



# COLONIE LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL

June 10th, 2020

Village of Colonie  
Parks & Recreation  
2 Thunder Road  
Albany, NY 12205

Re: Safely Returning to Play Baseball at Cook Park

Colonie Little League Baseball is one of the oldest and proudest youth sports leagues in the capital district area. Colonie Little League at Cook Park has been servicing its community for 50+ years and is woven into the fabric of many families in our area.

The COVID-19 pandemic presents Little League organizations across the nation with many challenges. We know this outbreak has been stressful to many and recognize that exercising and participating in activities like sports can be a healthy way to cope with stress and connect with our community. After careful thought and planning, Colonie Little League Executive Board intends to pursue forward in playing its 2020 recreational baseball season at Cook Park once we have entered into Phase 4 of NYS reopening plan and received the approval to proceed. We will be following local and state guidelines along with CDC considerations to protect players, families, and our community.

The health and safety of our athletes, staff, volunteers and spectators remain our highest priority. Below, you will find a summary of actions we are taking to help ensure we are lowering COVID-19 risk as much as possible, while also allowing our athletes to play. Any return to competition and implementation of this guidance should be established in conjunction with the relevant local authorities.

### Safety Plan for Colonie Little League at Cook Park

(This document is subject to change and Colonie Little League reserves the right to modify, change this document as required to ensure the safety and health of our community.)

Rev. Date: 07/02/20 / Rev #: 4

	<u>Mandatory</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>
Prior to Leaving Home for Cook Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Anyone planning to visit the baseball fields at Cook Park are recommended to use the health symptom checker on the CDC website to check if you have any symptoms on the CDC list.</li> <li>✓ Parents/family members are to use the CDC health symptom checker to ensure minors do not have a fever or any symptoms on the CDC list</li> </ul>	



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ CDC link - <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html">https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html</a></li> <li>✓ Anyone experiencing symptoms, <u>must stay home.</u></li> </ul>	
Arriving and Entering CLL Baseball Fields at Cook Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ 2 parent per player will be permitted in the park per NYS sports and recreation guidelines.</li> <li>✓ There will be "Designated" entrance for entering the baseball park based the specific level and field your child/player is playing on. Majors / Tee Ball Field – is the front entrance (near clubhouse/main concession stand), Internationals Field – would enter in from middle entrance ( near parking lot dumpster / main shed) Pee Wee and Junior Pee Wee Field – would enter in from furthest entrance (near the small concession stand). Field entry signs will be place at each of the 3 entrances. Please see field map appendix 1 below for more details</li> <li>✓ Safety boards and sanitizer stations will be located at each of 3 designated entrances into fields.</li> <li>✓ <u>EVERYONE</u> entering baseball field are to read and compile with our safety board</li> </ul>	
Practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ 2 parent per player will be permitted in the park per NYS sports and recreation guidelines.</li> <li>✓ Activities would be limited to baseball drills that do not promote or require players or coaches to be within 6 feet of each other</li> <li>✓ Masks to be carried and worn IF anyone needs to be within 6 feet for any reason, such as attending first aid</li> <li>✓ No sharing of equipment, for example baseball glove, baseball bats, batting gloves, cleats, helmets, catching gear, etc.) If equipment is shared (not recommended) it MUST be</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Hand washing or hand sanitizing in absence of soap and water is recommended during practice and when at the baseball field</li> <li>✓ Players are to bring their own baseball equipment for use, however CLL understands this can be a challenge for families in our community, so CLL will be providing some equipment for use. Any equipment used by more than one player will be required to be wiped down</li> </ul>



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	<p>clean/disinfected between uses by different individuals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ No sharing of water or food</li> <li>✓ Sanitizer will be on site in the field area during practices</li> </ul>	<p>with sanitizer between each use.</p>
Games	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ 2 parent per player will be permitted in the park</li> <li>✓ Only uniformed players that day will be permitted into the park</li> <li>✓ 3 coaches on the field.</li> <li>✓ No seeds or gum</li> <li>✓ Sanitizer will be on site in the field area during games</li> <li>✓ No team huddles will be permitted</li> <li>✓ No sharing of equipment, for example baseball glove, baseball bats, batting gloves, cleats, helmets, catching gear, etc.) If equipment is shared (not recommended) it MUST be clean/disinfected between uses by different individuals</li> <li>✓ Teams on offense will have only 1 coach and the current 4 players in the batting order in the dugout. All other players must be outside the dugout socially distanced.</li> <li>✓ Assistant coaches monitor and control players outside of the dugouts</li> <li>✓ Mound visits by the catcher or manager only (Not both). All must remain socially distanced.</li> <li>✓ Home plate ump may call balls and strikes from a position between the pitcher and 2nd base</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Hand washing or hand sanitizing in absence of soap and water is recommended during games and when at the baseball field</li> <li>✓ Players are to bring their own baseball equipment for use, however CLL understands this can be a challenge for families in our community, so CLL will be providing some equipment for use. Any equipment used by more than one player will be required to be wiped down with sanitizer between each use.</li> </ul>
Athletes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Only uniformed players that day will be permitted into the park</li> <li>✓ Individual players may bring food or drink for themselves</li> <li>✓ No seeds or gum</li> <li>✓ No sharing of equipment, for example baseball glove, baseball bats, batting gloves, cleats, helmets, catching gear, etc.) If equipment is to be shared (not</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Hand washing or hand sanitizing in absence of soap and water is recommended during practice, games and when at the baseball field</li> <li>✓ Players are to bring their own baseball equipment for use, however CLL understands this can be a challenge for families</li> </ul>



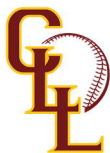
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	recommended) it MUST be clean/disinfected between uses by different individuals	in our community, so CLL will be providing some equipment for use. Any equipment used by more than one player will be required to be wiped down with sanitizer between each use.
Coaches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Coaches are to adhere social distance rule.</li> <li>✓ Coaches are to have a mask/face covering with them and worn IF needs to be within 6 feet for any reason.</li> <li>✓ No sharing of equipment, for example baseball glove, baseball bats, batting gloves, cleats, helmets, catching gear, etc.) If equipment is to be shared (not recommended) it MUST be clean/disinfected between uses by different individuals</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Coaches should ensure players are adhering to social distance guidelines in the dugouts and other seating areas.</li> <li>✓ Hand washing or hand sanitizing in absence of soap and water is recommended during practice, games and when at the baseball field</li> </ul>
Spectators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Spectators/Parents/Family members will be socially distanced and restricted inside the playing areas and dugouts</li> <li>✓ Spectators/Parents/Family members are to have a mask/face covering with them and worn if social distance guidelines can't be maintained</li> <li>✓ Only immediate families/households of players can spectate the game.</li> <li>✓ 2 parent per player will be permitted in the park per NYS sports and recreation guidelines.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Hand washing or hand sanitizing in absence of soap and water is recommended during practice, games and when at the baseball field</li> </ul>
Umpires / Officials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Umpires are to adhere social distance rule when interacting with players, coaches and spectators off the field of play</li> <li>✓ Umpires are to have a mask/face covering with them and worn IF needs to be within 6 feet for any reason.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Hand washing or hand sanitizing in absence of soap and water is recommended during practice, games and when at the baseball field</li> </ul>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Home plate ump <u>may</u> call balls and strikes from a position between the pitcher and 2nd base</li> </ul>	
Leaving CLL Baseball Fields at Cook Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Once a team has completed play, they must leave the park. Please leave through your designated entrance that you entered the fields.</li> </ul>	
Bathroom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ All three bathrooms will be open for use during practices and/or games.</li> <li>✓ Officer on duty is to inspect the bathroom during shift and wipe down areas, remove trash and stock bathroom as required.</li> <li>✓ Managers/Coaches after every practice and/or game are to inspect the bathroom and wipe down areas, remove trash and stock bathroom as required.</li> <li>✓ Visitors/Spectators using bathrooms at the baseball field during practice and/or games are kindly asked to wipe down the areas after use and to notify a league official, officer, team manager and/or coach if bathroom needs attention or supplies.</li> </ul>	
Concession Stand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ At this particular time is not opening, however will see what happens once we hit Phase 4. No cooked food, looking at pre-package food, snacks, drinks, maybe pizza. As an alternative, looking vending machine options.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ As an alternative, looking at more vending machine options for around the field</li> </ul>
Traveling Out State	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <u>EVERYONE</u> is to follow NYS and/or Local Govt recommended guidelines regarding self-quarantine measures when traveling out of state</li> </ul>	
Required Forms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ "Hold Harmless" waivers would be required from all families/players releasing the Village, Town and The CLL League from responsibility from illness</li> </ul>	



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## Timeline

Event	Responsible	Target Date
Volunteers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Responsibilities</li> <li>- Schedule</li> </ul>	✓ finalize officer schedule based on games. Finalize teams and outline officer duties/responsibilities – Secretary - in process	Complete by July 4 <sup>th</sup>
Season Schedule (Tentative)	✓ Finalize teams and upload – Player Agent- completed ✓ Develop game schedule and SI Play upload – VP of Ops - completed	Games start, Saturday July 11th
Drafting of Teams <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Majors</li> <li>- Internationals</li> <li>- Pee Wee</li> </ul>	✓ Completed back in March - Next step is to upload and notify parents	Completed
Managers/Coaches Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Background Checks</li> <li>- Voluntary Form</li> </ul>	✓ Player Agent to schedule team meeting to review rules and get equipment bag – In process ✓ Security Officer – send notifications for background checks/forms – in process	Complete by July 7 <sup>th</sup>
Cook Park Opened <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Fields / Batting Cage</li> <li>- Designated specific field entrances for games</li> <li>- Tables / Garbage Cans</li> <li>- Equipment</li> <li>- Sanitizer Dispensers</li> <li>- Signage</li> </ul>	✓ VP of Fields – prep fields for opening day – in process ✓ Field entrance signs – order – to be hanged ✓ Batting Cage order in cage balls - completed ✓ Equipment bags organized and ready for hand out - completed ✓ Sanitizers dispensers order and at fields - completed	Complete by July 10 <sup>th</sup>
Order Social Distance Signage/Safety Board for entrance	✓ Ordered – looking to received by July 8 <sup>th</sup> – install is next – in process	Complete by July 10 <sup>th</sup>



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PPP Gear - Gloves - Masks - Hand Sanitizer	✓ Ordered and received at the fields	Complete by June 30th 1
Online Tools - Waiver to Play - Medical Release	✓ All items are on website and notifications have been sent. Team managers/Coachs are responsible for collect their respected teams and turn in to league	Complete by July 10th
Complete Reopening Safety Plan	✓ Completed and submitted to Village of Colonie to reopen Cook Park Fields and proceed to return to play - completed	Complete by June 1 <sup>st</sup>

## References:

"2020 Season Resumption Guide" Little League International, <https://www.littleleague.org/player-safety/coronavirus-update/season-resumption-guide/>,

"NYS Reopening Guide and Information on Novel Coronavirus", <https://forward.ny.gov/>

"NYS Reopening Sports and Recreation Guidelines", <https://www.governor.ny.gov/sites/governor.ny.gov/files/atoms/files/SportsAndRecreationSummaryGuidance.pdf>

"CDC Considerations and Guide for Youth Sports", <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/youth-sports.html>



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## Appendix 1: Cook Park: Baseball Field – Traffic Pattern

