



# 2024 SAFETY PLAN

**2024 League ID Number: 3090217**

**Safety Officer:** Brian Roberts - (321) 537-1897

**President:** Derek Williams - (321) 698-9672

**Equipment Manager:** Brian Roberts - (321) 537-1897

**District Administrator:** Ken O'Neill

**Web site:** [beachsidelittleleague.org](http://beachsidelittleleague.org)

**Emergency Phone Numbers** *(carry at all times)*

**Emergency:** 911

**Non Emergency:**

Satellite Beach Police Department: (321) 773-4400

Satellite Beach Fire Department: (321) 773-4405

Indian Harbour Beach Police Department: (321) 773-3030

## ASAP

In 1995, ASAP (A Safety Awareness Program) was introduced with the goal of reemphasizing the position of Safety Officer "to create awareness, through education and information, of the opportunities to provide a safer environment for kids and all participants of Little League Baseball". This manual is offered as a tool to place some important information at manager and coach's fingertips. The Safety plan has been distributed to all Board members & will be distributed to all managers/coaches.

## REMEMBER

Safety is everyone's job. Prevention is the key to reducing accidents to a minimum. Report all hazardous conditions to the Director of Safety or another Board member immediately. Don't play on a field that is not safe or with unsafe playing equipment. Be sure your players are fully equipped at all times, especially catchers and batters. Remember to check your team equipment often.

## SAFETY OFFICER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

Within 48 hours of receiving the incident report, the League Safety Officer will contact the injured party or the party's parents and (1) verify the information received; (2) obtain any other information deemed necessary; (3) check on the status of the injured party;



and (4) in the event that the injured party required other medical treatment (i.e. Emergency Room visit, doctor's visit, etc.) will advise the parent or guardian of the Little League's insurance coverage and the provisions for submitting any claims.

If the extent of the injuries is more than minor in nature, the Safety Officer shall periodically call the injured party to (1) check on the status of the injuries, and (2) to check if any other assistance is necessary in areas such as submission of insurance forms, etc. Until such time as the incident is considered "closed" (i.e. no further claims are expected and/or the individual is participating in the league again.) Also, the 2024 annual Little League facility survey was completed by League President on December 13, 2023.

The President completes all required background search on all managers, coaches, board members and any other persons, volunteers who provide regular services to the league and have contact with players or teams. All volunteers will complete the background screening check through JDP. All Board members completed the background screening. All managers & coaches must complete the background check prior to starting practice. We will be using on-line resources (National & State level) and will work with the Satellite Beach Police department for additional local checks.

## **ACCIDENT REPORTING PROCEDURES**

**WHAT TO REPORT:** Any incident that causes any player, manager, coach, umpire, volunteer, or spectator to receive medical treatment and/or first-aid, must be reported to the League Safety Officer. This includes even passive treatments such as the evaluation and diagnosis of the extent of the injury or periods of rest.

**WHEN TO REPORT:** All such incidents described above must be reported to the League Safety Officer within 48 hours of the incident.

**HOW TO MAKE THE REPORT:** Any incident as described, coaches shall find the incident forms located in all equipment rooms ASAP and turn in to the league Safety Officer.

## **IMPORTANT REMINDER**

**DO...**

- Reassure and aid children who are injured, frightened, or lost.

- Provide or assist in obtaining medical attention for those who require it.
- Know your limitations.
- Carry your first-aid kit to all games and practices.
- Assist those who require medical attention and when administering aid, remember to:

**LOOK** for signs of injury (blood, black and blue deformity of joint, etc.)

**LISTEN** to the injured; describe what happened and what hurts if conscious. Before questioning, you may have to calm and soothe an excited child.

**FEEL** gently and carefully the injured area for signs of swelling or grating of broken bones. Have your players Medical Release Forms with you at all games and practices. Make arrangements to have a cell phone available at games and practices.

#### **DON'T...**

- Administer medications.
- Provide any food or beverages (other than water).
- Hesitate in giving aid when needed.
- Be afraid to ask for help if you're not sure of the proper procedures.
- Transport injured individuals except in extreme emergencies.
- Leave an unattended child at a practice or game.
- Hesitate to report any present or potential safety hazard to the Safety Officer immediately.

#### **CODE OF CONDUCT**

- All managers are required to review and complete the code of conduct form distributed at the manager's meeting. We have a discipline policy for all players that will be reviewed at manager's meeting.
- No alcohol allowed in any field or common areas within a BSLL complex.
- No playing in parking lots at any time.
- No profanity.
- No swinging bats or throwing baseballs at any time within the walkways and common areas of BSLL.
- No throwing balls against dugouts, backstops, or buildings. No throwing rocks.
- No "soft toss" against any fence.
- No horse play in walkways at any time. No climbing fences or dugout poles.
- Only the player on the field and at bat may swing a bat. 50/70/Juniors/Seniors on the field or on deck may swing a bat. Be alert of the area around you when

swinging bats while in the on-deck position.

- Observe all posted signs. Players and spectators should be always alert for foul balls and errant throws.
- After each game, each team must clean up trash in the dugout in and around the stands.

Do not yell or heckle at the players, other coaches, or the umpires. We are all responsible for setting examples for our children and must determine what kind of example we wish to make. We must be the role models in society today.

If we eliminate negative comments, the children will have an opportunity to play without any unnecessary pressures and will learn the value of sportsmanship. **(BSLL has a zero-tolerance policy)**

## **SAFETY CODE FOR LITTLE LEAGUE**

### **Modified from Little League Rule Book**

- Responsibility for safety procedures should be that of an adult member of the local league.
- First aid kits are distributed to each coach, and they will always keep the kit in their equipment bag. Additional kits are available at each concession.
- No games or practices should be held when weather or field conditions are not safe, particularly when lightning is nearby.
- Play area should be inspected frequently for holes, damage, stones, glass, and other foreign objects.
- All team equipment should be stored within the team's dugout or behind screens and not in the area defined by the umpires as "in play."
- Only players, managers, coaches, and umpires are permitted on the playing field or in the dugout during games and practice sessions. A designated team parent can be in dugout to assist with players with the coaches permission in minor divisions and below.
- Responsibility for keeping bats and loose equipment off the field of play should be that of a player assigned for this purpose.
- Procedure should be established for retrieving foul balls batted out of the playing area.
- During practice sessions and games, all players should be alert and watching the batter on every pitch.
- During warm up drills, players should be spaced out so that no one is

endangered by wild throws or missed catches.

- Equipment should be inspected regularly for its condition and proper fit.
- Batters must wear protective NOCSAE helmets during practice and games.
- Catcher must wear catcher's helmet (with face mask and throat guard), chest protector, shin guards, and protective cup with athletic supporter (males) for all practices and games. **NO EXCEPTIONS**
- Managers should encourage all male players to wear protective cups and supporters for all practices and games.
- Except when a runner is returning to base, headfirst slides should be avoided in Majors and below.
- 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."
- Catchers must wear catcher's helmet and mask with throat guard while warming up pitchers. This applies between innings and in bullpen practice. Skullcaps are not permitted.
- Batting/Catcher's helmets should not be painted unless approved by the manufacturer.
- On-deck batters are not permitted (except in 50/70, Junior, and Senior Divisions).
- Players who are ejected, ill, or injured should remain under supervision until released to the parent or guardian.

## PLAYERS

- Players must not wear watches, rings, pins, jewelry, or other metallic items.
- During practice sessions and games, all players should be alert and watching the batter on each pitch.
- Stay alert in the coach's box. Always watch the batter and concentrate on the play.
- Long pants should be worn at practices.
- Tuck jerseys in and wear hat properly
- Never throw your equipment. Never throw a ball into the crowd or when someone is not looking.
- Do not throw anything at anyone, unless it's a ball, and only when you are practicing or playing in a game.
- Stay off the fences and dugouts.
- Stay in the dugout and behind the fence unless told to do otherwise by a

coach or umpire.

- When running bases, always slide if there is a close play.
- Stay cool on warm days by finding some shade in the dugout and drink plenty of fluids (especially catchers).
- Never go off with a stranger! Always let your coach know if you need to leave the dugout or field.
- Before you do something that might be unsafe, stop and think twice before you do something that could hurt someone else or yourself. We encourage the use of face guards on batting helmets.
- Remember! No one is more concerned with your safety than you!

## **MANAGERS/COACHES**

- Keep player medical information with you at all times.
- Home team Manager must conduct a field inspection prior to each game.
- Have access to a phone during practices if possible.
- Get trained in basic first aid and CPR. (you never know when you may need it)
- Make a first aid kit part of your equipment.
- All male players must wear athletic supports. Encourage the use of a protective cup for all male players, not just catchers.
- Teach players to call for fly balls to avoid collisions. Try to avoid fly ball drills at practices and pre-game warm ups that directly face the sun.
- Teach players proper sliding techniques.
- Monitor outfielders to prevent holes being dug in the outfield.
- Check your equipment regularly for damage and report any problems to the equipment manager immediately. (We will review before distribution)
- Walk the field before games checking for unsafe conditions (holes, loose bases, torn fencing, and loose debris on the field).
- Responsibility for keeping bats and loose equipment off the field of play should be that of a player assigned for this purpose or the team's manager or coaches.
- Keep the players in the dugouts, on the fields and behind the fences. Have them ask for permission to leave
- Make sure players have plenty of fluids during warm weather (especially catchers).
- During bullpen and between inning warm-ups, the catcher must wear a helmet with a mask and be equipped with a cup.
- A player with a helmet and glove and facing the batter and play of the game,

is required for any bullpen warm-ups.

- Never stand behind the catcher during warm-ups to speak to an umpire or scorekeeper.
- Never leave a child alone after a practice or game. Sometimes you will need to wait for a ride to show up.
- Remember! No one is more concerned for your safety, or that of your players, than you.

## UMPIRES

- The UIC conducts Umpire Clinics before the start of every season.
- Male Home Plate umpires must wear a protective cup.
- Walk the field prior to the game checking for unsafe conditions (loose bases, holes and debris on the field, etc.)
- Remind team coaches that safety helmets are available at each field.
- Check catchers for cups, helmets with mask and throat guards. Remind players that cups must be worn while warming up pitchers between innings and in the bullpens. Helmets with masks and throat guards must also be worn.
- Bullpen warm-ups must have a player with a fielder's glove and helmet, facing the field, as a guard.
- Keep players in the dugout and behind the fence.
- Enforce the no "on deck" warm-up swinging by the offensive team. (Majors and below) Stand a safe distance away from home plate during warm-ups. Especially while conferring with the coaches.
- Have access to a phone during a game.
- Inspect team equipment.

## CONCESSION STAND

- Only approved personnel should be in the concession stand.
- All workers should be familiar with the list of Emergency Contact numbers. All workers should know where the First Aid Kit is located.
- All workers should know where the Fire Extinguisher is located and how to use it.
- Hands should be washed frequently with antibacterial soap.
- Pot handles must be turned inward when preparing hot food to avoid possible burn accidents.
- Never put water on a grease fire. Smother it!
- Extension cords should not be used as a permanent electrical source.
- A thermometer should be kept in every refrigerator.



- Cold foods should be stored at 45 degrees or less and hot foods at 140 degrees or more. All light bulbs should have protective coverings over them.
- Clean up all spills thoroughly to help prevent bug problems.
- Inspect the appliances regularly and report any problems as they are found. Do not wait for the next person to do it!

## LIGHTNING MONITORING PROCEDURES

Lightning awareness should be increased with the first flash of lightning or the first sound of thunder no matter how far away. The existence of blue sky and the absence of rain are not protection from lightning. Lightning can, and does, strike as far as 10 miles away from the rain shaft. It does not have to be raining for lightning to strike.

BSLL uses the phone app **Spark by Weather Bug**. This has proven useful to prepare for potential danger before it is too late. Our location near the ocean makes us very susceptible to erratic and sometimes violent and dangerous weather conditions. Our goal is to minimize the risks that our children and volunteers are exposed to. **Spark by Weather Bug should be monitored by a board member, manager, or coach. The lightning monitoring and lightning evacuation procedures apply to all practice and games on Beachside Little League fields.**

## LIGHTNING EVACUATION PROCEDURES

### LIGHTNING STRIKE: 6 TO 10 MILES AWAY

- If weather appears to be moving toward the field, the Manager or Umpire will notify the players, parents, and opposing team to begin clearing the field.
- If weather is moving away from the field, coaches and umpires can use discretion and choose to continue play or wait.
- Players can seek shelter in their respective dugouts away from all fences.
- If an evacuation takes place, all players and parents must wait in their vehicles until an all-clear is given.

### LIGHTNING STRIKE: WITHIN 6 MILES

- The manager will immediately notify the players, parents, and opposing team to clear the field immediately.
- Players will seek shelter in their dugouts away from all fences. If strikes continue in the range within 15 minutes, all players and parents will take shelter in their vehicles until an all-clear signal is given.





### **RESUMPTION OF PLAY:**

- If there should be no additional strikes less than 6 miles for a period of 30 minutes, the chief umpire, or manager, shall call back players and parents and allow the game to resume.

### **FIRST AID**

First aid kits will be kept at each field in the equipment room. We have provided First Aid kits for each team in their equipment bag. If the manager, coaches, or umpires use the First Aid Kit located in the equipment rooms, an incident form shall be completed.

### **OVERVIEW**

While there are no guarantees that we can make our league totally safe, we are implementing policies that will reduce our chances for accidents and injuries. Little League baseball has taken a very "Safety Oriented" stance in recent years. Let's all work together and keep safety a priority in this league.

**Safety is everyone's business.**