



THOUSAND OAKS LITTLE LEAGUE COVID-19 RE-OPENING PROTOCOLS

(Revised February 26, 2021)

COVID-19 continues to pose a severe risk to communities and requires all Californians to follow recommended precautions. The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) has recently issued updated guidance (effective February 26, 2021) for Outdoor Youth Sports ([Outdoor and Indoor Youth and Recreational Adult Sports \(ca.gov\)](https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/2021.02.26/Outdoor-Youth-Sports.aspx)) to support a safe environment for participation. Thousand Oaks Little League (TOLL) is committed to conducting the 2021 baseball season in accordance with all applicable State and local health guidelines that relate to Youth Sports.

The TOLL Board is pleased to share the following general guidance that will apply to all baseball activities associated with TOLL, including practices and games (when games are permitted). These measures are being taken to protect our players, coaches, families, and the community from the spread of COVID-19. TOLL will continue to update this document as State and local authorities issue new guidance.

INFORMED CONSENT

Due to the risk of transmission while participating in activities related to baseball (which is categorized as a Moderate-Contact sport), TOLL has provided information regarding risk to all program participants. All parents/guardians must sign an informed consent indicating their understanding and acknowledgement of the risks indicated therein.

HEALTH SCREENING / RETURNING TO PLAY AFTER INFECTION

Players and coaches who are not feeling well or have any temperature above 100 degrees will not be allowed to participate in any practice or game until their health improves.

No one with symptoms of COVID-19 or who is in isolation or quarantine for COVID-19 is permitted to attend practices or games.

In the event that a player or coach becomes infected with COVID-19, the infected player or coach must notify the team manager, who then must notify the TOLL Safety Officer (toll.safety@gmail.com).

Anyone with symptoms of COVID-19 should consult their physician for testing and notify the TOLL Safety Officer (toll.safety@gmail.com) of their symptoms and test results.



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Youths recovering from COVID-19 will have different paths to return to sports based on the severity of their illness. See the [American Academy of Pediatrics Interim Guidance on Return to Sports](#) for additional guidance for more serious infections.

FACE COVERINGS

Face coverings must be worn by all players while not participating in the activity, including before and after practices and games.

Face coverings must be worn by coaches, support staff, and observers at all times, and in compliance with the CDPH.

Players are encouraged to bring more than one mask in the event that it becomes wet or sticks to the player's face obstructing breathing or becomes too loose or tears.

SAFE DISTANCING

A distance of at least six feet must be maintained between sport participants and others to the maximum extent possible, including when on the sidelines or in dugouts.

Observers must maintain at least six feet from non-household members.

Mixing with other households prior to and following any practice or competition must be done only with strictly adherence to current CDPH guidelines.

No handshakes, fist bumps, or high-fives. Following games, players will line up and tip their caps to their opponents, in a display of good sportsmanship.

HYGIENE AND EQUIPMENT SANITATION

To the extent possible, players must bring their own equipment, including helmet, glove, bat, and catcher's gear.

Shared equipment will be cleaned and disinfected before use by another person, group, or team.

When equipment is shared during an activity, participants must perform proper hand hygiene (wash hands with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer) before play, during breaks, and after the conclusion of the activity.



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Balls or other objects or equipment can be touched by multiple players during practice and play if the above hand hygiene practices are followed.

No sharing of drink bottles and other personal items and equipment.

COHORTS

Each TOLL team will be considered a cohort for practices and games.

These predetermined teams will not exceed more than 16 players and on-field coaches.

Intermingling of cohorts will not be allowed by either players or coaches (until games are allowed).

Two cohorts will be allowed to practice on the same field, but must maintain safe distancing (e.g., one in the infield and one in the outfield) and cannot intermingle.

LIMITATIONS ON OBSERVERS

Watching TOLL practices or games will be limited to immediate household members. This will help to ensure physical distancing can be maintained, reduce potential overcrowding, and maintain outdoor capacity limits.

Observers may assist teams with adherence to COVID-19 protocols and help young players with maintaining physical distancing. Observers must stay at least six feet from non-household members and wear face coverings at all times.