



Westborough Little League & Softball



Safety Policy

Last updated: March 2024

This policy serves to document Westborough Little League & Softball (WLL&S)'s safety policies which includes Coach Requirements/Training, Concussion Policy, and Injury Reports. The safety and well-being of all participants in our baseball and softball programs is paramount and WLL&S takes the below seriously. This policy, and the linked documentation, will be reviewed by Baseball and Softball board members on an annual basis, and updates made as necessary.

1. Coach Requirements/Training

- Baseball: All Coaches/volunteers will be required to complete Little League International's online annual background check. More information on the process and information to be collected can be found on the [Little League Website](#).
- Baseball & Softball: There is an additional requirement for all coaches/volunteers to complete a Massachusetts "criminal offender record information (CORI)" form once every three (3) years.
- The results of the annual background check and the CORI form are reviewed and WLL&S follows the "Offenses that Prohibit Participation" as outlined in the [Little League Child Protection Program](#).
- Abuse Awareness – Baseball: follows USA Baseball's BASE (Baseball Athlete Safety Education) program is a zero-tolerance campaign for any type of abuse within the sport of baseball. All Little League coaches and volunteers are required to complete the Abuse Awareness for Adults course. Coaches will be provided the training link and completion will be tracked. WLL&S prohibits retaliation on "good faith" reports on child abuse. Further, this policy limits one-on-one contact with minors.
- Abuse Awareness – Softball: Any coach of a softball team that is registered with USA Softball for tournament play will be required to complete SafeSport training program which is found on the RegisterUSA Softball website. Any other league specific requirements (e.g. TVL) will be followed. WLL&S prohibits retaliation on "good faith" reports on child abuse. Further, this policy limits one-on-one contact with minors.
- Annually, as outlined in the Westborough Little League Safety Plan, a coach training will be held to review the Coach Requirements/Training, Concussion Policy, and Injury Reports. The training will also review field and equipment safety as well as a first aid overview. Coaches should collect the [Medical Release Form](#) for all players.

2. Concussion Policy

- WLL&S utilizes the information provided via the Center for Disease Control's "[CDC HEADS UP](#)" program which provides details on how to identify a possible concussion and steps to take if a possible concussion is identified.
- WLL&S follows the CDC's HEADS UP Concussion Action Plan; an athlete should only return to play with permission from a health care professional, who is experienced in evaluating for a concussion.
- The CDC's HEADS UP documentation is linked on the WLL&S website, referenced in the Westborough Little League Safety Plan, and reinforced through the annual coach training. WLL&S makes the CDC HEADS UP online concussion training program available to all coaches/volunteers.

3. Injury Reports

- In the event that someone gets hurt at a game, WLL&S requires the completion of the [WLL&S Injury Report Form](#).