



A Little Common Sense About Safety

From a Million Little League Volunteers

INTRODUCTION

Safety ideas, safety ideas, safety ideas.

If you've been involved with ASAP for more than a month, you've probably heard the term "safety ideas" many times.

The newsletter begs for them. Send in your safety ideas, call in your safety ideas, fax in your safety ideas, E-Mail your safety ideas.

Well, here's the payoff. This booklet contains more than 180 ideas from leagues in 31 states, proof that the network of safety officers created by ASAP is producing results.

Maybe ASAP has provided an idea for your league in the last year. Maybe you've provided an idea for someone else.

Either way, Little League Baseball and Musco Lighting would like to thank you for your involvement in the program and challenge you to keep up the good work.

By the way, if your ideas were left out, we apologize. As always, we ask that you simply call the ASAP Hotline and let us know your thoughts. . .

There we go, asking for safety ideas again.

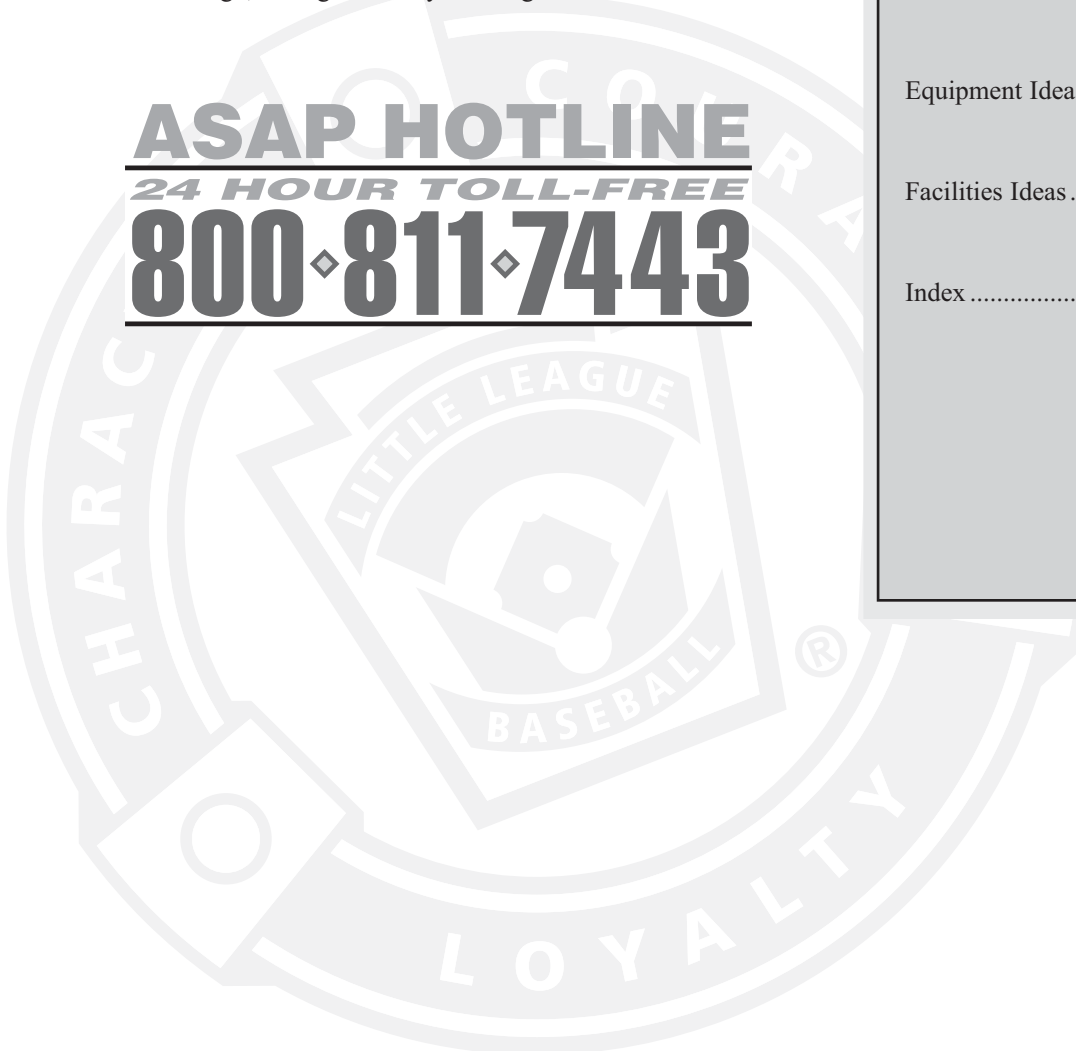
ASAP HOTLINE
24 HOUR TOLL-FREE
800-811-7443

*"It is just amazing
the ideas that come
through."*

*Butch Faber
District 6 – Wisconsin*

CONTENTS

Activities Ideas	3.1
Equipment Ideas	3.15
Facilities Ideas	3.20
Index	3.30



Activities

EDUCATION . . .

Hold an instructional and safety minicamp at the beginning of the season.

*Groves National LL – Texas
Oakland LL – Maryland*

A local chiropractor held seminars for the league on proper stretching techniques and injury prevention.

Murietta Valley American LL – California

Members of the local Double-A professional team taught our kids about the dangers of drugs and alcohol.

Minersville LL – Pennsylvania

Create a safety manual for all managers.

Upland National LL – California

We made a community safety awareness opening day. We're making it community-wide to get more people involved in our league.

SW Norwalk LL – California

We make sure to promote the safety materials provided by Little League. The "Safety Code" is excellent.

SAFETY CODE FOR LITTLE LEAGUE

- Responsibility for safety procedures should be that of an adult member of the local league.
- Arrangements should be made in advance of all games and practices for emergency medical services.
- Managers, coaches and umpires should have some training in first-aid. First-Aid Kit should be available at the field.
- No games or practice should be held when weather or field conditions are not good, particularly when lighting is inadequate.
- Play area should be inspected frequently for holes, damage, glass and other foreign objects.
- Dugouts and bat racks should be positioned behind screens.
- Only players, managers, coaches, and umpires are permitted on the playing field during play and practice sessions.
- Responsibility for keeping bats and loose equipment off the field of play should be that of a regular player assigned for this purpose.
- Procedure should be established for retrieving foul balls batted out of the playing area.
- During practice and games, all players should be alert and watching the batter on each pitch.
- During warm-up drills players should be spaced so that no one is endangered by wild throws or missed catches.
- Equipment should be inspected regularly. Make sure it fits properly.
- Batters must wear approved protective helmets during practice, and during games.
- Catchers must wear catcher's helmet, mask, throat protector, long model chest protector, shin-guards and male catchers must wear a protective supporter at all times.
- Except when runner is returning to a base, head first slides are not permitted. (12 years old and under.)
- During sliding practice bases should not be strapped down and should be located away from the base anchoring system.
- At no time should "horse play" be permitted on the playing field.
- Parents of players who wear glasses should be encouraged to provide "Safety Glasses."
- Players must not wear watches, rings, pins, jewelry or other metallic items.
- Catchers must wear catcher's helmet and mask with a throat protector in warming up pitchers. This applies between innings and in bull pen practice.

District 3 – Michigan

One of our local physical therapists came down and gave a talk on pitching technique and stretching, along with some ideas on arm strengthening.

Reynolds LL – Pennsylvania

Education . . .

Tell your coaches to watch for kids that might need their eyes checked. If a kid continually misses the ball, it could be that his eyes are bad and he doesn't know it.

District 4 – Virginia

Put an article about safety in each issue of the league newsletter.

Abbott 'O' Rabbit LL – Alaska

The “Keep 'Em Safe” video was shown at the first general meeting of the year.

Northeast Garden Grove LL – California

Each practice will include 20 minutes of safety training for the kids on subjects like safe sliding, bat handling and proper use of safety equipment.

District 46 – California

We required all of our teams to have at least two adult volunteers, be they coaches or parents, certified in first aid and CPR.

Reynolds LL – Pennsylvania

Each year most of our leagues develop a “coaches’ package.” As part of this, we’ve developed the “Ten Commandments of Safety.”

TEN COMMANDMENTS OF SAFETY

- 
- I. BE ALERT!
 - II. CHECK PLAYING FIELD FOR SAFETY HAZARDS
 - III. WEAR PROPER EQUIPMENT
 - IV. ENSURE EQUIPMENT IS IN GOOD SHAPE
 - V. ENSURE FIRST AID IS AVAILABLE
 - VI. MAINTAIN CONTROL OF THE SITUATION
 - VII. MAINTAIN DISCIPLINE
 - VIII. SAFETY IS A TEAM SPORT
 - IX. BE ORGANIZED
 - X. HAVE FUN!
- 

District 4 – Virginia

Our managerial and coaching staff will attend a seminar on children's sports injuries.

Washington Township – Pennsylvania

Activities

Education . . .

We developed a code of ethics for all participants to follow as part of our commitment to provide for the emotional “safety” of our players.

-Northside Suburban LL

We encourage the managers or coaches to talk to the rest of the team when an injury occurs. Often players are upset and worried when another player is injured. They need to feel safe and understand why the incident occurred.

-Missouri Valley East LL - Missouri



We established a safety banner program to promote safety. They're donated by different organizations and hung up at each field.

Crystal Lake National LL - Illinois

A Safety Clinic will be offered to all children of the league.

Blackwood Kiwanis LL - New Jersey

“Stranger Danger” program was implemented to stress the dangers of accepting rides from strangers.

Ashley-Newtown LL - Pennsylvania

We used information from the Internet to gain further information about safety.

*South Beaches LL - Florida
Nyack-Valley Cottage - New York*

The Safety Director will hold a mandatory mid-season meeting with all division directors and coaches to discuss injuries and review preventive measures.

North Springs LL - Florida

The player whose safety suggestion was deemed “suggestion of the year” will receive a \$100 savings bond.

Nyack-Valley Cottage LL - New York

A Little Common Sense About Safety

Education . . .

As Safety Director for the Buckingham Little League, let me say THANKS to Musco for the ASAP program, the monthly newsletters, and to all the leagues who continue to write and give their own helpful hints in keeping us all safer.

Buckingham LL - Florida

I used a local physical therapist as a resource for teaching coaches and managers about stretching, recognizing overuse injuries, evaluating players' return from injury and pitching techniques from an injury prevention standpoint.

North Issaquah - Washington

During the season we had a safety poster contest. Each division had the opportunity to have one winner. Each winning team received a free pizza party. This contest was held to push safety awareness.

North Anaheim LL - California

We issued a window cling sticker to each player at registration to let everyone know our commitment to safety. The kids loved them!



Bolingbrook Associated LL - Illinois

Safety parents are given a packet of information which includes:

- Introduction and thank you letter
- District and league inspection rules & tips
- Safety check-out form for pre-game registration
- Preliminary accident report forms
- Suggested items for first aid kit
- Instructions on assembling a blood borne pathogens clean-up kit
- First aid guidelines on "When to Call for Aid."

Foster Little League - Washington

I made umpire guideline cards and had them laminated for the umpires.

North Issaquah LL - Washington

Managers shall give extra attention and training to players whose physical handicap, lack of coordination or experience might make them susceptible to injury.

North Issaquah LL - Washington

Activities

Education . . .

Parents with cellular phones are encouraged to bring them to games and practices in case of emergencies.

Abbott 'O' Rabbit LL – Alaska

Maps to all fields and practice locations were provided to the fire department.

Harney LL – South Dakota

All managers are CPR and first aid certified.

Several leagues

Have one parent or coach certified to teach CPR and then he or she can teach the rest of the league.

Sahuaro LL – Arizona

The sheriff's department talked about drug and alcohol abuse and what to do in emergency situations such as finding old needles.

Nederland North LL – Texas

Educate coaches and parents on the dangers of riding in the back of pickup trucks.



Several leagues and districts

Leagues can work with school health teachers, physical education instructors and coaches to develop safety awareness programs that are taught in the schools and to the leagues.

District 3 – New York

Inside our first aid kits we have directions on how to get to the field. Also, we have directions to the nearest urgent care facilities.

Reynolds LL – Oregon

A Little Common Sense About Safety

Education . . .

The local police department came to fingerprint our kids.

Lampeter-Strasburg LL – Pennsylvania

We opened the doors of our Emergency Management Training Program to all the leagues in our district.

Vista American LL – California

Don't put kids' names on the back of their jerseys. It could increase the risk of abduction.

District 4 – Virginia

Every coach is given a copy of "Play It Safe."

Nederland South LL – Texas

Make sure that all league personnel know how to contact EMS rescue personnel.

District 10 – Florida

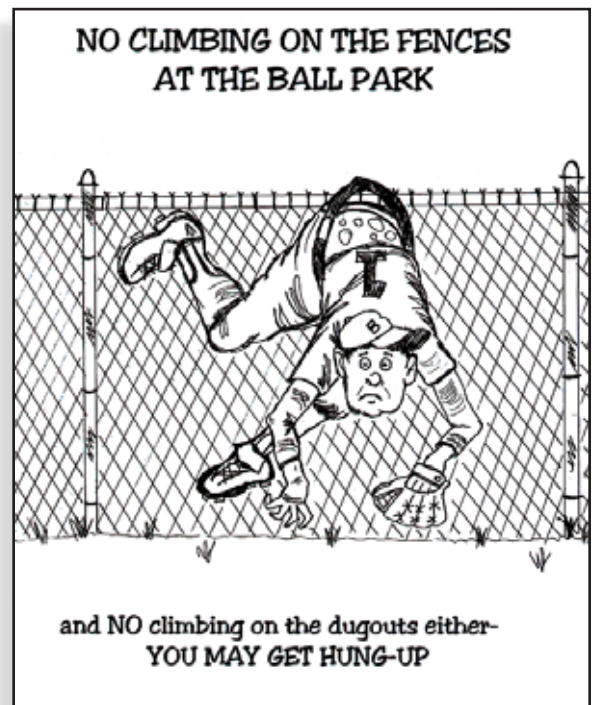
We held a safety poster contest to increase kids' awareness of safety.

We're committed to having 50 people trained in Little League's Emergency Management Training Program course.

Millsboro LL – Delaware

In the future, each of our fields will have a 4' x 4' billboard expressing the importance of safety.

Darlington American LL – Rhode Island



*Blackwood Kiwanis LL – New Jersey
Peninsula LL – California*

Activities

Education . . .

Rather than reinventing the wheel, we refined and implemented the safety program of a league in our district who won the national ASAP award.

Fletcher Hills LL – California

Encourage parents to teach children safety awareness.

Medford American LL – Oregon

Each team in each division provides a safety ambassador to instruct and nurture the division below them. They are to present themselves as a role model to younger children.

Benson LL – Nebraska

Each player is issued a Safety Patrol membership card to make them all aware that safety is #1.

Santee Pioneer National – California

ASAP is presented to managers on draft night.

Middlebury LL – Indiana

Provide mail slots at the ballpark for all managers where they can receive regular safety reminders.



South Beaches LL – Florida

Safety parents hold a five minute safety meeting with the team each week.

Antioch LL – California

Hold an umpire clinic before the season. Walk all umpires to the field and explain the proper places to stand, how to keep from blocking a player's view.

Federal LL – Florida

A Little Common Sense About Safety

Education . . .

Tell coaches of minor and T-ball players to be alert to kids in the outfield who tend to not pay attention to the play.

Clendinin LL – West Virginia

Our district safety officer called a meeting of all the safety officers in our district. As a result, other leagues are using all or part of our manual.

Millsboro LL – Delaware

We actively recruit volunteers from local senior citizen organizations to assist in concession stands, operating scoreboards, and act as team grandparents for T-ball and instructional leagues.

Westville LL – New Jersey

The crash test dummies appeared at our safety meeting.

Peninsula LL – California

Before managers can sign out their equipment, they are required to attend a meeting that covers proper warm up and stretching.

Bolingbrook Associated LL – Illinois

We displayed a banner to show players and visiting teams that safety is our first priority.



South Beaches LL – Florida

Note: South Beaches Little League won 1996's Best Safety Program award.

Educate coaches on the importance of wearing safety glasses and helmets while operating pitching machines.

Roger Allen LL – New Hampshire

Because of the new on-deck rule, we have posted "no on-deck" signs on our fences.

Ashley-Newtown LL – Pennsylvania

We have a bulletin board in our clubhouse where we post clippings of safety ideas.

Pallisades Park LL – New Jersey

Activities

Compliance...

The safety officer will visit each team periodically to ensure that safety regulations are being followed.

Pembroke Pine Optimist LL – Florida

Only league approved coaches are allowed to practice teams.

San Mateo LL – Florida

We've developed an umpire card that highlights the items to discuss with the coaches in the pregame meeting at home plate.

Pembroke Pine Optimist LL – Florida

We use positive reinforcement safety tokens to reward coaches and players who identify safety problems. The tokens are redeemable at the concession stand.

Our safety checklist is given out during a mid-year coaches meeting. It's another way for us to remind everyone to keep thinking about safety.

District 4 – Virginia



Lakeside American LL – California

Note: This idea was one of the reasons Lakeside American won 1995's Best Safety Program award.

Issue written safety citations to coaches for unsafe actions. Three strikes and you're out!

Plaza LL – California

We installed a misting system in our two permanent dugouts which can be dismantled at the end of the season. The estimated reduction in dugout temperature is 20°

West Redding LL - California

A Little Common Sense About Safety

Compliance . . .

All equipment must be inspected before every game by both managers and the umpire using our “Safety Inspection Sheet.”

District 28 – California

If a heat wave hits, rent commercial fans, keep cold rags in the dugout and take a 10-minute break after the third inning.

Benson LL – Nebraska

Proper equipment is required for “pick-up” games at team picnics or gatherings.

District 5 – Washington

Leave a blank for “parent occupation” on registration forms. Those parents with medical or safety backgrounds are asked to volunteer for the safety committee.

Abbott ‘O’Rabbit LL – Alaska

Managers are required to fill out a pregame safety check card before every game.

Berkeley Little League–Pregame Checklist	
Team: _____	Date: _____
Field: _____	Teams Phone Numbers: _____
Field Conditions: _____ Playing Field, Bases, Benches, Fences, Bleachers	
Helmets: _____	Bats: _____ Spike Check: _____
Catchers: _____ Chest Protector, Helmet, Mask, Shin Guards, Cup	
First Aid Box: _____ Ice Packs, Cleansing Packs, Band Aids, Bee Sting, Accident Reports, Rubber Gloves, Change for Phone	
Emergency Phone Numbers: _____	Manager Signature: _____

Berkeley LL – New Jersey

At each monthly Little League board meeting, safety rules and improvements are discussed and implemented.

Brockton-West LL – Massachusetts

I got our medical information forms printed up with carbonless paper. The coaches keep the original copy and the carbon copy is kept in a central file in our canteen.

Teaneck LL – New Jersey

Activities

Compliance . . .

We developed a team safety rating card for each team to fill out after a game. Safety points are accumulated throughout the season and good safety performance is rewarded with a year-end pizza party.

Team Safety Rating				
Team _____	T-Ball	Minor U-10	Minor	Major
RATING:	1	2	3	4 5
FIELD INSPECTION:	Yes	No		
INJURY:	Yes	No		
	Player	Coach	Spectator	Umpire
	Bat Throwing		Sliding	
	Helmet Wear		Equipment	
COMMENTS:	_____			

Sundown LL – California

We're working with the local optical departments in providing discounts for safety glasses.

Ashley-Newtown LL – Pennsylvania

Safety parents pick up an air horn before each game to blow in case of emergency.

Peninsula LL – California

At all levels of tournament play, any time the temperature or heat factor is above 90 degrees, all players of all ages and all divisions will rest after the second inning and fourth inning a full five minutes.

Palos Hills LL – Illinois

One member of the board is responsible for monitoring the weather and the lightning detector each night. That person makes the call to cease play until weather conditions improve.

Palisades Park LL – New Jersey

Coaches have been told not to carry more children in their vehicle than they have seat belts for.

Pinecrest LL – Florida

In our state it is a law that all bicyclists under 16 must wear a helmet. We will post this law at all our fields.

Clackamas LL – Oregon

A Little Common Sense About Safety

Compliance . . .

Umpires will be designated “Acting Safety Officers” of games they officiate.

Pacifica National LL – California

No bats and balls are permitted on the field until all players have done their proper stretching.

Williamson LL – West Virginia

Make sure players and spectators keep their fingers out of the fencing.

Clackamas LL – Oregon

Establish a safety monitor or team safety parent to help coaches monitor and improve safety during games and practices.

District 2 – Nevada

In my district, all my pitchers when warming up in practice wear batting helmets so they won’t be hit by fielders taking infield.

District 2 – New York

Ask each team to appoint a safety patrol person.

Statham LL – Georgia

City ordinance to keep dogs out of the park was posted and the ordinance is strictly enforced.

West Haven American/National LL – Connecticut

Two parents from each team retrieve foul balls during games.

District 18 – Florida

Coaches do not leave until every boy and girl is picked up.

Page LL – Arizona

When the heat becomes excessive (95 degrees or above) we will observe a 10 minute break at the end of the third inning of play. This will be enforced! Coaches and umpires should address this in a pre-game conference.

Princeton Youth Baseball - Illinois

Activities

Compliance . . .

We purchased 8 Camelback hydration systems for our umpires to prevent heat illness.

West Redding LL - California

Each league is developing a postcard with a checklist for coaches to report accidents. Cards are pre-addressed to the safety officer.

District 1 – New Hampshire

As part of our maintenance policy, maintenance operations should not be done by a lone individual. There should always be another person present in case of an injury or accident.

East Jefferson LL - Washington

At the end of each year we discuss the following questions—“Did anything happen this season that could have been prevented?” “Was anything seen that could have been potentially unsafe?”

Fleming-Neon LL – Kentucky

REPORTING . . .

We’ve instigated a voice messaging system on our league phone so that safety issues can be conveyed immediately to the league safety officer.

North Everett LL – Washington

We include incident report forms in our Safety Handbook.

Benson LL – Nebraska

Track all injuries and near misses in order to identify injury trends.

Several leagues and districts

We have notices posted in the dugout that any player who spots something unsafe or has helped correct a safety problem goes to our stand, tells what they’ve done, and gets a free soft drink.

Southeast LL – Texas

The safety officers in my district will visit each other’s leagues to allow a fresh perspective on safety.

District 15 – Virginia

Our accident form included a space for how this accident could be prevented in the future.

Santee Pioneer National – California

A Little Common Sense About Safety

Reporting . . .

Start a reporting system from each team to the league safety officer to review accidents, near accidents, and safety ideas. Devote a minimum of 20 minutes of the monthly general meeting to review this information.

District 46 – California

PRELIMINARY ACCIDENT REPORT (Little League Use Only) LITTLE LEAGUE I.D. # _____							
NAME (Injured) _____	DATE: _____						
ADDRESS: _____	PHONE: _____						
CITY: _____	ZIP: _____						
1. No treatment needed <input type="checkbox"/> First aid at field <input type="checkbox"/> To doctor <input type="checkbox"/> To hospital <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/>							
DIVISION IN WHICH ACCIDENT OCCURRED:							
MINOR	LLBB	JRBB	SRBB	BLBB	LLSB	SRSB	BLSB
TYPE OF ACCIDENT:							
Struck by:		Collision with:		Other:			
1. Pitched ball	<input type="checkbox"/>	5. Other player	<input type="checkbox"/>	8. Tripped	<input type="checkbox"/>		
2. Batted ball	<input type="checkbox"/>	6. Fence	<input type="checkbox"/>	9. Fell	<input type="checkbox"/>		
3. Thrown ball	<input type="checkbox"/>	7. Backstop	<input type="checkbox"/>	10. Over-exertion	<input type="checkbox"/>		
4. Bat	<input type="checkbox"/>			11. Hit dirt too hard while sliding	<input type="checkbox"/>		
ACCIDENT CAUSES:							
UNSAFE CONDITIONS:				yes	no		
1. Uneven field surface, such as holes, humps, etc.				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
2. Foreign objects, such as glass, rakes, stones, bottles, etc.				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
3. Congestion during practice or games				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
4. Weather conditions, such as rain, sun, darkness				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
5. Lack of, or poor-fitting, protective equipment.				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
6. Other: _____				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
UNSAFE ACTS:				yes	no	yes	no
1. Mishandled ball	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	9. Poor running form	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Mishandled bat	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	10. Wild pitch	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Poor evasive action	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	11. Wild throw	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Incorrect sliding form	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	12. Wild swing with bat	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Not watching the ball	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	13. Distracted	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Awkward position	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	14. Lack of attention	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Player out of position	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	15. Horseplay	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Lack of grip on bat	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	16. Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brief statement of what happened: _____							
NOTE: This form is for Little League purposes only. When an accident happens obtain as information as possible. Send a copy of this form to Little League Headquarters in Williamsport attention Dan Kirby, Insurance Department. Also provide your District Safety officer with a copy for District files.							
THE REASON FOR THIS FORM IS TO ESTABLISH A RECORD OF ALL ACCIDENTS PRIOR TO ANY LAWSUITS AND TO PROVIDE THE LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL WITH ADVANCE INFORMATION.							

The safety officer will track preseason and season practices weekly to make sure managers are following “Play It Safe” guidelines.

Paradise LL South – California

Each first aid kit includes a sheet where coaches could track accidents throughout the year. This will allow us to identify hazards and areas where we need improvement.

Visalia National LL – California

Former accident claims are pulled out and reviewed to find unsafe areas we may have missed.

West Salem LL - Oregon

An emergency card for each child was completed at registration listing home phone and emergency numbers, doctor’s and hospital names; permission to use ambulance and pertinent health information (allergies, health conditions, etc.). One copy went to the child’s coach, the other in the league file.

Ashley-Newtown LL - Pennsylvania

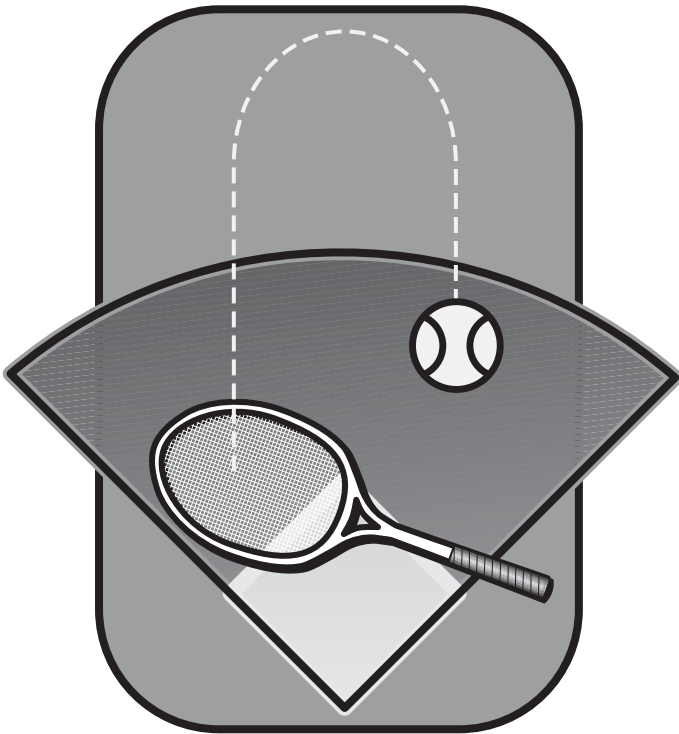
We require a medical release to play following a player’s injury before he’s allowed to return to ensure the player has been evaluated and fully recovered from his injury.

CALN Township - Pennsylvania

Equipment

EDUCATION . . .

We use tennis rackets and tennis balls during practices to allow kids to learn proper fundamentals without the fear of injury from a hard baseball.



Gilroy National LL – California

We provided safety posters and examples of safety equipment at signups.



Dixie LL – Virginia

COMPLIANCE . . .

Switch to a “safe” ball for T-Ball games.

Fleming-Neon LL – Kentucky

Our nine- and ten-year-olds are wearing faceguards at the plate. If they reach base, they can switch to helmets without faceguards.

Fleming-Neon LL – Kentucky

A Little Common Sense About Safety

Compliance . . .

Any player warming up a pitcher must be in full catcher's equipment, including shin guards, chest protector, face mask and helmet.

Several leagues

No adult is allowed to warm-up a pitcher at any time.

District 4 – Connecticut

We require helmets on all T-ball players on the field.

Southside LL – Indiana

An extra set of catcher's gear has been ordered for every team.

District 10 – Florida

Pull the throat gobblers off worn-out catcher's masks and give them to your district umpires. Then if they see a catcher with no gobbler, they can tie one on.

District 6 – Illinois

We started using chin straps on the helmets so the kids don't lose their helmets running around the bases.

Pottstown LL – Pennsylvania

All players are issued protective mouth pieces and required to wear them.

Westville LL – New Jersey

All male catchers must wear a protective cup.

San Mateo LL – Florida

The league has purchased 40 new batting helmets with face shields. By purchasing these helmets, combined with instruction to managers and coaches on how to teach batters to turn away from a pitched ball, we have reduced the potential for serious facial injuries.

Redmond North LL - Washington

This year we gave every team a new first aid kit. This year we added extra gloves and ice packs, and put a larger first aid kit at each of our fields . . . We also have a lot of gloves and ice packs at the snack bar. We require the snack bar helpers to use gloves when handling food.

Costa Mesa National LL - California

Equipment

Compliance . . .

A quarter is taped on every manager's clipboard in case a pay phone is needed to call for help.

Abbott 'O'Rabbit LL – Alaska

Managers inventory and check equipment condition on a weekly basis.

District 6 – Wisconsin

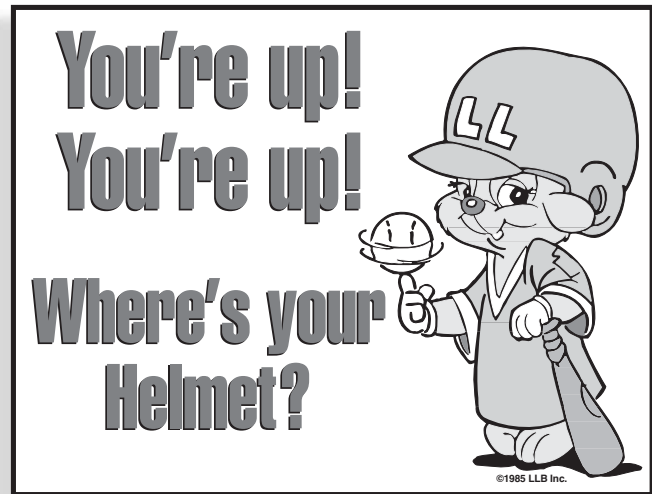
I go around to each team and size up the catchers' equipment and helmets each week. As players move up from the minors to the majors, I make sure the equipment changes with them.

Staten Island American LL – New York

We appointed an Equipment Manager who is responsible for checking and upgrading all equipment to league standards.

Clayton LL – New Jersey

Coaches and managers make sure every kid goes to proper fitting helmet.



District 12 – Massachusetts

All batting helmets are equipped with safety chin straps.

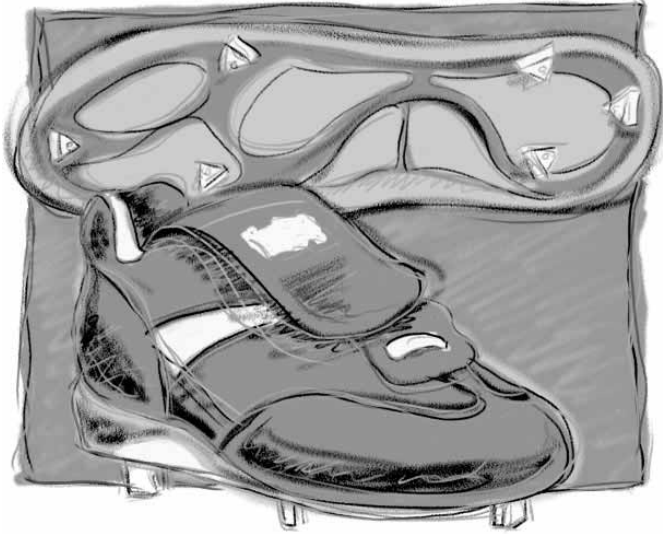
Rio Arriba South/Espanola Valley – New Mexico

Face shields are available and provided upon request.

Pine Bush LL – New York

Compliance . . .

Umpires could do a quick check before every game to make sure there are no metal cleats.



Virginia ASAP meeting

Fill up latex medical gloves with water, freeze them, and use them instead of chemical ice packs. It cheers the kids up because it's a frozen hand.

Garden City South LL – New York

Besides a complete check of equipment before the season, it's very necessary to check with individual teams and their players to see that the equipment you have given them is fitting. Especially the catcher's equipment.

Olton LL – Texas

The fire company agreed to donate 300 water bottles to combat heat exhaustion.

Blackwood Kiwanis LL – New Jersey

A local hospital has donated 90 percent of the supplies needed for our first-aid kits.

Robbinsdale Youth Baseball – Minnesota

We limit the operation of our mower to appointed staff only.

Oakland LL – Maryland

During tryouts all the nine-year-olds wear a batting helmet with a faceguard when catching flyballs. Some nine-year-olds are not proficient at catching flyballs.

South Shore LL – New York

Equipment

Compliance ...

We tape the safety officer's name and phone number on all first-aid kits.

Blackwood Kiwanis LL – New Jersey

Be sure that equipment bags contain a fully-stocked first-aid kit. Often teams practice at remote locations where first aid supplies are not available.

District 18 – Illinois

An area doctor donated 500 mouthguards to our league.

Plymouth LL – Connecticut

Include “tooth-saver” kits in first-aid bags.

Several leagues

We place change in each first aid box for the pay phones they have to use to notify authorities in case of an injury.

Freeport LL - Illinois

Install double bases at first base to avoid collisions.



Crystal Lake National LL – Illinois

REPORTING ...

A safety officer should do spot checks at practices to make sure all managers have their first-aid kits.

Little Lake LL – California

An Equipment Problem Report is filled out by managers, coaches and umpires and filed with the equipment manager for immediate correction.

Virginia Beach LL - Virginia

Electrical equipment in concession stands needs to be approved and inspected weekly and documented on a weekly log equipment checklist.

Blackwood Kiwanis LL - New Jersey

Facilities

EDUCATION . . .

All concession stand workers are instructed on the use of fire extinguishers.

Blackwood Kiwanis LL – New Jersey

Establish comprehensive procedures for concession stand safety.

Blackwood Kiwanis LL – New Jersey

Concession stand workers should be trained in the Heimlich maneuver.

Fairfax LL – Vermont

We replaced the dilapidated wooden boards of our bleachers.

*Baden Aquasco LL – Maryland
Levittown American – Pennsylvania
Vidor LL – Texas*

COMPLIANCE . . .

We hung a dusk to dawn light at the concession stand to provide light for children and parents at the park after dark.

Memorial LL – Pennsylvania

Open ended metal tubing on the bleachers were capped off to prevent yellow jacket wasps from building nests inside.

Taunton West LL - Massachusetts

Latex gloves are worn not only when treating injuries but also when volunteers empty the trash barrels.

Benson LL – Nebraska

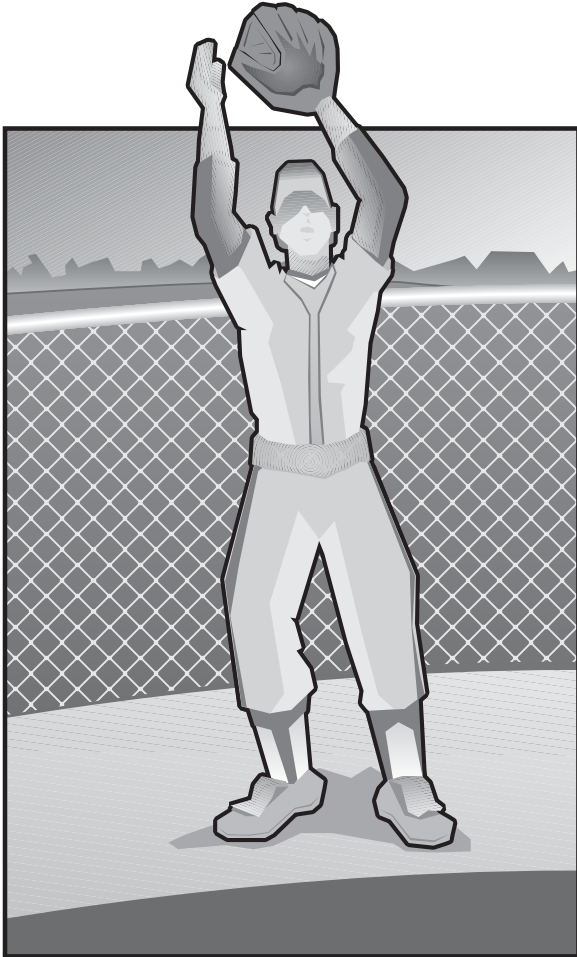
We installed emergency tornado sirens for the west edge of our community between our two ball diamonds.

Rushville LL - Illinois

Facilities

Compliance . . .

Install a warning track to prevent player-fence collisions.



*Groves National LL – Texas
Salem LL – West Virginia*

A local mining company gives us used conveyor belts which we install at the base of the backstop. This keeps balls from going underneath and keeps the fence from curling up.

District 4 – Virginia

The top rail and top of the chain link fencing fabric can be enclosed in PVC drainage tile to reduce the risk of abrasions. Split the tile lengthwise, place over the top rail and secure with electrical ties.

District 18 – Florida

Before the games, the home team walks the field checking for debris or any holes that need to be filled.

Carpentersville LL – Illinois

We extended the fence to protect spectators from foul and overthrown balls.

Statham LL – Georgia

We purchased a lightning detector.

*Benson LL – Nebraska
Manchester North LL – New Hampshire*

We covered bleachers with a wood awning to protect spectators from foul balls.

District 18 – Florida

A Little Common Sense About Safety

Compliance . . .

Putting up backstop netting eliminated 90 percent of the foul balls that used to land in our bleachers.

Rocklin LL – California

We installed on the backstops of all of our fields a piece of PVC tubing to place our foul balls that are hit over the backstops. This keeps kids from throwing the balls back onto the fields where they could hit players or umpires.

Post signs alerting fans of foul ball dangers.



Athens American/National LL – Georgia



Bayside LL – Texas

We installed overhead and side barrier netting to catch foul balls to prevent spectator injury and automobile damage.

South Beaches LL - Florida

Nyack-Valley Cottage LL - New York

We have moved our spectators to the outfield so they don't interrupt coaches and players during the game.

Stilly Valley LL – Washington

To help prevent injuries, we improved the field playing surface by using a sports surface composed of 10% Turface, 50% sand and 40% clay.

Dixie LL - Virginia

We installed fence extensions to stop players and fans from walking by an unsafe railroad tie wall next to a pond.

Morris Plains LL – New Jersey

Facilities

Compliance . . .

We enclosed the area under our stands to keep kids from injuring themselves under the bleachers.

Weslaco LL – Texas

We noted our T-ball field was too close to the street and parking lot. So for safety we moved our T-ball field to a lot with no street traffic.

Los Serranos Butterfield LL – California

Electrically ground all metal bleachers.

Manchester North LL – New Hampshire

We have installed handicapped bathrooms for our Challenger program and added lights to the top of the bathroom to shine on our handicapped accessible playground.

Federal LL – Florida

We installed end caps on all metal bleachers.

Indian Valley LL – New York

We put in sidewalks to assist our Challenger Division players.

Northern LL – Texas

We placed fencing around our fields to prevent balls from being hit into the field of play of bordering fields.

Granville LL – New York

No bikes or roller skating are allowed at any of our stadiums.

Union LL – New Jersey

Fences should be at least four feet high. Four feet provides insurance that no player will fall over the barrier if a collision does occur.

Beverly LL – Massachusetts

We banned smoking in our park; in fact, we passed a city ordinance.

Vassar LL – Michigan

A Little Common Sense About Safety

Compliance . . .

We regraded our field and installed new sod to make conditions safer.

Lehigh LL – Pennsylvania

Many concession stands use outdoor grills, and they are placed by the only exit to the stand. Should a fire start in the grill, all of the people in the concession stand would be trapped.

Richmond LL – Virginia

We relocated our dugouts, which used to protrude onto the playing field.

South Austin Optimist – Texas

Install a fence around barbecue grills to avoid possible burns.

Missoula Westside LL – Montana

We planted six mature trees so fielders wouldn't have to look into the sun and spectators could sit in the shade.

Baden Aquasco LL – Maryland

We replaced the solid backs of our dugouts with chain link fencing. This allows police to see into the dugouts from the road, and has cut down on vandalism.

Saginaw Township South – Michigan

The County Health Department inspected our concession stand.

Southside LL – Indiana

Facilities

Compliance . . .

We are not selling glass bottle refreshments anymore. We're selling cans and plastic, and we will have recycling bins.

Levittown American – Pennsylvania

Try going to your county probation department. We get guys that have community service to do, and we bring them in to work on our facility.

Perrin Beitel LL – Texas

Some of our local cops came through our program. I ask them to stop in once in awhile with their uniform and car. It wouldn't take long for someone to grab a kid, but the police can deter them.

Newburgh LL – New York

We put up chain link fences in front of our dugouts.

City of Poughkeepsie LL – New York

Upgrade lighting to meet Little League standards.

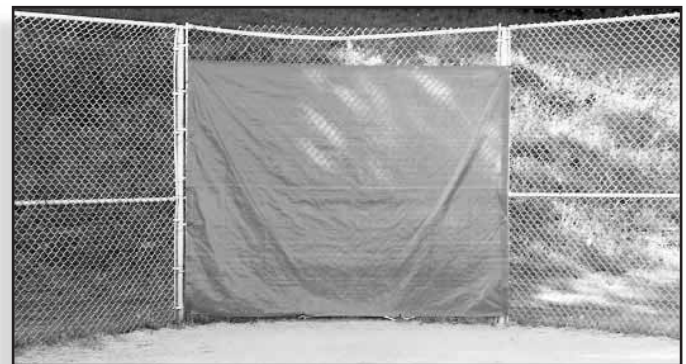
Hagerstown LL – Indiana

Install a batter's eye in dead centerfield at least 24 feet wide. It provides a field of contrast for the white ball allowing hitters to better see pitched balls.



Missoula Westside LL – Montana

Install a pitcher's eye so fielders can pick up the ball coming off the bat. Also, pitchers won't be distracted by people behind the fence.

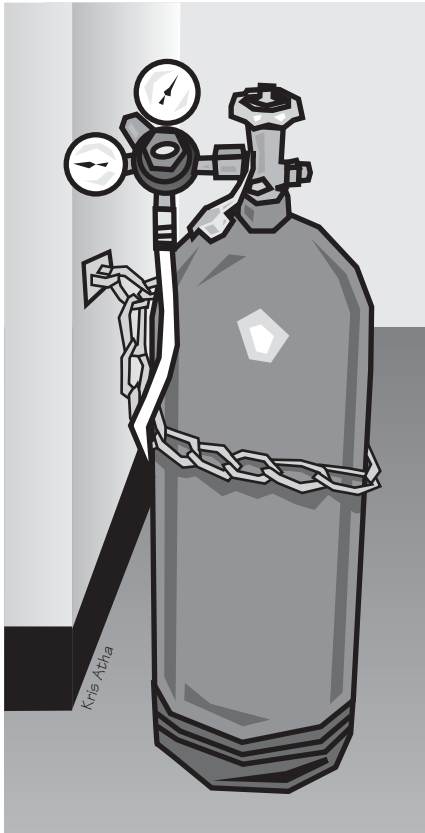


Cisco LL – Texas
Morris Plains LL – New Jersey

A Little Common Sense About Safety

Compliance . . .

Secure CO₂ tanks in your concession stand so they stand upright and can't fall over. Report damage to tanks or valves to your supplier and discontinue use.



California state meeting

We closed an entrance to automobiles that allowed vehicle access close to the concession stand.

Statham LL – Georgia

Batting cages must be run by an approved manager, coach or volunteer.

Millsboro LL – Delaware

Bleachers should have safety rails.

Several leagues

Install bat racks in every dugout.



*Dixie LL – Virginia
Culver City LL – California
Manchester North LL – New Hampshire*

Facilities

Compliance . . .

We removed an old hazardous barn near the fields that children used to wander into.

Baden Aquasco LL – Maryland

We got permission to close down a road next to the ballpark during games so kids chasing foul balls wouldn't run into traffic.



We removed an old grill and picnic table kids used to climb and get hurt on.

Canyon Lake LL – California

Ingleside LL – Texas

All parking areas were moved to the outer perimeter of the park, away from the flow of kids.

Middlebury LL – Indiana

We put up a fence to keep kids out of a creek by the ballpark.

Benson LL – Nebraska

Install speed bumps to slow down traffic in the parking lots.

Port Acres LL – Texas

Install breakaway bases.

Palos Hills Baseball Association – Illinois

We purchased an L net to protect our coaches who are feeding the pitching machine.

Manchester North LL – New Hampshire

Paint the guy wires of your light poles yellow to make them more visible.

East Base Line LL – California

A Little Common Sense About Safety

Compliance . . .

A maintenance and safety checklist has been adopted for a weekly inspection of each field.

Robbinsdale Youth Baseball – Minnesota

It is inexpensive to develop colorful, eye-catching safety signs to post around the ballpark, reminding all participants of good safety practices.

District 18 –Florida

We are replacing our metal billboards with new plywood billboards. The metal signs had sharp edges, while the edges of the plywood signs are protected with a plastic border.

Emergency vehicle parking spots were reserved next to the fields.

Harney LL – South Dakota

Old



We replaced the lift-up plywood doors on our concession stand with a roll-up door.

Ashland LL – Pennsylvania

New



We removed all trees in close proximity to the outfield fence to prevent balls from deflecting off limbs toward fielders and to discourage youngsters from climbing in the trees to watch the games.

Nyack-Valley Cottage LL - New York

Manchester North LL – New Hampshire

Facilities

Compliance . . .

Plastic breakaway fencing now surrounds all of our softball fields.



Antioch LL – California

Instead of the on-deck circle, our players now take their warm-up swings at home plate.

Abbott 'O' Rabbit LL – Alaska

We appointed a field manager responsible for evaluating repairs needed on all fields.

Martinsburg LL – West Virginia

Complete a National Facility Survey and a lighting safety audit.

Bradley-Bourbonnais American/National – Illinois

Index

- bases 17, 25
batter's eye 25
batting cages 26
bicycle safety 9, 21
billboards 4, 28
bleachers 21, 23, 26

catcher's gear 14, 15, 16
checklists 7, 8, 13, 19, 28
cleats 18
coaching 2, 3, 6, 7, 9, 10, 25
concession stands 20, 22, 23, 24, 26

drug education 1, 3
dugouts 22, 23, 24

emergency
management 2, 3, 6, 8, 9, 15, 18, 23, 26

faceguards 15, 16
fencing 10, 19, 21, 22, 23, 26, 27
field surface 22
first aid kits 14, 16, 19
foul balls 12, 21, 22

heat wave 10, 13

helmets 8, 11, 12, 16, 17
injury reports 8, 11, 12

lighting 18, 23, 29
lightning 11, 21
minicamps 1

on-deck position 27

pitcher's eye 25
practices 2, 13, 17

registration 13, 16
rewards 7, 9, 11

safety code 1
safety glasses 11
safety tokens 9
signage 4, 6, 28
stretching 1, 6, 10

traffic 3, 9, 26, 27

umpires 4, 9, 12
videos 2, 12