchers.

Meadville Area, Pennsylvania

NEW

We provide wallet cards through our Umpire Coordinator to each of the umpires in our league. These cards have safety reminders and the addresses of all our fields on them.

Woodinville LL, Washington

NEW

The unsportsmanlike practices of crowding the plate or jumping around to rattle the pitcher must not be tolerated. This could endanger the batter if it causes the pitcher to lose control. Umpires should stop such actions.

Iron Mountain North, Michigan

COMPLIANCE . . .

NEW

Umpires shall attempt to maintain safe zones around home plate during game play. I.e. remove bat, tee, or catchers mask from home plate.

East Haddam Moodus LL, Connecticut

NEW

Umpires are not permitted to sit on grass when pitcher is warming up between innings.

Half Hallow Hills, New York

NEW

Before every WLL game the umpire is required to ensure that both a first aid kit and cell phone are present.

Woodinville LL, Washington

NEW

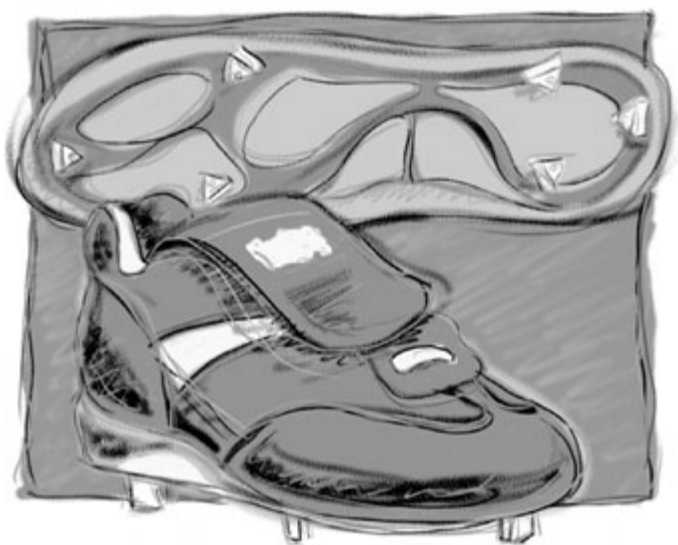
Each manager is given a specific search area to cover in the instance of a Code Adam.

Warren Township LL, Indiana

NEW

Umpires shall not wear shoes with metal spikes or cleats.

Haverford Township LL, Pennsylvania



A Little Common Sense About Safety

REPORTING . . .

We've instigated a voice messaging system on our league phone so that safety issues can be conveyed immediately to the league safety officer.

North Everett LL, Washington

Track all injuries and near misses in order to identify injury trends.

Several leagues and districts

The safety officers in my district will visit each other's leagues to allow a fresh perspective on safety.

District 15, Virginia

Each league is developing a postcard with a checklist for coaches to report accidents. Cards are pre-addressed to the safety officer.

District 1, New Hampshire

At the end of each year we discuss the following questions — “Did anything happen this season that could have been prevented?” “Was anything seen that could have been potentially unsafe?”

Fleming-Neon LL, Kentucky

We include incident report forms in our Safety Handbook.

Benson LL, Nebraska

We have notices posted in the dugout that any player who spots something unsafe or has helped correct a safety problem goes to our stand, tells what they've done, and gets a free soft drink.

Southeast LL, Texas

Start a reporting system from each team to the league safety officer to review accidents, near accidents, and safety ideas. Devote a minimum of 20 minutes of the monthly general meeting to review this information.

PRELIMINARY ACCIDENT REPORT
(Little League Use Only)
LITTLE LEAGUE I.D. # _____

NAME (Injured) _____ DATE _____
ADDRESS _____ PHONE _____
CITY _____ ZIP _____

1. No treatment needed ___ First aid at field ___ To doctor ___ To hospital ___ Other ___

DIVISION IN WHICH ACCIDENT OCCURRED:
MINOR ___ LLBB ___ JRBB ___ SRBB ___ BLBB ___ LLSB ___ SRSB ___ BLSB ___

TYPE OF ACCIDENT:

Struck by:	Collision with:	Other:
1. Pitched ball ___	5. Other player ___	8. Tripped ___
2. Batted ball ___	6. Fence ___	9. Fell ___
3. Thrown ball ___	7. Backstop ___	10. Over-exertion ___
4. Bat ___		11. Hit dirt too hard while sliding ___

ACCIDENT CAUSES:

UNSAFE CONDITIONS:		yes	no
1. Uneven field surface, such as holes, humps, etc.		___	___
2. Foreign objects, such as glass, rakes, stones, bottles, etc.		___	___
3. Congestion during practice or games		___	___
4. Weather conditions, such as rain, sun, darkness		___	___
5. Lack of, or poor-fitting, protective equipment.		___	___
6. Other: _____		___	___
UNSAFE ACTS:		yes	no
1. Mishandled ball ___	9. Poor running form ___	___	___
2. Mishandled bat ___	10. Wild pitch ___	___	___
3. Poor evasive action ___	11. Wild throw ___	___	___
4. Incorrect sliding form ___	12. Wild swing with bat ___	___	___
5. Not watching the ball ___	13. Distracted ___	___	___
6. Awkward position ___	14. Lack of attention ___	___	___
7. Player out of position ___	15. Horseplay ___	___	___
8. Lack of grip on bat ___	16. Other ___	___	___

Brief statement of what happened: _____

NOTE: This form is for Little League purposes only. When an accident happens obtain as information as possible. Send a copy of this form to Little League Headquarters in Williamsport attention Dan Kirby, Insurance Department. Also provide your District Safety officer with a copy for District files.

THE REASON FOR THIS FORM IS TO ESTABLISH A RECORD OF ALL ACCIDENTS PRIOR TO ANY LAWSUITS AND TO PROVIDE THE LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL WITH ADVANCE INFORMATION.

District 46, California

REPORTING . . .

Our accident form includes a space for how this accident could be prevented in the future.

Santee Pioneer National, California

The safety officer will track preseason and season practices weekly to make sure managers are following “Play It Safe” guidelines.

Paradise LL South, California

Each first-aid kit includes a sheet where coaches could track accidents throughout the year. This will allow us to identify hazards and areas where we need improvement.

Visalia National LL, California

Former accident claims are pulled out and reviewed to find unsafe areas we may have missed.

West Salem LL, Oregon

An emergency card for each child was completed at registration listing home phone and emergency numbers, doctor’s and hospital names; permission to use ambulance and pertinent health information (allergies, health conditions, etc.). One copy went to the child’s coach, the other in the league file.

Ashley-Newtown LL, Pennsylvania

We require a medical release to play following a player’s injury before he’s allowed to return to ensure the player has been evaluated and fully recovered from his injury.

CALN Township, Pennsylvania

We use an automated injury database to track our injuries. Injury reporting can be done electronically through this database.

Fairfax American/Dominion/National LL, Virginia

NEW

Bicycle helmets must be worn at all times when riding bicycles on the premises as well as to and from the premises.

North Garland LL, Texas

Our safety manual and all of the accident reporting forms, travel forms, medical forms, and volunteer applications are available online for anyone who has access to a computer.

Covina National LL, California

We have a Power of Attorney wavier for parents to fill out in preparation for the need of medical attention to their child.

Continental LL, Illinois

A Little Common Sense About Safety

REPORTING . . .

NEW

At the conclusion of the season, the Coaches and Education Committee mail each player's family a survey form requesting feedback on the coach. This gives the Coaches and Education Committee feedback in order to improve in future years.

Sadbury LL, Massachusetts

The safety officer has a mailbox in the concession stand for reports of unsafe practices or conditions.

Bolingbrook Associated LL, Illinois



We have notices posted in the dugout that any player who spots something unsafe or has helped correct a safety problem goes to our stand, tells what they've done, and gets a free soft drink.

Sherwood LL, Texas

Our accident form included a space for how this accident could be prevented in the future.

Santee Pioneer National, California

Included in our safety manual is a "Bomb Threat Worksheet" for the receiver of the call to fill out about the caller. This worksheet is kept near the phone.

Sherwood LL, Texas

Each league is developing a postcard with a checklist for coaches to report accidents. Cards are pre-addressed to the safety officer.

District 1, New Hampshire

In our safety manual we include a "Robbery Checklist" for the concession stand. This includes things to remember about the robber, when and where it happened. Also included is a fill-in-the-blank picture to help the police apprehend the robber.

Lake View LL, Texas

The Port St. Lucie American Little League has established a Safety Committee made of concerned individuals. Their role is to express ideas and to plan, implement, and report on the status of current safety program at PSL American.

Port St. Lucie American LL, Florida

A member of the safety committee will patrol practices and games to ensure players' and public safety. This includes the concession stand, spectator, and parking areas.

Gold Valley, Oregon

NEW

Start a reporting system from each team to the league safety officer to review accidents, near accidents, and safety ideas. Devote a minimum of 20 minutes of the monthly general meeting to review this information.

District 46, California

EDUCATION . . .

NEW

We use tennis rackets and tennis balls during practices to allow kids to learn proper fundamentals without the fear of injury from a hard baseball.

Gilroy National LL, California

We provided safety posters and examples of safety equipment at signups.

Dixie LL, Virginia



Included in our safety plan is a map of our entire complex, specifically showing emergency access, first aid, and fire extinguishers.

Jamul LL, California

A safety packet will be handed out to each player in T-Ball, Major, and Minor Divisions. Each packet will pertain to safety on and off the field.

Herscher Lions LL, Illinois

A Little Common Sense About Safety

EDUCATION . . .

We have made our entire Safety Manual available on CD for free, for all participants in our program.

Pembroke Pines LL, Florida

In our Safety Manual, we include a 5-Year Plan for Safety Goals.

Baugo LL, Indiana

Included in our Safety Plan is the shutoff valve information for gas, water, and electricity.

Eagledale LL, Indiana

Included in our Safety Manual for Managers and Coaches are locations for the nearest payphones to each of our fields and also field addresses with crossroads of each field.

Grant's Pass LL, Oregon

There will be no manipulation of any league rulebooks, rosters, scorebooks, or schedules, by anyone, at any time.

International LL, Arizona

Anti-tobacco posters will be displayed in dugouts and on the Safety Bulletin Board.

Aptos LL, California

Additional safety signs were installed on dugouts and backstops.

Cactus Foothills North LL, Arizona

“Caution, Children Crossing” signs will be posted by the bathrooms and concession stands.

Little Lake LL, California

We will be having a Safety Poster contest and the winner will get a new bicycle.

Elmwood LL, Rhode Island

Switch to a “safe” ball for T-Ball games.

Fleming-Neon LL, Kentucky

Our nine- and ten-year-olds are wearing faceguards at the plate. If they reach base, they can switch to helmets without faceguards.

Fleming-Neon LL, Kentucky

Any player warming up a pitcher must be in full catcher’s equipment, including shin guards, chest protector, face mask, and helmet.

Several leagues

No adult is allowed to warm-up a pitcher at any time.

District 4, Connecticut

We require helmets on all T-ball players on the field.

Southside LL, Indiana

COMPLIANCE . . .

An extra set of catcher's gear has been ordered for every team.

District 10, Florida

Pull the throat gobblers off worn-out catcher's masks and give them to your district umpires. Then if they see a catcher with no gobbler, they can tie one on.

District 6, Illinois

We started using chin straps on the helmets so the kids don't lose their helmets running around the bases.

Pottstown LL, Pennsylvania

All players are issued protective mouth pieces and required to wear them.

Westville LL, New Jersey

NEW

Turn in any equipment found after the game and receive \$.05 worth of candy. We have a large selection of \$.01-\$.05 candies to choose from.

Painesville National/American LL, Ohio

All male catchers must wear a protective cup.

San Mateo LL, Florida

The league has purchased 40 new batting helmets with face shields. By purchasing these helmets, combined with instruction to managers and coaches on how to teach batters to turn away from a pitched ball, we have reduced the potential for serious facial injuries.

Redmond North LL, Washington

This year we gave every team a new first-aid kit. This year we added extra gloves and ice packs, and put a larger first-aid kit at each of our fields . . . We also have a lot of gloves and ice packs at the snack bar. We require the snack bar helpers to use gloves when handling food.

Costa Mesa National LL, California

NEW

All non-issued equipment brought to the park by managers, coaches, or players must be checked and approved by the Equipment Director before it can be used in practice or a game.

Mishawaka Southwest LL, Indiana

A quarter is taped on every manager's clipboard in case a pay phone is needed to call for help.

Abbott 'O' Rabbit LL, Alaska

NEW

Safety at the equipment building is promoted by limited access. Only the President, Vice President, and Equipment Manager will have keys to the equipment building, and these individuals will be responsible for maintaining safe practices.

Madison LL, Connecticut

Managers inventory and check equipment condition on a weekly basis.

District 6, Wisconsin

NEW

A supply of extra throat guard ties must be kept in the equipment bag.

Northwood LL, California

A Little Common Sense About Safety

COMPLIANCE . . .

I go around to each team and size up the catchers' equipment and helmets each week. As players move up from the minors to the majors, I make sure the equipment changes with them.

Staten Island American LL, New York

NEW

A mid-season equipment inspection will be conducted.

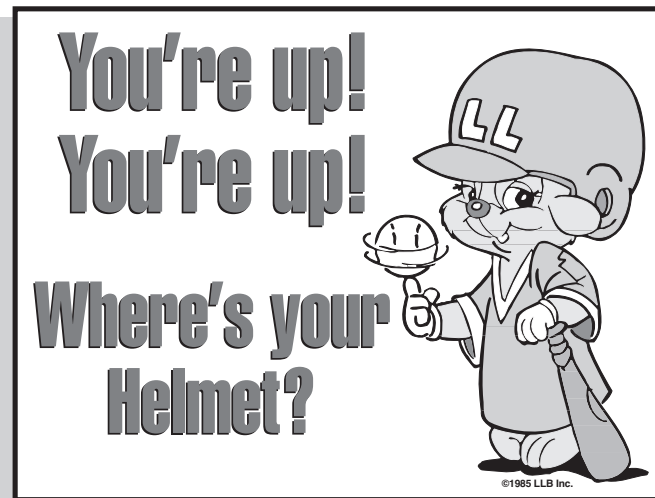
International LL, California

We appointed an Equipment Manager who is responsible for checking and upgrading all equipment to league standards.

Clayton LL, New Jersey

Coaches and managers make sure every kid goes to proper fitting helmet.

District 12, Massachusetts



All batting helmets are equipped with safety chin straps.

Rio Arriba South/Espanola Valley, New Mexico

NEW

The Virginia Beach Little League Safety Pro-Shop sells baseball safety equipment and home safety equipment. The purpose of the Safety Pro-Shop is to educate players and parents on available safety equipment, and make the equipment accessible and affordable.

Virginia Beach LL, Virginia

Face shields are available and provided upon request.

Pine Bush LL, New York

Umpires could do a quick check before every game to make sure there are no metal cleats.

Virginia ASAP meeting

The fire company agreed to donate 300 water bottles to combat heat exhaustion.

Blackwood Kiwanis LL, New Jersey

NEW

We will teach each ballplayer how to care for and inspect their personal equipment.

Parkchester LL, New York

We limit the operation of our mower to appointed staff only.

Oakland LL, Maryland

COMPLIANCE . . .

Besides a complete check of equipment before the season, it's very necessary to check with individual teams and their players to see that the equipment you have given them is fitting. Especially the catcher's equipment.

Olton LL, Texas

A local hospital has donated 90 percent of the supplies needed for our first-aid kits.

Robbinsdale Youth Baseball, Minnesota

NEW

A protective cup is provided to each player when uniforms are passed out.

Elmwood LL, Rhode Island

During tryouts all the nine-year-olds wear a batting helmet with a faceguard when catching flyballs. Some nine-year-olds are not proficient at catching flyballs.

South Shore LL, New York

We tape the safety officer's name and phone number on all first-aid kits.

Blackwood Kiwanis LL, New Jersey

NEW

No bare feet are allowed on any complex.

South Shore LL, New York

Be sure that equipment bags contain a fully-stocked first-aid kit. Often teams practice at remote locations where first-aid supplies are not available.

District 18, Illinois

NEW

When using an ice pack always use a barrier between the ice pack and skin.

Wallingford LL, Connecticut

NEW

An area doctor donated 500 mouthguards to our league.

Plymouth LL, Connecticut

Include "tooth-saver" kits in first-aid bags.

Several leagues

Having a cooler of ice available in the dugout is an important part of optimizing a pitcher's recovery.

Decatur Central LL, Indiana

We place change in each first-aid box for the pay phones they have to use to notify authorities in case of an injury.

Freeport LL, Illinois

Install double bases at first base to avoid collisions.

Crystal Lake National LL, Illinois

A safety officer should do spot checks at practices to make sure all managers have their first-aid kits.

Little Lake LL, California

An Equipment Problem Report is filled out by managers, coaches, and umpires and filed with the equipment manager for immediate correction.

Virginia Beach LL, Virginia

Electrical equipment in concession stands needs to be approved and inspected weekly and documented on a weekly log equipment checklist.

Blackwood Kiwanis LL, New Jersey

A Little Common Sense About Safety

COMPLIANCE . . .

We require helmets on all Tee Ball players on the field.

Southside LL, Indiana

All coaches under the age of 18 must wear protective helmets.

Mission Hills LL, California

Players shagging baseballs for a coach are required to wear a helmet.

*Hobart LL, Indiana
Merrillville LL, Indiana*

We require the use of helmet straps in all divisions to ensure the safety of batters and base runners.

Several Leagues

NEW

All batting helmets must be equipped with protective face guards.

Florence Township LL, New Jersey

In Tee Ball, the pitcher shall wear a Little League-approved protective helmet that has an attached faceguard while on the mound.

Ira Township, Michigan

Intentional removal of batting helmets is illegal and will result in the player being called out.

Upper Keys Athletic Association, Florida

Helmets must stay on the player's head until they reach the bench area.

North Central National/American LL, Wisconsin

NEW

All participants in the batting cage must wear helmets, including coaches!

Shasta Dam Area LL, California

NEW

For health reasons, all helmets should be sprayed with a diluted bleach-water solution.

Clare LL, Michigan

A batter who throws the bat more than ten feet shall be called out.

Post Falls LL, Idaho

We recycle our old aluminum bats to raise money for new equipment.

Essex County LL, Virginia

No laminated bat shall be used. Painted bats made of wood are not acceptable.

Deer Park LL, New York

COMPLIANCE . . .

No white bats will be used.

Groton LL, Connecticut

NEW

We provide updates for the approved composite bats and a list of the sizes and brands that were available.

Waipahu LL

NEW

Equipment is inspected and approved for play during annual field clean up before season.

Southington Northern LL, Connecticut

Once a ball has been discolored or water soaked it will be discarded.

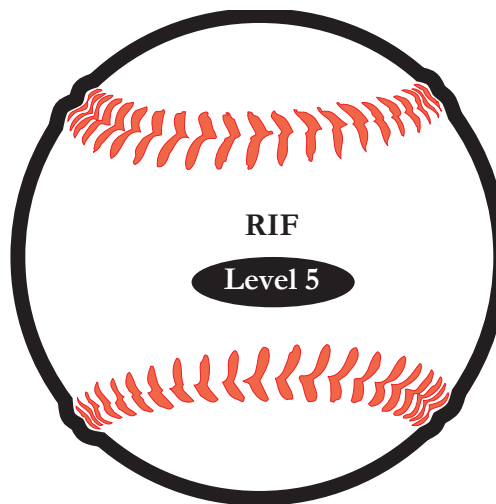
Arkansas Pass LL, Texas

We require the use of yellow safety balls in all softball divisions.

ATTYA LL, Michigan

Reduced impact balls are used in tee ball divisions to prevent injury from being hit by the ball.

Several Leagues



Coaches are encouraged to use RIF balls at the first few practices, especially in minor league, to allow players to learn proper fielding fundamentals and increase player's confidence before using hard balls.

Marion LL, Virginia

Switch to a "safe" ball for T-Ball games.

Fleming-Neon LL, Kentucky

Any loose balls near the batter's feet should be cleared away before a pitch is delivered

Omar Community LL, West Virginia

A Little Common Sense About Safety

COMPLIANCE . . .

Periodically check players' gloves for broken rawhide laces.

Skowhegan LL, Maine

We purchased catchers "Knee Savers" for all teams throughout our league. We considered this a must when it came down to the strain put on a catcher's knees.

Capital Midwestern LL, West Virginia

Catchers must wear a catcher's mitt (not a first baseman's mitt or a fielder's glove) of any shape, size, or weight consistent with the protection of the hand.

Several Leagues

Any player warming up a pitcher must be in full catcher's equipment, including shin guards, chest protector, face mask, and helmet.

Several Leagues

An extra set of catcher's gear has been ordered for every team.

District 10, Florida

All players who wear braces are required to wear a mouth guard whether at a game or at practice. All other players are strongly urged to wear a mouth guard.

Mishawaka Southwest LL, Indiana

All players are provided one mouthpiece by the league which is expected to be worn. If the individual loses his or her mouthpiece, one can be purchased at the concession stand.

Several Leagues

NEW

If you wear a retainer, always take it out and put it in a safe place before you start to play.

Newport, Rhode Island

Mouth guards hold top priority as sports equipment. They protect not just the teeth, but also the lips, cheeks, and tongue. They help protect children from such head and neck injuries as concussions and jaw fractures. Increasingly, organized sports are requiring mouth guards to prevent injuries to their athletes. Research shows the most oral injuries occur when athletes are not wearing mouth protection.

Palm Coast LL, Florida

NEW

Players must not eat, chew gum or have anything in their mouths except mouth guards.

Belmar Avon Lake Como LL, New Jersey

Home plate umpires **MUST** wear shin guards, a chest protector, a protective cup, mask, and a throat protector.

Commack North LL, New York

This year, CNLL replaced the majority of the volunteer umpire equipment so our umpires could be safe too.

Covina National LL, California

COMPLIANCE . . .

Delta Little League has purchased the new batter-chest protectors. Each batter will need to get used to the feel of this “metal-like” plate worn to protect the heart. We are striving to commit to equipment that will keep our children safe.

Delta LL, Indiana

All players are required to wear rubber cleats. No tennis shoes or metal cleats allowed.

Murrieta National LL, California

No open-toed shoes or sandals allowed during practice or games for players, coaches, or adult volunteers.

Franklin LL, Wisconsin

Umpires could do a quick check before every game to make sure there are no metal cleats.

Virginia ASAP meeting

BICYCLE SAFETY TIPS FOR KIDS

- Wear an approved bicycle helmet every time you ride. If you're under 16 it's the law. The helmet should fit snugly, sit low on your forehead, and always be buckled.
- Know and follow the rules of the road: such as, ride on the right side of the street, do not ride against traffic, obey all traffic signs and signals, and use hand signals. You must obey all traffic laws just like the driver of a car.
- Ride single-file and never ride double on one bike unless it is a tandem bike.
- Avoid biking at night. If you must ride during darkness, wear reflective clothes and use a front light and reflectors on your bike. Be extra careful.
- Before crossing a street, stop at the edge and look left, right then left again for motor vehicles. Listen to School Crossing Guards at School Crossings.
- Be alert and watch for cars. Drivers may not see you even if it seems like they are looking right at you. Be extra careful. Watch for motor vehicles moving out from a curb, driveway, or alley, and maintain a safe distance from parked vehicles to allow for doors opened suddenly.
- Make sure your bike is not too big or too small. You should be able to straddle your bike comfortably with both feet flat on the ground. When sitting on the seat you should be able to touch the ground with the tips of your shoes.
- Keep your bicycle in good condition. Check brakes, tires, and handlebars every time you ride.
- Watch for and avoid potholes, drain grates, sand and other hazards on the road.
- Walk your bike when crossing a street in a crosswalk and on school property.

North Springs LL, Florida

A cellular phone must be on hand if a land line phone is not available.

Waterford South LL, Connecticut

Children are required to wear a strap on their glasses.

*Southridge LL, California
Space Coast LL, Florida*

Sunglasses are permitted but not recommended. It is recommended that the player use “charcoal” to reduce the glare. This is applied in a strip directly under the bottom of the eyes at the top of the cheek. This assists in cutting down sun glare in the players’ eyes. (Different variations are available. Most sporting goods stores have this in a tube.)

Elk District LL, West Virginia

A Little Common Sense About Safety

COMPLIANCE . . .

Batting vests are required to be worn by Minor League players and are highly recommended for Major League players.
Wanaque LL, New Jersey

We installed permanent underground electricity to the scorer's tables at two fields thus eliminating tripping hazards and possible shock hazards from extension cords.
Red Land LL, Pennsylvania

Special medical equipment (i.e. medication, inhalers, etc) for any player will be in the team's first-aid kit during practices and games.
Manteno Youth Baseball/Softball League, Illinois

NEW
No cell phones will be allowed in the playing field area during the game, this includes the dugout. Coaches and managers will be warned, then the umpires will be instructed to eject them.
Southwestern Port St. Lucie LL, Florida

A sweatband or some other item that will protect the player from possible injury should cover medical alert bracelets.
District 9, Oregon

NEW
Cellular phones are available at each field for emergency use. They are located in the equipment rooms.
Montgomery LL, Pennsylvania

Long pants must be worn at all practices to prevent sliding injuries to the legs.
Sparta LL, Michigan

NEW
911 emergency Info including location, phone, and instructions are posted in each dugout.
Cleveland TWP, Indiana

Vision Center will provide safety glasses at a discount price to any Little League player.
Pleasanton Little League, Texas

All teams must have a minimum of two ice packs at all times.
Belmont LL, Illinois

If a player on your team has asthma, it is **REQUIRED** that an extra inhaler be kept in the team's first-aid kit (labeled with the child's name).
Southridge LL, California

Keep at least 2 quarters inside your first-aid kit at all times for emergency telephone calls.
West Plains LL, Washington

Latex free products will be provided in first-aid kits for those teams with latex sensitive players.
Greene County LL, Iowa - District 9, Oregon

To keep ice packs from breaking in the team bag, we put them in an old Tupperware, Serve-n-Saver, or a semi-disposable Glad Ware container. This is also a convenient place to keep player's telephone numbers and parent's cell phone numbers.
Penfield American/National LL, New York

Proper equipment is required for "pick-up" games at team picnics or gatherings.
District 5, Washington

COMPLIANCE . . .

NEW

We have luggage tags attached to each team's First Aid Kit. These tags have the addresses of each of the fields in our league. These can be used when calling from a cell phone.

Woodinville LL, Washington

NEW

Inside each of our First-Aid kits is a "Quick Fact/Treatment" card on common injuries, to be used in medical emergencies.

Lampeter-Strasburg LL, Pennsylvania

NEW

Our First-Aid kits are in fanny packs so they are strapped on and always easily accessible.

Anchorage West LL, Alaska

NEW

We have provided each of our teams with a bee sting kit in addition to their First-Aid kits.

Greater Oneiad LL, New York

NEW

In addition to all Emergency First-Aid Kits, A Non-Emergency First-Aid Kit is kept, stocked full of sunblock, insect repellent, dry skin lotion, and hand sanitizer.

Port St. Lucie American, Florida

First aid boxes must be inspected weekly by the Manager/Coach. After each use, Manager/Coach must contact the Safety Officer for re-supply.

Herscher Lions LL, Illinois

All concession stand workers are instructed on the use of fire extinguishers.

Blackwood Kiwanis LL, New Jersey

EDUCATION . . .

NEW

One adult coach, wearing a helmet, must be behind the protective screen in the batting cage at all times, while live pitching or feeding the pitching machine.

Valley LL, New York

Concession stand workers should be trained in the Heimlich maneuver.

Fairfax LL, Vermont

NEW

There is a mandatory training for all users of the batting cage and pitching machine. The cage will be locked and a key will be needed for entrance. Keys are only issued to those certified to use the cage.

Hermosa Beach LL, California

We hung a dusk to dawn light at the concession stand to provide light for children and parents at the park after dark.

Memorial LL, Pennsylvania

NEW

An underground electrical line to the pitching machine has been installed.

Hopkins Area LL, Minnesota

Latex gloves are worn not only when treating injuries but also when volunteers empty the trash barrels.

Benson LL, Nebraska

Establish comprehensive procedures for concession stand safety.

Blackwood Kiwanis LL, New Jersey

A Little Common Sense About Safety

COMPLIANCE . . .

NEW

Female players who play near the pitcher's mound when a pitching machine is present must wear their hair up to avoid hair being caught in the machine. This rule is also enforced in the batting cage when a pitching machine is being used.

Civitan LL, California

We replaced the dilapidated wooden boards of our bleachers.

*Baden Aquasco LL, Maryland
Levittown American, Pennsylvania
Vidor LL, Texas*

NEW

Turn off the pitching machine while balls are being retrieved.

Willow Glen LL, California

Open ended metal tubing on the bleachers were capped off to prevent yellow jacket wasps from building nests inside.

Taunton West LL, Massachusetts

NEW

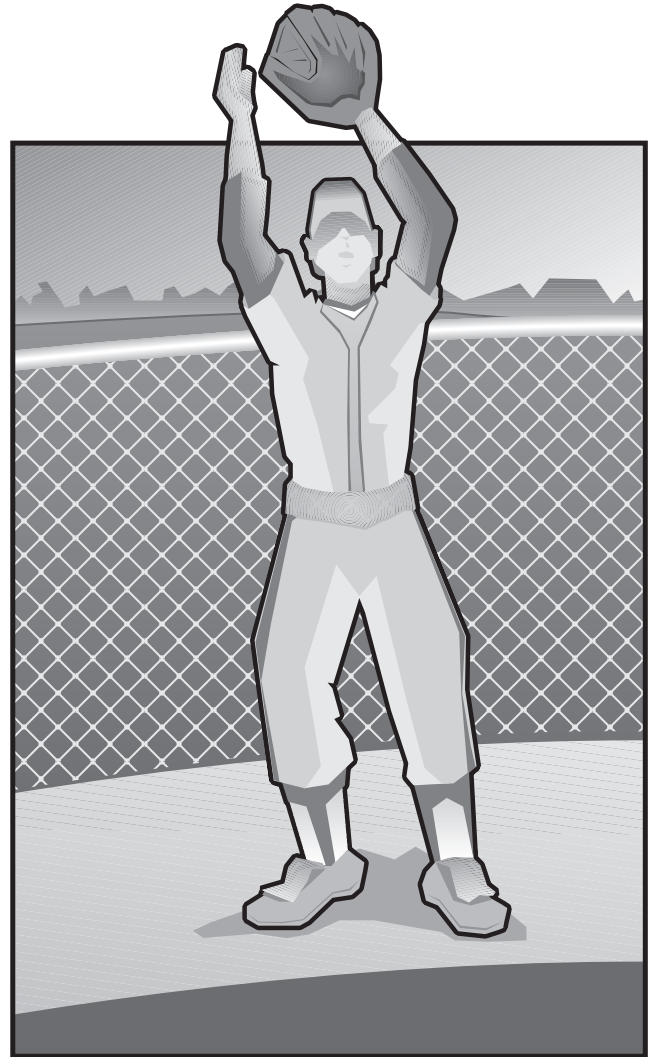
Electric outlets have been installed next to the machine pitch field and next to the batting cages to eliminate the need for long extension cords.

Gainsville District, Virginia

We installed emergency tornado sirens for the west edge of our community between our two ball diamonds.

Rushville LL, Illinois

Install a warning track to prevent player-fence collisions.



*Groves National LL, Texas
Salem LL, West Virginia*

NEW

MNLL has purchased and installed a chain link fence around our batting cages for the protection of anyone standing near the batting cage.

Montville National LL, Connecticut

We purchased a lightning detector.

*Benson LL, Nebraska
Manchester North LL, New Hampshire*

COMPLIANCE . . .

A local mining company gives us used conveyor belts which we install at the base of the backstop. This keeps balls from going underneath and keeps the fence from curling up.

District 4, Virginia

The top rail and top of the chain link fencing fabric can be enclosed in PVC drainage tile to reduce the risk of abrasions. Split the tile lengthwise, place over the top rail and secure with electrical ties.

District 18, Florida

NEW

Coaches who wish to coach pitch instead of using the machines must properly use the safety screens provided in each cage. Coaches only are allowed to coach pitch.

Morristown LL, Tennessee

Before the games, the home team walks the field checking for debris or any holes that need to be filled.

Carpentersville LL, Illinois

We extended the fence to protect spectators from foul and overthrown balls.

Statham LL, Georgia

We covered bleachers with a wood awning to protect spectators from foul balls.

District 18, Florida

Putting up backstop netting eliminated 90 percent of the foul balls that used to land in our bleachers.

Rocklin LL, California

Post signs alerting fans of foul ball dangers.

Athens American/National LL, Georgia

We installed overhead and side barrier netting to catch foul balls to prevent spectator injury and automobile damage.

*South Beaches LL, Florida
Nyack-Valley Cottage LL, New York*

NEW

The coach is to perform a safety check before use of the batting cage to include, but not limited to, inspection of condition of and correct of positioning of netting; screens; fences; gates and removal of all obstacles.

Kenmore LL, Washington

To help prevent injuries, we improved the field playing surface by using a sports surface composed of 10% Turface, 50% sand and 40% clay.

Dixie LL, Virginia

We installed on the backstops of all of our fields a piece of PVC tubing to place our foul balls that are hit over the backstops. This keeps kids from throwing the balls back onto the fields where they could hit players or umpires.

Bayside LL, Texas



A Little Common Sense About Safety

COMPLIANCE . . .

We have moved our spectators to the outfield so they don't interrupt coaches and players during the game.

Stilly Valley LL, Washington

NEW

Players are not permitted in the batting cage unless they are wearing a helmet.

Coldwater, Michigan

We installed fence extensions to stop players and fans from walking by an unsafe railroad tie wall next to a pond.

Morris Plains LL, New Jersey

We enclosed the area under our stands to keep kids from injuring themselves under the bleachers.

Weslaco LL, Texas

Electrically ground all metal bleachers.

Manchester North LL, New Hampshire

We installed end caps on all metal bleachers.

Indian Valley LL, New York

We placed fencing around our fields to prevent balls from being hit into the field of play of bordering fields.

Granville LL, New York

Fences should be at least four feet high. Four feet provides insurance that no player will fall over the barrier if a collision does occur.

Beverly LL, Massachusetts

We noted our T-ball field was too close to the street and parking lot. So for safety we moved our T-ball field to a lot with no street traffic.

Los Serranos Butterfield LL, California

We have installed handicapped bathrooms for our Challenger program and added lights to the top of the bathroom to shine on our handicapped accessible playground.

Federal LL, Florida

We put in sidewalks to assist our Challenger Division players.

Northern LL, Texas

No bikes or roller skating are allowed at any of our stadiums.

Union LL, New Jersey

We banned smoking in our park; in fact, we passed a city ordinance.

Vassar LL, Michigan

We regraded our field and installed new sod to make conditions safer.

Lehigh LL, Pennsylvania

We relocated our dugouts, which used to protrude onto the playing field.

South Austin Optimist, Texas

We planted six mature trees so fielders wouldn't have to look into the sun and spectators could sit in the shade.

Baden Aquasco LL, Maryland

NEW

There is no running allowed in the bleachers.

Exeter Lions LL, Pennsylvania

COMPLIANCE . . .

Many concession stands use outdoor grills, and they are placed by the only exit to the stand. Should a fire start in the grill, all of the people in the concession stand would be trapped.

Richmond LL, Virginia

Install a fence around barbecue grills to avoid possible burns.

Missoula Westside LL, Montana

The County Health Department inspected our concession stand.

Southside LL, Indiana

We are not selling glass bottle refreshments anymore. We're selling cans and plastic, and we will have recycling bins.

Levittown American LL, Pennsylvania

Try going to your county probation department. We get guys that have community service to do, and we bring them in to work on our facility.

Perrin Beitel LL, Texas

Some of our local cops came through our program. I ask them to stop in once in a while with their uniform and car. It wouldn't take long for someone to grab a kid, but the police can deter them.

Newburgh LL, New York

We put up chain link fences in front of our dugouts.

City of Poughkeepsie LL, New York

Upgrade lighting to meet Little League standards.

Hagerstown LL, Indiana

Install a batter's eye in dead centerfield at least 24 feet wide. It provides a field of contrast for the white ball allowing hitters to better see pitched balls.



Missoula Westside LL, Montana

Install a pitcher's eye so fielders can pick up the ball coming off the bat. Also, pitchers won't be distracted by people behind the fence.

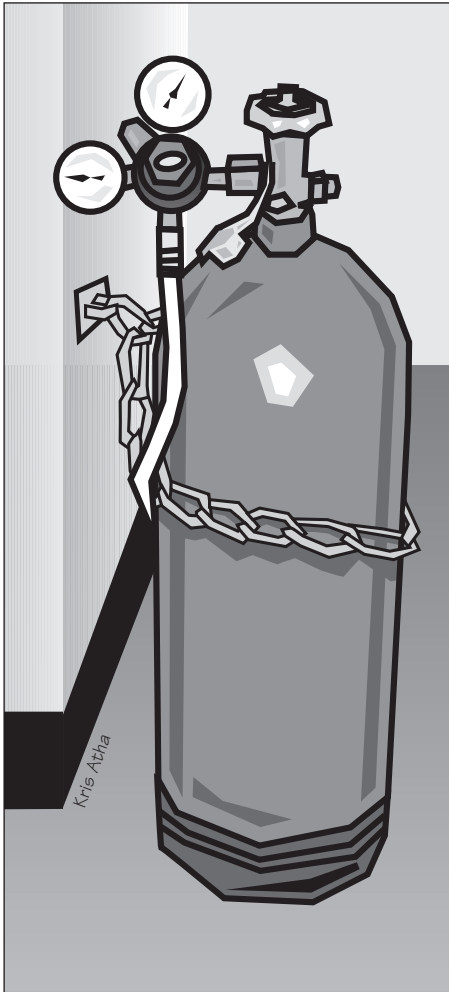


*Cisco LL, Texas
Morris Plains LL, New Jersey*

A Little Common Sense About Safety

COMPLIANCE . . .

Secure CO2 tanks in your concession stand so they stand upright and can't fall over. Report damage to tanks or valves to your supplier and discontinue use.



California state meeting

We closed an entrance to automobiles that allowed vehicle access close to the concession stand.

Statham LL, Georgia

Batting cages must be run by an approved manager, coach, or volunteer.

Millsboro LL, Delaware

Bleachers should have safety rails.

Several leagues

Install bat racks in every dugout.



*Dixie LL, Virginia
Culver City LL, California
Manchester North LL, New Hampshire*

We removed an old hazardous barn near the fields that children used to wander into.

Baden Aquasco LL, Maryland

NEW

Jumping off the bleachers is prohibited.

Greenup County, Kentucky

We removed an old grill and picnic table kids used to climb and get hurt on.

Canyon Lake LL, California

COMPLIANCE . . .

All parking areas were moved to the outer perimeter of the park, away from the flow of kids.

Middlebury LL, Indiana

A maintenance and safety checklist has been adopted for a weekly inspection of each field.

Robbinsdale Youth Baseball, Minnesota

Install speed bumps to slow down traffic in the parking lots.

Port Acres LL, Texas

Paint the guy wires of your light poles yellow to make them more visible.

East Base Line LL, California

We purchased an “L”-net to protect our coaches who are feeding the pitching machine.

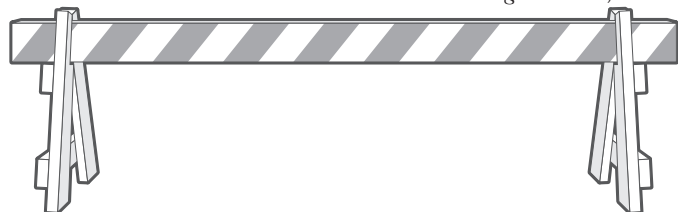
Manchester North LL, New Hampshire

We are replacing our metal billboards with new plywood billboards. The metal signs had sharp edges, while the edges of the plywood signs are protected with a plastic border.

Manchester North LL, New Hampshire

We got permission to close down a road next to the ballpark during games so kids chasing foul balls wouldn't run into traffic.

Ingleside LL, Texas



We put up a fence to keep kids out of a creek by the ballpark.

Benson LL, Nebraska

Install breakaway bases.

Palos Hills Baseball Association, Illinois

NEW

Food handling gloves must be available and used inside the concession stand

Deschutes LL, Oregon

Old



New



A Little Common Sense About Safety

COMPLIANCE . . .

It is inexpensive to develop colorful, eye-catching safety signs to post around the ballpark, reminding all participants of good safety practices.

District 18, Florida

Emergency vehicle parking spots were reserved next to the fields.

Harney LL, South Dakota

We replaced the lift-up plywood doors on our concession stand with a roll-up door.

Ashland LL, Pennsylvania

We removed all trees in close proximity to the outfield fence to prevent balls from deflecting off limbs toward fielders and to discourage youngsters from climbing in the trees to watch the games.

Nyack-Valley Cottage LL, New York

All non-perishable food will be stored at least six inches off the ground

Hopkins Area LL, Minnesota

Only packaged food bought for the concession stand or food that is prepared on the premises by a certified food handler can be sold in the concession stand.

Pototsi LL, Missouri

Plastic breakaway fencing now surrounds all of our softball fields.



Antioch LL, California

We appointed a field manager responsible for evaluating repairs needed on all fields.

Martinsburg LL, West Virginia

Instead of the on-deck circle, our players now take their warm-up swings at homeplate.

Abbott 'O'Rabbit LL, Alaska

Complete a National Facility Survey and a lighting safety audit.

Bradley-Bourbonnais American/National, Illinois

NEW

A restaurant supervisor has prepared a safe food handling/prep and procedures.

Washington Courthouse LL, Ohio

COMPLIANCE . . .

NEW

Additional safety items are available at the concession stand:

- Ice
- Phone
- Splints
- Weather monitoring radio
- Bleach (for blood spills)

Edwardsburg LL, Michigan

NEW

Temperature posters are laminated and posted in the concession stand.

Cleveland Township LL, Indiana

NEW

The concession stand manager should supervise the workers use of equipment until they are satisfied that each person can perform his/her duties safely.

Merrillville LL, Indiana

NEW

The concession stand main entrance door will not be locked or blocked while people are inside.

Green LL, Ohio

NEW

Fans that are used during warm weather are kept up high and out of reach to avoid injury and to stop any flying debris.

Barneгат LL, New Jersey

NEW

Mats will be set at all doors to avoid slipping.

Barneгат LL, New Jersey

NEW

Inspect all coolers and freezers for proper temperatures at the beginning of year and repair if necessary. Repeat inspections on a weekly basis.

Davenport East LL, Iowa

NEW

You must be at least 18 years old to work the grill or fryer.

Elko LL, Nevada

NEW

All items are to be air dried on metal shelving above the sinks. Nothing is towel dried.

Bolingbrook Associated LL, Illinois

NEW

The "Red Hat" representative of the league serves as park manager on game days.

Glendora American LL, California

NEW

We have engraved signs with our park's physical address posted on each clubhouse. Emergency dispatchers require a complete physical address and we have prominently displayed it to save critical seconds in an emergency situation.

Bridgewater Community LL, Virginia

NEW

Backstops were raised to 32 feet to increase protection of spectators en route to and from the concession, parking lot, and playground.

Fairfield American LL, Connecticut

NEW

Mandatory use of safety glasses, gloves, and long pants when working with lawn equipment- lawn mowers, weed whackers, blowers, etc. Your safety is important too!

Barneгат LL, New Jersey

A Little Common Sense About Safety

COMPLIANCE . . .

NEW

Some players are allergic to peanuts, so nuts will no longer be permitted on the field nor sold in the concession stand.

Several Leagues

NEW

No seeds or candy on the playing field (could cause choking).

Several Leagues

NEW

All restrooms will be checked for safety before the start of the first games of the day.

Several Leagues

NEW

Status of games will be put on a voicemail recording. This recording will be updated by 4:00 pm on game day.

Crystal American LL, Minnesota

NEW

An emergency alarm system has been added to the public address systems in the score booths. If an emergency should arise that would require evacuation, the alarm will sound.

Elgin National LL, Illinois

NEW

Prior to each season, during “cleanup” day, volunteers inspect both outfields and infields and surrounding areas for any repairs that may be needed.

Alamo LL, Michigan

NEW

We have added lighting to all batting cages.

Woolmarket Little League, Mississippi

NEW

New fluorescent lights were installed in restrooms and storage rooms, replacing single 60 watt exposed light bulbs that were easily broken.

Newmark LL, California

NEW

Annual safety audits for lights completed.

Ivy Hill LL, New Jersey

NEW

New street light put up for visibility when leaving the park to the parking areas after dark.

South Asheville LL, North Carolina

NEW

Trees on complex trimmed to prevent accidents.

Dixie Terra Linda LL, California

NEW

Two-way radios were purchased for league officials to communicate efficiently with each other.

Several Leagues

COMPLIANCE . . .

A maintenance and safety checklist has been adopted for a weekly inspection of each field.

Robbinsdale Youth Baseball, Minnesota

We appointed a field manager responsible for evaluating repairs needed on all fields.

Martinsburg LL, West Virginia

Before the games, the home team walks the field checking for debris or any holes that need to be filled.

Carpentersville LL, Illinois



We have installed new underground drainage to eliminate standing water on the fields and walkways.

East Lake LL, Florida

Our league has initiated a game rule stating: If any ballplayer is caught digging holes in the outfield, then their team will start the next inning with one out. This rule has greatly reduced the number of holes found on the ball fields and has helped in eliminating a very real tripping hazard.

Green River LL, Wyoming

We have requested the removal of all low hanging branches in field areas to eliminate spectators' children from climbing in the trees.

Killingworth You LL, Connecticut

Our league had created crosswalks made up of chains with colored flags on them and painted walkways so children know exactly where they can cross safely and not worry about cars.

Delta LL, Indiana

We have purchased and installed portable fencing to create a regulation playing field for girl's softball. The fencing is collapsible and was designed to be a safe outfield fence for our kids.

West Redding LL, California

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COMPLIANCE . . .



The top rail and top of the chain link fencing fabric can be enclosed in PVC drainage tile to reduce the risk of abraisions. Split the tile lengthwise, place over the top rail, and secure with electrical ties.

District 18, Florida

We placed fencing around our fields to prevent balls from being hit into the field of play on bordering fields.

Granville LL, New York

NEW

We have instituted a foul ball bucket for outside all fields so foul balls aren't thrown over the fence into the fields. This is to prevent accidental injuries.

Mattydale-Hinsdale LL, New York

A practice or game may not begin unless there is a first-aid kit in the dugout.

Warwick LL, Pennsylvania

NEW

Soft toss fences were installed on our fields to protect players and spectators from miss hit balls as well as protecting the field's fencing from dangerous tears or splits in the chain links.

Huntington Valley LL, California

NEW

All bullpens are enclosed with fencing.

Moreland LL, California

NEW

Yellow plastic caution pipe has been installed along the top of the outfield fences to cover the top of the chain-link fence and protect players from cuts and/or scrapes.

Unicoi County LL, Tennessee

NEW

A 6' wrought iron fence has been installed encircling the detention pond to heighten the security.

Oak Ridge Woodlands Area LL, Texas

NEW

The yellow safety cap on the chain link fences will be checked regularly for bees and bee nests which will be removed or sprayed by an appropriate person, when needed.

Port Huron Township, Michigan

We purchased first-aid kits from www.first-aid-product.com at \$5.58 each. All managers will keep their kit at the end of the season as a "thank you."

Hobart LL, Indiana

We encourage players to wear personal baseball caps under the heavy plastic batting helmets to prevent the transfer of lice.

Lyons Township National LL, Illinois

Tri-City LL, California

Hats are mandatory on the field at all times.

Several Leagues

COMPLIANCE . . .

Switch to light colored uniforms for players, due to intense heat during the season.

Oak Ridge Woodlands Area LL, Texas

Players are responsible to provide a change of clothes and a large plastic bag at all practices and games in the event that clothing becomes bloodstained. Players in bloodstained clothing will not be allowed to participate.

Southridge LL, California

We do not allow players to have their names on either their team hat or uniform to protect the children from risk of abduction.

Several Leagues

Always pack a blanket in your car for practices. These can help prevent a child from going into shock in the event of injury or seizure.

Eastside LL, Indiana

We have a “Defective Equipment Form” that is sent to the manufacturer with any defective equipment.

Perris Valley LL, California

An Equipment Problem Report is filled out by managers, coaches, and umpires and filed with the equipment manager for immediate correction.

Virginia Beach LL, Virginia

Electrical equipment in concession stands needs to be approved and inspected weekly and documented on a weekly log equipment checklist.

Blackwood Kiwanis LL, New Jersey

A safety officer should do spot checks at practices to make sure all managers have their first-aid kits.

Little Lake LL, California

During the month of September, 2004, our area was hit hard by four hurricanes. The backstops were then secured with higher strength poles that can withstand hurricane force winds.

Greater West Melbourne LL, Florida

The posts for the dugout fences will have padding installed to protect players trying to catch foul balls.

Heights LL, Pennsylvania

Fence lines should be clear. All spectators must be a minimum of two feet behind the fences for their own safety and the safety of those around them.

Raleigh Hills LL, Oregon

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The concession stand has a new First-Aid Station that is complete with a new emergency AED defibrillator for added player safety.

Crystal Lake LL, Illinois



MNLL has purchased and installed a chain link fence around our batting cages for the protection of anyone standing near the batting cage.

Montville National LL, Connecticut

Metal signs are being replaced with safer plastic ones in the outfields.

West Shore LL, New York

Temporary overhead mesh installed over eating area for protection

Brentwood LL, New York



We replaced the solid backs of our dugouts with chain link fencing. This allows police to see into the dugouts from the road, and has cut down on vandalism.

Saginaw Township South LL, Michigan

In our area, it is common to have spring and summer days when the temperature could rise to a very uncomfortable state. On those days, it is strongly recommended that the dugout overhead be covered with a tarp from the equipment shed to provide comfort to the players.

*Sunnyvale LL, California
Tri Cities Pacific LL, California*

We allow water only in our dugouts. Other food and drinks attract wasps and bees and can lead to stings and serious allergic reactions.

Several Leagues

NEW

Basic first aid guides are posted in each dugout.

Cleveland Township LL, Indiana

NEW

Players are not to leave the dugout at any time to retrieve a foul ball.

Tilton-Northfield Little League, New Hampshire

NEW

No electronic equipment of any kind will be allowed in the dugout during games.

South Shore Little League, Clearlake, California

NEW

Bats are never to be swung or even held in the dugout. This is a severe safety hazard

Thermalito LL, California

NEW

Players will stay inside the dugout during the game and will not sit or stand in the door opening. No one will sit on buckets or squat at the doorway.

Petaluma Valley LL, California

NEW

Gates were added to the dugout entrances at the Senior League Field.

Bristol LL, Virginia

NEW

The next batter may retrieve their helmet and wear it in the dugout until it is their turn to bat. The player may obtain their bat upon entering the field.

Katy American, Texas

Notes

A Little Common Sense About Safety



A Little Common Sense About Safety From a Million Little League® Volunteers

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