

Brunswick Railroaders LITTLE LEAGUE
Return to Play Plan
2021 SEASON REQUIREMENTS due to COVID-19

All adult volunteers, players, and spectators will adhere to the guidelines listed below in order to participate in or attend events at any Brunswick Railroaders Little League [BRL] activity during the time period that restrictions are in place due to Covid-19. Failure to adhere to the guidelines listed below will result in disciplinary action by a league official. Initial offenses will be addressed through a warning that will be documented through a letter to the person involved and to the Board of Directors. A subsequent offense will result in termination of privileges for the remainder of the season.

A copy of the requirements will be posted on the League's webpage and an acknowledgement will be required of all parents/guardians along with the Parent Code of Conduct and Medical Release.

All managers, coaches, umpires, and league volunteers will be required to attend a meeting on these rules and regulations prior to assuming their volunteer role. This meeting will be conducted by the Coaching Coordinator, Vice President of Baseball, and Vice President of Softball. At the player's first team meeting the Team Manager will conduct a safety briefing with all players and reinforce the guidelines at the beginning of each team activity. Parents will be provided a copy of the guidelines and will be required to acknowledge they have read and understand the guidelines as part of the Parent Code of Conduct.

All Board members, coaches, and umpires shall be provided a copy of these guidelines to read and adhere to at all times while participating in any BRL activity.

Section I. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

1. Parents/Guardians are responsible for checking their child/children for symptoms prior to leaving for BRL activities.
 - a. Parents of players with symptoms prior to arriving at the field shall contact the manager to inform them that the player will miss practice/game.
 - b. A player's attendance at any BRL event is the parent/guardian's acknowledgement that the player is symptom free.
2. Managers will log the attendance of the player and provide hand sanitizer at each activity.
3. Hand hygiene will be promoted at all times, including upon arrival to the field, before/after using the bathroom, before/after touching the face or face covering, and upon leaving.
 - a. Each manager will be issued alcohol-based hand sanitizers with at least 60% alcohol for inclusion in the team equipment. Additional supplies of sanitizer will be available by contacting the Safety Officer or Concession Stand Coordinator.
 - b. All players will be encouraged to keep an alcohol-based personal use size hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol as part of their equipment.

4. All attendees (players, volunteers, and parents/guardians/guests) should bring to all events and wear, reusable/washable cloth face coverings over their nose and mouth when not actively engaged in athletics and when distancing is not possible.
5. BRLL bathrooms are all single use and will be open only during BRLL activities. The bathrooms will be supplied with soap and paper towels for hand washing.
6. Team managers/coaches will be responsible for either cleaning or designating a parent to ensure the surface disinfection of the sink, door handle, and any other high touch area in the bathrooms at the conclusion of each team event. For games, the home team is responsible for cleaning bathrooms.
7. Spitting, chewing seeds, licking fingers, and gum are prohibited at all times.
8. All persons must either cough/sneeze into the crook of the elbow or into a disposable tissue. The tissue is to be placed in the trash bag immediately after use and hand sanitizer used.
9. Distancing
 - a. Players arriving to the field shall wear a face covering until admitted to the field of play. Once admitted the player shall sanitize hands to remove the covering and carefully store the face covering with his/her equipment as designated by the manager.
 - b. Each player shall be assigned a number (1 – 12) for the season prior to the first practice that corresponds to a designated spot at each location for storing his/her equipment and waiting while on offense that is a minimum of 6' away from all other players and spectators and behind protective fencing.
 - c. When the team is practicing or playing defense in the field players are not required to wear face coverings.
 - d. When the team is at-bat players are not required to wear face coverings if proper 6' distancing is maintained. There will be a designated place for the on-deck batter at each field.
 - e. Players are not required to wear face coverings when on-base and running; once a player is retired, he/she shall immediately return to his/her designated spot and maintain 6' distancing. Dugouts and necessary extensions will be marked with 6' areas and numbers corresponding to the number assigned to each player by said player's manager.
 - f. Any team conference or meeting must adhere to the 6' distancing guideline and everyone in attendance must wear face coverings during the meeting.
 - g. At the conclusion of the practice/game players shall sanitize hands, put on their face covering, carefully pack up equipment, and go immediately with their family to their vehicle.
 - h. No unnecessary contact is to be made between players and coaches including a prohibition on hand shakes, fist/elbow bumps, back slaps, and high/low fives. As a measure of sportsmanship players and coaches are encouraged to use hat tips, clapping, and thumbs-up to show support and encouragement to each other.

- i. Parents/Guardians are responsible for ensuring that they and all family members or guests are maintaining 6' distancing from others not in the same household while attending events. If this is not feasible face coverings are required.
 - j. If your team is scheduled for the late practice, parents/guardians are encouraged to wait in their cars until such time as the early practice families have left.
10. Field Prep will be completed by the Managers/Coaches of each team for practices. For games, field prep will be completed by the Visiting Team.
11. Cleaning supplies and hand sanitizer will be procured by the Concession Stand Coordinator. The manager of the team assigned to a field for practice (early practice if 2 scheduled) on Mondays shall notify the Concession Stand Coordinator by 8 pm on Mondays of any items that are in short supply so they can be obtained during the week.
12. Players will use only their own equipment. If batting helmets, bats (Tball) or catcher's gear is needed the Manager should be notified by the player, who will then work with the Equipment Manager to determine what is available. Any equipment would be rented out to the player to be used solely by them during the season.
13. In case of equipment issues, teams will be assigned catcher's gear, but once a player has used the equipment it cannot be used by another player during that practice or game and must be sanitized before subsequent use.
14. Parents/legal guardians must complete and turn into the team manager the LLI Medical Release form, BRLL Code of Conduct including an acknowledgement of the COVID-19 Participation Guidelines, and a Covid-19 participation waiver prior to their child's participation in any team event.
15. Players must read and sign the Code of Conduct indicating that they understand and will follow all the rules for play including adjustments in place for the 2020 season.
16. Players must supply their own water bottles as team coolers are not permitted. Ensure the player's name is on the bottle.

Section II. Fields and Facilities

1. Marvin Younkens Field (Majors) is divided into two designated areas.
 - a. The two designated areas will be the first base dugout side and third base dugout side respectively.
 - i. The 1st base dugout area will be designated for the early practice time
 - ii. The 3rd base dugout area will be designated for the late practice time
 - b. Arriving players, wearing masks, for the 1st base dugout will go up the stairs behind the concession stand and enter through the gate next to the first base dugout to check in and place their equipment in their designated place. Players should remain with their equipment until the Manager calls for them to enter the field.
 - c. Upon the conclusion of practice, leaving players shall put on their face coverings and exit via the same gate taking all equipment and water bottles with them and going promptly to their ride home.

- d. The Manager/Coaches of the team leaving the field shall disinfect high touch areas (including bathrooms), remove all team equipment, and ensure all garbage is removed following practice.
 - e. The team assigned the later practice time will follow the same procedure except for using the dugout gate on the 3rd base side of the concession stand.
 - f. The bleachers at Marvin Younkins (Majors) Memorial Field will not be used during Phase 1 of the 2020 season. In Phase 2, the front row of the bleachers will not be used. They will be roped off with caution tape.
2. James W. Main Field (Minors & Batting Cages) is divided into three designated areas.
- a. The Baseball field – players for an early practice will use the 1st base dugout and for a late practice will use the 3rd base dugout.
 - b. Batting Cage A – cage/soft-toss/t-work areas will be designated along with 6’ areas as indicated in the General Guidelines for players waiting their turn and equipment. Cage A will use the gate at the bottom of the stairs.
 - c. Batting Cage B - cage/soft-toss/t-work areas will be designated along with 6’ areas as indicated in the General Guidelines for players waiting their turn and equipment. Cage B will use the gate by the walkway to the t-ball field.
 - d. A line will be painted in the area outside the batting cages, but inside the fence for the batting cages to designate the soft-toss and tee work areas for each respective cage.
 - e. Start times will be staggered to allow 15 minutes between starts at different areas to prevent congestion on the stairs down to the field and batting cages.
 - f. Arriving players, wearing masks, will check in with their manager and go directly to their designated place for the day based on their assigned number. Players should remain with their equipment until the Manager calls for them to enter the field/practice area.
 - g. Upon the conclusion of practice, leaving players shall put on their face coverings and exit via the same gate they entered taking all equipment and water bottles with them and going promptly to their ride home.
 - h. The Manager/Coaches of the team leaving the field shall disinfect high touch areas (including bathrooms), remove all team equipment, and ensure all garbage is removed following practice.
3. Emory and Elizabeth Frye Field is divided into two designated areas
- a. The two designated areas will be the first base dugout side and third base dugout side respectively.
 - b. The 1st base dugout area will be designated for the early practice time
 - c. The 3rd base dugout area will be designated for the late practice time
 - d. Arriving players, wearing masks, for the 1st base dugout will enter through the gate next to the first base dugout (in front of concession stand) to check in with their manager and place their equipment in their designated place. Players should remain with their equipment until the Manager calls for them to enter the field.
 - e. Upon the conclusion of practice, leaving players shall put on their face coverings and exit via the same gate taking all equipment and water bottles with them and going promptly to their ride home.

- f. The Manager/Coaches of the team leaving the field shall disinfect high touch areas (including bathrooms), remove all team equipment, and ensure all garbage is removed following practice.
 - g. The team assigned the later practice time will follow the same procedure except for using the dugout gate on the 3rd base side behind the concession stand.
4. T-Ball Field
- a. The T-Ball Field will not be used in Phase I. Alternate fields will be used for t-ball during Phase I following the above requirements based on the field used.
 - b. Use during Phases 2 will be limited to 1 team per evening and will be scheduled on Saturdays to have at least 30 minutes between practices and/or games.
 - c. Arriving players, wearing masks, will preferably enter via the F Street parking behind the shed at the majors field or by walking along the outfield fence for the majors field to the path from the majors to the minors field. Once at the field they should check in with their manager and place their equipment in their designated place. Players should remain with their equipment until the Manager calls for them to enter the field.
 - d. Upon the conclusion of practice, leaving players shall put on their face coverings and exit via the same paths taking all equipment and water bottles with them and going promptly to their ride home.
 - e. The Manager/Coaches of the team leaving the field shall disinfect high touch areas, remove all team equipment, and ensure all garbage is removed following practice.
5. Jefferson School Field
- a. Field use will be limited to 1 team practicing per day Monday through Friday. On Saturdays or Sundays practices and games will be scheduled to have a minimum of 30 minutes between activities.
 - b. Upon the conclusion of practice, leaving players shall put on their face coverings and exit via the same path taking all equipment and water bottles with them and going promptly to their ride home.
 - c. The Manager/Coaches of the team leaving the field shall disinfect high touch areas, remove all team equipment, and ensure all garbage is removed following practice.
 - d. Bathroom facilities will not be available at the Jefferson School field.
6. FCPS Facilities (Brunswick High, Brunswick Elementary, Valley Elementary)
- a. Follow the guidelines set forth by FCPS at <https://www.fcps.org/uof>
7. Frederick County Parks and Recreation Facilities (Othello Regional Park)
- a. Follow the guidelines set forth by Frederick County Parks and Recreation at <https://www.recreator.com/772/Return-to-Play>

Section III. PHASE 1 – Practice Phase (in the event Maryland/Frederick County returns to Phase 1)

Practices are limited to no more than 9 people [6 players/3 coaches] per group at each field or batting cage; all groups shall be self-contained and avoid any contact with other groups at the facility. Practices shall be scheduled to allow for 45 minutes for each group of players with 30 minutes between sessions when using the same designated area

1. We will follow the basic protocols established in the Fields and Facilities section with regard to how to enter and exit the fields and practice areas. We will also use the designated 6' area for each player.
2. All practices shall be held outdoors and focus on skills and drills designed to maintain 6' distancing between players and coaches. When this is not possible the coach and player[s] shall wear a face covering.
3. All baseballs shall be sanitized at the end of each practice. Where possible the number of players who come in contact with the baseball shall be limited [e.g., in throwing drills one baseball is used only by the 2 players in the drill]. At the completion of each drill where more than 1 person touched the ball the player/coach shall sanitize his/her hands using hand sanitizer.
4. Coaches must wear a mask whenever distancing is not possible.
5. No parents/guardians or spectators are permitted to be on the field or in the dugouts at any time.

Section IV. PHASE 2 – Competition (when Maryland/Frederick County is in Phase 2)

The number of players allowed will be increased to full teams and games can be played.

1. All General Guidelines must be followed in Phase 2. We will continue to follow the basic protocol established in the Fields and Facilities section with regard to how to enter and exit the fields and practice areas. We will also continue to use the designated 6' area for each player.
2. Coaches/Managers, Team Parents, Umpires and other volunteers are responsible for ensuring they are symptom free prior to attending BRLL events. The home team, responsible for concessions, will record the names of all volunteers in attendance at the field during games.
3. Concessions will be permitted in Phase 2 for prepackaged items only.
4. Announcing and scoreboard operation will be permitted with only 2 people or 1 family in the announcing booth; any volunteer performing announcing and scoreboard functions must sanitize the equipment following the provided directions at the conclusion of the game.
5. Field preparation shall be done prior to any player arriving at the field if at all possible; once players arrive on the field only official coaches are permitted to prep the field. Field rakes shall be wiped down with disinfectant after each use; disposable gloves shall be available for volunteers who prefer to wear them while prepping/closing the field. Once all players have left the field parent volunteers may enter to rake and field and put away the bases.
6. In all pregame and game activities 6' distancing shall be maintained between players and coaches; when this is not feasible the coach and players (if not in the game) shall wear a face covering.
7. Umpires shall wear a face covering during play if behind the catcher. Face coverings are not required for umpires on the field when distancing is possible
8. The plate meetings must maintain 6' distancing and all participants must wear a mask; players shall not participate in plate meetings
9. Managers must wear a mask if within 6' distance when in conversation with the umpire

10. Equipment inspection should be visual if possible [if the umpire needs the player present for visual inspection the player must also wear a face covering], if not the umpire should wear disposable gloves. Gloves must be changed before touching a different player's equipment.
11. During games spectators must remain out of all areas in use by players and stay a minimum of 6' away from the playing field and player areas. Spectators shall maintain 6' distancing from any other spectator not in their immediate household. Face coverings must be worn by spectators if distancing is not observed.

Section V. Presence of COVID symptoms or positive results

1. Should a player or coach develop symptoms at practice they are to put on their face covering, be removed from the field to the bleachers next to where they entered the field, have the parent/guardian contacted for immediate pick-up [if a player], and promptly return home.
 - a. If a player or volunteer leaves a game due to COVID symptoms, the parent or volunteer must contact the Manager and inform him/her regarding the status of said person.
 - b. If said person tested positive for COVID-19, the Manager must contact the BRLL Safety Officer.
2. For all players and volunteers, any positive test results MUST be reported to the BRLL Safety Officer, regardless of if they have showed symptoms at a BRLL activity.
3. All League activities where the positive individual was present and possibly contagious will be identified. Any possible close contacts will also be identified. Close contact is defined as:
 - a. You were within 6 feet of someone who has COVID-19 for a total of 15 minutes or more
 - b. You provided care at home to someone who is sick with COVID-19
 - c. You had direct physical contact with the person (hugged or kissed them)
 - d. You shared eating or drinking utensils
 - e. They sneezed, coughed, or somehow got respiratory droplets on you
4. Participation rosters for those activities will be collected and all participants will be notified
5. Notifications will be in accordance with state and local privacy and confidentiality laws and regulations. County/local health officials will also be notified
6. Per CDC guidance, any individual who has close contact with someone who is/was positive should quarantine for 14 days after the last contact and cannot attend any BRLL functions.
7. Any individual who tests positive and was not severely ill can return to BRLL activities after:
 - a. 10 days since symptoms first appeared **and**
 - b. 24 hours with no fever without the use of fever-reducing medications **and**
 - c. Other symptoms of COVID-19 are improving*

*Loss of taste and smell may persist for weeks or months after recovery and need not delay the end of isolation

Section VI. Violations of the Guidelines

1. A first offense will be addressed through a reminder of the requirements in place at that time.
 - a. Followed up by a written warning with a copy sent to the Board of Directors.
 - b. Any subsequent offense will result in the banning of the person from BRLL activities for the remainder of the season.
2. If there is evidence of COVID transmission through BRLL activities, or widespread noncompliance of the requirements in this RTP Plan, all League activities may be suspended or discontinued.