

Athens Little League Safety Plan

2023



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Safety Officer

- The role of safety officer is an active board member position for Athens Little League. Matt Tingle will serve as safety officer for Athens Little League in 2022. He is on file with Little League International.

Distribution of Safety Plan

- All board members and team managers will receive a printed copy of this document.
- A copy will also be kept in the concession stand and available for all league volunteers.
- A copy will also be provided to the District Administrator.

Emergency Contacts

- The emergency contact list on the following page will be posted on the league bulletin board kept outside the concession stand.
- There is an emergency call button located between fields 1 and 2 at the complex that will immediately notify 911 dispatch when activated.

ATHENS LITTLE LEAGUE EMERGENCY CONTACTS

EMERGENCY

Athens Police/Fire/EMT: 911
Emergency Call Button between Fields 1 and 2

AAPCC Poison Control Center: (800) 222-1222

Non-Emergency Contact Numbers

Athens Police - Non-Emergency 706 613-3330
Athens Fire Dept. - Non-Emergency 706 613-3360

Holland Youth Sports Complex 706 613-3604
250 Vincent Drive
Athens, GA, 30607

Directions: From the Athens By-Pass (on the North side of Athens) exit onto Chase Street. Turn North (outside the perimeter, away from downtown Athens) and drive approximately .3 of a mile to the intersection of Chase Street and Newton Bridge Road (traffic light). Turn left onto Newton Bridge Road and travel approximately 1.4 miles. Turn left onto Vincent Drive and drive approximately .2 mile and turn right into the Holland Youth Sports Complex.

Area Hospitals

Piedmont Athens Regional Medical Center. 706 475-7000
1199 Prince Avenue
Athens, GA, 30606

St Mary's Hospital. 706 389-3000
1230 Baxter Street
Athens, GA

UTILITIES

Power-Jackson EMC706-367-5281
City of Athens Water Dept. 706 613-3500

Athens Little League – Board Members 2022

President	Carrie Kelly
Outgoing President	Matt Bishop
Incoming President	Amanda Tingle
Vice President	Tyler Smith
Vice President	Brad Beasley
Vice President	Shane Walls
Vice President	Lori Newcomer
Vice President	Patrick Rodriguez
Vice President	Patrick Cates
Vice President	Michael Law
Secretary	Tim Kelly
Treasurer	Mary Eberhard
Player Agents	Albert Jimenez
	Joe Dennis
League Information	Shane Walls/Traci Hudson
Officer Safety Officer	Matt Tingle
Concession Manager	Carl Blount
Equipment Manager	Scott Miller
Uniform Manger	Louis Bailey
Sponsorship VP	Scott Eady
Long Term Planning	Blaine Williams
LL Liaison	David Barbe
Coaching Coordinator	Haynes Roberts
League Officer Other	Todd Krohn
Player/ Coach	Matt Pruitt
Development	

Volunteer Application Forms

- All league volunteers must complete a 2022 JDP background check.
- League volunteers include managers, coaches, board members, team parents, and anyone else that has regular contact with our players.
- Background checks will be run annually on all volunteers per Little League International requirements.
- League president will have access to the JDP website.
- Anyone refusing to fill out a Volunteer Application will be ineligible to participate.

Coaching Clinics

We have several informational meetings scheduled for our established and prospective coaches:

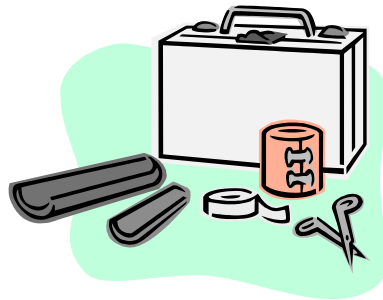
- Coaches informational meeting. In addition to providing organizational information for the upcoming season, coaching tips and fundamentals will be presented by our league coaching coordinators,.



Safety and First Aid Training

All of our managers and coaches will be required to complete a back ground check, concussion training and mandated reporting training.

- We will address the child abuse mandated reporting laws.
- Lightning Safety will be discussed.
- We will discuss AED location and usage and coach informational meetings.
- Each manager will be given a printed or electronic copy of this safety plan.
- Each team will be provided with a first aid kit.
- Each team manager will collect medical release forms that lists emergency contact numbers and significant medical history. The manager should have these forms available at all team practices and games.
- We are making sure to accommodate for children with severe food allergies.
- All of our league volunteers will be encouraged to complete CoachSafely Training.



Field Inspection

- Coaches will be responsible for inspecting playing fields before any practices or games to identify any unsafe hazards or conditions.
- Unsafe playing conditions will be reported to umpires prior to starting any games.
- Any field maintenance or repair issues should be reported immediately to the Holland Park staff at 706 613-3604.
- Any field issue that cannot be quickly resolved by the park staff should be reported to the league president or VP of the league affected by the issue.
- Potential issues with field conditions to inspect include but are not limited to:
 - ❖ Holes, damage, rough or uneven spots
 - ❖ Slippery Areas
 - ❖ Glass, rocks and other debris & foreign objects
 - ❖ Damage to screens or fences
 - ❖ Unsafe conditions around backstop
 - ❖ Unsafe conditions around_pitcher's mound
 - ❖ Lighting levels
 - ❖ Bases properly installed (able to disengage from their anchors)
 - ❖ Dugouts inspected for hazards, insects, bees, wasps, etc.

2022 Facility Survey

- A field assessment has been done by Athens-Clarke County.
- Our board has developed a priority list for needed facility improvements.
- Members of our board have met with city officials to address the master plan of the Holland Sports complex to address our needs for potential future growth of the league.

Equipment Inventory and Inspection

- League Board Members complete an annual inventory and inspection of all league issued team equipment.
- League issued equipment includes batting helmets, catcher's equipment, and catcher's mitt.
- Catchers' masks are required to have throat guards.
- Any equipment that is no longer considered safe for use is discarded.
- League pitching machines are inspected and serviced prior to the season and as needed during the season.
- Umpires check to see that all players are properly equipped prior to the start of every game.

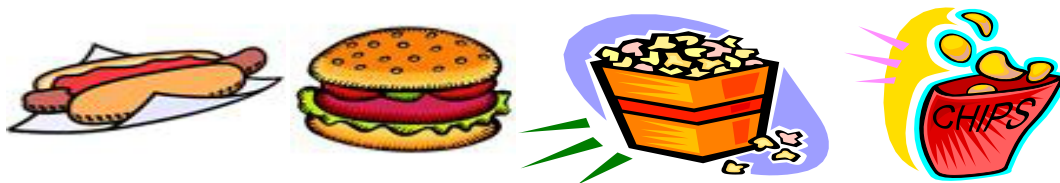
Concession Stand Safety

Our concession stand is in the center of all the action, and gets rave reviews from veteran and new league members as well as any visitors. Directions and procedures are provided for all stand equipment.

One board member position is dedicated specifically for oversight and management of concession stand operations.

Concession stand procedures specific to safety are listed below:

- No person under the age of 14 will be allowed in the concession stand.
- There will be at least one person trained in safe food preparation and safe use of equipment.
- Cooking equipment will be inspected periodically and repaired or replaced if need be.
- Propane tanks will be turned off at the grill and at the tank after use.
- Only foods from approved food sources will be sold in the concession stand.
- A certified and inspected fire extinguisher will be placed in plain sight.
- A fully stocked first aid kit will be available in the concession stand.
- Proper hand washing techniques will be prominently posted inside the stand. (See Appendix)
- Those persons handling unpackaged food will wear disposable gloves.
- Food will be stored and held at health code temperatures.
- Only healthy individuals will be allowed to work in the concession stand.



Little League Insurance

- Little League has an insurance program to afford protection to all participants at the most economical cost to the local league.
- The Little League Player Accident Policy is an excess coverage, accident only plan, to be used as a supplement to any personal health insurance or group insurance provided by the parent's employer.
- If there is no primary (personal or employer provided) coverage available, Little League will provide benefits for eligible charges, up to usual and customary charges, after a \$50 deductible per claim up to the maximum stated benefits.
- **IMPORTANT:** Notification of a claim should be filed with Little League International within 20 days of the accident.

Accident and Incident Reporting

- The Little League Accident Notification Form (claim form) should be completed by parents and a league official within 20 days after the accident.
- As Holland Park is operated by Athens –Clarke County Leisure services, a “Leisure Services Incident Report should be completed and sent to the City Safety and Risk Department if Appropriate.
- Managers/Coaches should also complete “A Safety Awareness Program’s Incident/Injury Tracking Report” to document any incidents that may lead to a future claim being filed.
- These incident reports should also report “near-misses” that can be tracked to avoid future incidents.
- Incident reports should be forwarded to the safety officer within 24 hours of the incident.
- Safety officer will collect incident reports and report any identified trends to the board to discuss action needed to prevent future injuries.
- All forms are available in the concession stand.
- Claim forms can also be found on our local website athenslittleleague.org or the Little League International website.



First Aid Kits

- Each team will receive a fully stocked first aid kit issued with their team equipment.
- The concession stand also has a fully stocked first aid kit. However, as the concession stand is not always open during all team practice times, each team should have their own first aid kit available.
- Managers should keep their team issued first aid kit along with the team equipment, and have available for all practices and games.
- Team issued first aid kits should be turned in at the end of the season to be re-stocked for next year.

Little League Rule Enforcement

- Athens Little League has a long standing tradition of adhering to all established Little League rules. We will continue this in 2023.
- All team managers will be provided with an Athens Little League manager Handbook that has been approved by the board including our local ground rules for each of our levels of play.
- All team managers are issued Little League rule books and are expected to understand and follow all rules.
- Little League moratorium on composite bats will be strictly enforced. Only approved bats will be allowed for use in practice and games.
- Pitch count limitations by age will be closely monitored. Managers are required to keep accurate pitching affidavits to track pitching history and eligibility.
- Coaches and parents will be urged to use common sense in promoting safety awareness.
- All parents and coaches will be asked to acknowledge the parent's code of conduct.

Lightning Safety:

Our first priority is to keep the kids safe. NOAA has the following guidelines in place (Little League policy is the same):

1. If you hear thunder you are in danger. Thunder means you are close enough to have an immediate lightning threat to your location. You should immediately postpone or suspend activities.
2. Stay away from metal bleachers, backstops, fences. Dugouts are not safe. Avoid open locations, stay away from trees, towers and utility poles. You should get out of the outdoors! Buildings are safest; cars can offer good protection but keep windows closed and avoid touching any metal.
3. NOAA advises do not resume activities until **30 minutes AFTER** the last thunder was heard.
4. Plan ahead. Know where people are to go for safety. Advise them if play is suspended and when they may come back.
5. Our park has a lightning alert system.

Child Abuse and Reporting Procedures

Reporting of child abuse is mandated by the State Laws of Georgia as listed in the Official Code of Georgia Annotated.19-7-5. The purpose of this code is for the protection of children whose health and welfare are adversely affected and further threatened by the conduct of those responsible for their care and protection. This law is to protect children from abuse, neglect, exploitation, and sexual abuse. Child service organization personnel (meaning those employed by or volunteering at a business or an organization whether public private, for profit, not for profit or voluntary, that provides care, treatment, education, training, supervision, coaching, counseling, recreational programs, or shelters to children are all responsible to follow the procedures for reporting any such child abuse. Failure to do so is in violation of the law.

Although not required, a free online course can be accessed through www.gocftrainingonline.com/ or www.prosolutiontraining.com.

Concussions in Youth Athletes

Currently, Georgia has no law or pending legislation regarding concussions; however Little League baseball encourages its leagues to familiarize themselves with the information and resources available to them to know how to recognize potential signs. The bottom line is if you suspect a concussion you should remove that child from play immediately and seek medical attention.