**Foundational Statement:**

The following guidelines and modifications were created to allow for the safe participation of Little League-athletes during the COVID-19 Pandemic. The following guidelines follow best practices and recommendations from the CIF, the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS), Tuolumne County Public Health, California Department of Public Health and will continue to remain within the scope of all state and local public health orders.

**General Guidelines**

* Masks should be worn at all times by all individuals participating in the activity, even with heavy exertion as tolerated.
* Social distancing measures shall be in place at all times other than when engaged in competition.
* Limit observation of youth sports (age 18 years and under) to immediate household members, and for the strict purpose of age-appropriate supervision.
* The local Health Department will be notified in the event of any **cross-county competitions** within their jurisdiction and reserve the right under their own discretion to deny the competition at any time in their jurisdiction.
* No tournaments or events involving more than two teams can occur.
* Each team will be limited to one competition per day maximum to be played.

**Event Limitations**

* Adhere to local county guidelines.

Spectators will be limited to observers, as defined by the California Department of Public Health, to the extent needed to provide age-appropriate supervision. <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/outdoor-indoor-recreational-sports.aspx>

**Pre-Game Conference**

* Limit attendees to Head Coach of both teams and game umpires.
* Participants must maintain social distancing protocols during the conference.
* No line-up card exchange.
* No handshakes.

**Team Dugouts**

* Coaches, game personnel and players only permitted in the dugout.
* Social distance requirements must be observed by all in the dugout.
* If the dugout area is not large enough to provide for social distance requirements, players and game personnel may move outside of the immediate dugout area to practice social distance requirements.
* Observers shall not be permitted near the dugouts and/or the immediate area of the dugout.

**Post-Game Procedures**

* Replace handshakes after the game with a social distance acknowledgment of the team’s choosing.

**Official Scorekeeping Area**

* Limited to one (1) person from each team and must observe social distance requirements behind the backstop.

**Equipment Sanitation**

* Each team provides sanitized balls (bucket) while on defense.
* Have a “dirty” ball bucket available, so they can be sanitized after the game.
* Sanitize bases after each game.

**Equipment & Accessories**

* Permissible face coverings are required to be worn at all times by all attendees’ present.
* Players shall utilize their own equipment bin for all personal gear in the dugout.
* Minimize the sharing of playing equipment (bats, batting helmets and catchers gear). Equipment must be sanitized between usage of multiple players.
* Batting gloves are encouraged to minimize contact with bats, balls and bases.
* Sanitize all equipment and accessories after each game.

**Water Bottles & Hydration Stations**

* Team members shall not share water bottles.
* Hydration stations may be utilized but shall be touched only by a single appointed monitor.

**Umpires**

* No line-up card exchanges.
* Observe social distance requirements when communicating with coaches, players and other umpires.
* Face coverings are required at all times.
* Carry hand sanitizer and use frequently.

**Game Personnel Considerations (coaches, players, umpires)**

* No sunflower seeds, spitting or gum.
* Carry hand sanitizer and use frequently.
* If a pitcher puts his/her hands to their mouth and touches the ball, “TIME” is called, the pitcher must sanitize their hands and a new ball is inserted before throwing the next pitch.

**Championships**

* Championships shall be single elimination.
* No pre-game player introduction assemblies on the foul lines.
* Awards ceremonies will be limited to ensure safe social distancing and to minimize mass gatherings.

**Foundational Statement:**

The following guidelines and modifications were created to allow for the safe participation of Girls Fastpitch Softball-athletes during the COVID-19 Pandemic. The following guidelines follow best practices and recommendations from the CIF, the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS), Tuolumne County Public Health, and will continue to remain within the scope of all state and local public health orders.

**General Guidelines**

* Masks should be worn at all times by all individuals participating in the activity, even with heavy exertion as tolerated.
* Social distancing measures shall be in place at all times other than when engaged in practice.
* Observation of practices will be limited to immediate household members, as needed for age-appropriate supervision.
* Number of observers will be created on a location basis to ensure physical distance can be maintained.
* Teams and coaches will remain in specified cohorts.
* Practice schedules will be made to reduce or limit incidents of mixing cohorts.
* Pre-screening and temperature checks of each player will be conducted prior to practice
* Incidents of positive COVID-19 cases will be reported to Public Health and will fall under the Public Health track and trace protocols.
* All participants will need to turn in a signed consent form by a parent/guardian prior to participation in any league activities.

**Team Dugouts**

* Coaches and players only permitted in the dugout.
* Social distance requirements must be observed by all in the dugout.
* If the dugout area is not large enough to provide for social distance requirements, players coaches may move outside of the immediate dugout area to practice social distance requirements.
* Spectators shall not be permitted near the dugouts and/or the immediate area of the dugout.

**Practice Procedures**

* Coaches and players should maintain a six-foot physical distance to limit direct contact with each other when feasible.

**Equipment Sanitation**

* Each team provides own sanitized balls (bucket) for practice.
* Have a “dirty” ball bucket available, so they can be sanitized practice.
* Sanitize bases and equipment after each practice.

**Equipment & Accessories**

* Permissible face coverings are required to be worn at all times by all attendee’s present.
* Players shall utilize their own equipment bin for all personal gear in the dugout.
* Minimize the sharing of playing equipment (bats, batting helmets and catchers gear). Equipment must be sanitized between usage of multiple players.
* Batting gloves are encouraged to minimize contact with bats, balls and bases.
* Sanitize all equipment and accessories after each game.

**Water Bottles & Hydration Stations**

* Team members shall not share water bottles.
* Hydration stations may be utilized but shall be touched only by a single appointed monitor.

**Personnel Considerations (coaches, players, umpires)**

* No sunflower seeds, spitting or gum.
* Carry hand sanitizer and use frequently.

If a pitcher puts his/her hands to their mouth and touches the ball, “TIME” is called, the pitcher must sanitize their hands and a new ball is inserted before throwing the next pitch.

**COVID-19 SAFETY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT -- LIABILITY WAIVER AND RELEASE OF CLAIMS**

**COVID-19 SAFETY INFORMATION:**

While participating in events held or sponsored by the Tuolumne County Girls Fastpitch (TCGF) “social distancing” must be practiced to reduce the risks of exposure to COVID19. Because COVID-19 is extremely contagious and is spread mainly from person-to-person contact, WSLL has put in place preventative measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19. However, TCGF cannot guarantee that its participants, volunteers, partners, or others in attendance will not become infected with COVID-19.

In light of the ongoing spread of COVID-19, individuals who fall within any of the categories below should not engage in TCGF events and/or other face to face activities. By attending an TCGF event, you certify that you do not fall into any of the following categories:

1. Individuals who currently or within the past fourteen (14) days have experienced any symptoms associated with COVID-19, which include fever, cough, and shortness of breath among others;

2. Individuals who have traveled at any point in the past fourteen (14) days internationally; or

3. Individuals who believe that they may have been exposed to a confirmed or suspected case of COVID19 or have been diagnosed with COVID-19 and are not yet cleared as non-contagious by state or local public health authorities or the health care team responsible for their treatment.

**DUTY TO SELF-MONITOR:**

Participants and volunteers agree to self-monitor for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 (symptoms typically include fever, cough, and shortness of breath) and, contact TCGF if he/she experiences symptoms of COVID-19 within 14 days after participating or volunteering with TCGF.

**LIABILITY WAIVER AND RELEASE OF CLAIMS:**

I acknowledge that I derive personal satisfaction and a benefit by virtue of my participation and/or voluntarism with TCGF, and I willingly engage in TCGF events and/or other related activities (the “Activity”).

**RELEASE AND WAIVER.**

I HEREBY RELEASE, WAIVE AND FOREVER DISCHARGE ANY AND ALL LIABILITY, CLAIMS, AND DEMANDS OF WHATEVER KIND OR NATURE AGAINST WEST SIDE LITTLE LEAGUE AND ITS AFFILIATED PARTNERS AND SPONSORS, INCLUDING IN EACH CASE, WITHOUT LIMITATION, THEIR DIRECTORS, OFFICERS, BOARD MEMBERS, EMPLOYEES, VOLUNTEERS, AND AGENTS (THE “RELEASED PARTIES”), EITHER IN LAW OR IN EQUITY, TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMISSIBLE BY LAW, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO DAMAGES OR LOSSES CAUSED BY THE NEGLIGENCE, FAULT OR CONDUCT OF ANY KIND ON THE PART OF THE RELEASED PARTIES, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO DEATH, BODILY INJURY, ILLNESS, ECONOMIC LOSS OR OUT OF POCKET EXPENSES, OR LOSS OR DAMAGE TO PROPERTY, WHICH I, MY HEIRS, ASSIGNEES, NEXT OF KIN AND/OR LEGALLY APPOINTED OR DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVES, MAY HAVE OR WHICH MAY HEREINAFTER ACCRUE ON MY BEHALF, WHICH ARISE OR MAY HEREAFTER ARISE FROM MY PARTICIPATION WITH THE ACTIVITY.

**ASSUMPTION OF THE RISK.** I acknowledge and understand the following:

1. Participation includes possible exposure to and illness from infectious diseases including but not limited to COVID-19. While particular rules and personal discipline may reduce this risk, the risk of serious illness and death does exist:

2. I knowingly and freely assume all such risks related to illness and infectious diseases, such as COVID19, even if arising from the negligence or fault of the Released Parties; and

3. I hereby knowingly assume the risk of injury, harm and loss associated with the Activity, including any injury, harm and loss caused by the negligence, fault or conduct of any kind on the part of the Released Parties.

**MEDICAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND RELEASE**. I acknowledge the health risks associated with the Activity, including but not limited to transient dizziness, lightheaded, fainting, nausea, muscle cramping, musculoskeletal injury, joint pains, sprains and strains, heart attack, stroke, or sudden death. I agree that if I experience any of these or any other symptoms during the Activity, I will discontinue my participation immediately and seek appropriate medical attention. I DO HEREBY RELEASE AND FOREVER DISCHARGE THE RELEASED PARTIES FROM ANY CLAIM WHATSOEVER WHICH ARISES OR MAY HEREAFTER ARISE ON ACCOUNT OF ANY FIRST AID, TREATMENT, OR SERVICE RENDERED IN CONNECTION WITH MY PARTICIPATION IN THE ACTIVITY.

As a participant, volunteer, or attendee, you recognize that your participation, involvement and/or attendance at any West Side Little League event or activity (“Activity”) is voluntary and may result in personal injury (including death) and/or property damage. By attending, observing or participating in the Activity, You acknowledge and assume all risks and dangers associated with your participation and/or attendance at the Activity, and you agree that: (a) TCGF (b) the property or site owner of the Activity, and (c) all past, present and future affiliates, successors, assigns, employees, volunteers, vendors, partners, directors, board members and officers, of such entities (subsections (a) through (c), collectively, the "Released Parties"), will not be responsible for any personal injury (including death), property damage, or other loss suffered as a result of your participation in, attendance at, and/or observation of the Activity, regardless if any such injuries or losses are caused by the negligence of any of the Released Parties (collectively, the "Released Claims"). BY ATTENDING AND/OR PARTICIPATING IN THE ACTIVITY, YOU ARE DEEMED TO HAVE GIVEN A FULL RELEASE OF LIABILITY TO THE RELEASED PARTIES TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW.

Acknowledgement:

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_