


LaGrange Baseball/Softball Spectator and Athlete Guidelines

COVID-19 Readiness Plan

Prepared by COVID-19 Sub-Committee

A banner for New York LAGRANGE BASEBALL/SOFTBALL. The background features a close-up of a baseball on the left and a baseball field with dirt and grass on the right. The text "New York" is in the top left, and "LAGRANGE BASEBALL/SOFTBALL" is in large, bold, white letters with a black outline across the middle.

New York

LAGRANGE BASEBALL/SOFTBALL

GOAL: Provide recommendations for the resocialization of youth Baseball/Softball with regard to practice and competition, keeping in mind the health and safety of our youth athletes, coaches, parents/caregivers and spectators.

DISCLAIMER: Playing sports with and against other individuals, in any capacity during this time, holds an inherent risk of a child or teenager becoming infected and potentially infecting other individuals, such as their household members. Please consider this risk when allowing your child or teenager to participate in organized sports.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES: The information regarding SARS-CoV-2, the virus causing the COVID-19 illness, is changing rapidly nationally and in our community. These recommendations will be reviewed and updated based on new scientific information and local information including COVID-19 testing capacity and state and local health department recommendations.

KEY STRATEGIES INCLUDE: Health assessments, social distancing, face coverings, effective hand hygiene, no-touch policy, and removal of shared equipment.

The recommendations shown on the following pages are meant as general guidelines, in the context of federal, state, and local county recommendations. All federal, state, and local health department orders and recommendations as related to sports must be followed.

New York

LAGRANGE BASEBALL/SOFTBALL

Policies

- Daily health assessments must be completed prior to arriving at the LaGrange Little League complex (self-evaluation). Anyone experiencing symptoms must stay home.*
- All participants (players & coaches), umpires, and spectators should adhere to six-foot physical distancing while at the facility.
- Individuals should not congregate in common areas or parking lot
- No unnecessary individuals should be present at the sports complex (such as managers, non participating athletes, etc.)
- Face coverings are highly recommended for coaches and spectators.
- No team huddles should take place.
- No handshakes or fist bumps should take place. (A “tip the cap” can be used following the game in lieu of the handshake line).
- No team water coolers or shared drinking stations.
- Equipment should only be used by the individual owner including gloves, bats, helmets, catchers gear, etc.
- Maximum of 4 individuals are permitted in the dugout at any given time (others will remain behind the backstop maintaining 6ft distance)
- Umpires will officiate the game from behind the pitcher’s mound, while practicing social distancing with all fielders.
- Spitting, eating seeds, and chewing gum are prohibited.

LaGrange Little League Actions

- League officials will make every effort to space out start times for Practices or Games to limit the number of individuals coming and going at the same time.
- Hand hygiene is essential. LaGrange LL will promote frequent and effective hand hygiene with ample hand sanitizer available at the complex.
- League to ensure all CDC guidelines related to the handling of Youth Sports is followed.
- Suspected Cases: Immediately isolate and seek medical care for any individual who develops symptoms while at the complex. Contact the local health district about suspected cases or exposure.
- Maintain a complete list of coaches, players, and umpires(provided by HVUA) present at each event to include the date, beginning and ending time of the event, plus name and contact detail to be made available upon request from the local health district.
- Transparency is important – league to provide status updates throughout the season when appropriate

General Principles

* Per the CDC, symptoms include cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fever, chills, muscle pain, sore throat, and new loss of taste or smell.

** <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html>

New York

LAGRANGE BASEBALL/SOFTBALL

Athletes

Mandatory

- Daily health assessments must be completed prior to arriving at the LaGrange Little League complex (self-evaluation). Anyone experiencing symptoms must stay home.*
- Must adhere to six foot social distancing practices off the field of play.
- Must not share water or equipment.
- No handshakes or fist bumps should take place. (A “tip the cap” can be used following the game in lieu of the handshake line.
- Spitting, eating seeds, and chewing gum are prohibited.

Recommended Best Practices

- Use your own discretion on whether athletes should wear face coverings while not actively participating in the field of play.
- Hand washing or hand sanitizing, in the absence of soap and water, are strongly recommended for athletes during games.
- Whenever possible, equipment and personal items should have proper separation and should not be shared. If equipment must be shared, proper sanitation should be administered between users.
- Should bring their own sanitizer (however the each team will have it as well)

Mandatory

- Daily health assessments must be completed prior to arriving at the LaGrange Little League complex (self-evaluation). Anyone experiencing symptoms must stay home.*
- Must adhere to six foot social distancing practices.
- Must not enter player areas (on the field of play or bench areas).
- Must keep six-feet or more distance from the backstop.

Recommended Best Practices

- Strongly recommended to wear face coverings at all times.
- Hand washing or hand sanitizing, in the absence of soap and water, is recommended strongly during games.
- Bring your own chairs (Bleachers should not be used)
- Limit attendance to one adult per household

Spectators

**Per the CDC, symptoms include cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fever, chills, muscle pain, sore throat, and new loss of taste or smell.