**COVID-19 Preparedness Plan for The Woodbury Youth Athletic League**

**The Woodbury Youth Athletic League (WYAL)** is committed to providing a safe and healthy baseball experience for all our players, coaches, officials, fans and opponents. To ensure we have a safe and healthy environment, we have developed the following COVID-19 Preparedness Plan in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Coaches and Players are all responsible for implementing this plan. Our goal is to mitigate the potential for transmission of COVID-19 in everything related to our on field activities, and that requires full cooperation among our players, coaches, officials, fans and opponents. Only through this cooperative effort can we establish and maintain the safety and health of our players and coaches.

Coaches and players are responsible for implementing and complying with all aspects of this COVID-19 Preparedness Plan. **WYAL** coaches and officials have our full support in enforcing the provisions of this policy.

Our players are our most important assets. We are serious about safety and health and keeping our players healthy both on and off the field. Coach and Player involvement is essential in developing and implementing a successful COVID-19 Preparedness Plan. We have involved our coaches in this process by delineating specific expectations (May 22, 2020 Email) and inviting coaches and parent leaders to comment. Our COVID-19 Preparedness Plan follows Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) guidelines, federal OSHA standards related to COVID-19 and Executive Order 20-48, and addresses:

• hygiene and respiratory etiquette;

• administrative controls for social distancing;

• cleaning, disinfecting, decontamination and social distancing;

• prompt identification and isolation of sick persons;

• communications and training that will be provided to coaches and players; and

• management and supervision necessary to ensure effective implementation of the plan.

**Screening and policies for employees exhibiting signs and symptoms of COVID-19**

Coaches and Players have been informed of and encouraged to self-monitor for signs and symptoms of COVID-19. The following policies and procedures are being implemented to assess coach and player health status prior to entering a practice or game venue. All coaches and players will complete a self-evaluation screening prior to coming to the park. All present will have their temperature taken as they arrive. Attendance will be taken for all practices and games. Anyone testing positive to COVID-19 along with everyone they have been in contact with will be shut down.

**The WYAL** will inform players and coaches if they have been exposed to a person with COVID-19 at a practice or game and require them to refrain from participation until a physician clears them for return to play.

Communication of information pertaining to any coach or player health will be limited to what is necessary to keep other coaches and players safe.

**Handwashing/Sanitization**

All coaches and players will be required to bring hand sanitizer to practices and games. Players will be expected to sanitize their hands after they finish deploying their equipment at the beginning of every practice/game and at 20 minute breaks called by the coaches during practice and between every inning during games. The WYAL will provide backup sanitizer in case anyone runs out.

Touching anyone else’s equipment, including their hand sanitizer dispenser, is prohibited.

Each player coach will hand sanitize after putting all equipment away before leaving the venue.

The head coach will be responsible for sanitizing the baseballs.

**Respiratory etiquette: Cover your cough or sneeze**

Players, coaches, officials, fans and opponents are being instructed to cover their mouth and nose with their sleeve or a tissue when coughing or sneezing and to avoid touching their face, in particular their mouth, nose and eyes, with their hands. They should dispose of tissues in provided trash receptacles and wash or sanitize their hands immediately afterward. Respiratory etiquette will be supported by making tissues and trash receptacles available to all players, coaches, officials, fans and opponents. **All players/coaches must wear a mask except while exerting themselves on the field.**

**Social distancing**

Social distancing of six feet will be implemented and maintained between players, coaches, officials, fans and opponents at all practices and games. Anyone not essential to the conduct of a practice or game is expected to stay home. Each player and coach will keep their equipment separated 6’ or more from all other players and coaches; during practice, the equipment may be spaced out along the inside of the fence; during games, all equipment will be kept outside the fence. No equipment will be allowed in the dugouts. Catching will not be done during practice and catchers equipment will be used only in games; Catchers equipment must be sanitized after each use. Practice drills will be designed to avoid contact (no run downs, no tagging runners, etc.). No more than three people will be allowed in a dougout at one time. Practices will be limited to up to three pods of ten or fewer players or coaches; the pods may rotate, but there will be no transfer from one pod to another; pods will be assigned at the beginning of practice. Pods may rotate from one part of the venue to another. Score keeping will be electronic. Line ups will be communicated verbally or electronically. The defensive team will retrieve all foul balls and passed balls. Officials will not be allowed to touch the baseballs or any other team equipment. Players and Coaches must disinfect their equipment after each practice/game prior to their final hand sanitizing.

Players, coaches and officials are expected to travel to practices and games individually unless traveling with an immediate family member.

Expectations will by communicated by sharing this Preparedness plan, emails to participants and on field instruction.

**Cleaning, disinfection, and separation**

Dugout benches and surfaces such as gate handles that are likely to be touched will be disinfected prior to and after each practice/game.

Appropriate and effective cleaning and disinfectant supplies have been purchased and are available for use in accordance with product labels, safety data sheets and manufacturer specifications and are being used with required personal protective equipment for the product. Disinfectant spray, rubbing alcohol, wipes and gloves have been procured. Separation will be practiced while entering the field and exiting the field as well as on the field.

**Communications and training**

This COVID-19 Preparedness Plan in draft form was communicated via email on May 22, 2020to all coaches and parent leaders. Additional communication and training will be ongoing via email, phone calls and on site and provided to all players/coaches who did not receive the initial training.

Coaches and the WYAL Board will monitor how effectively the program has been implemented. The program will be updated from time to time with additional training as necessary. This COVID-19 Preparedness Plan has been certified by **The WYAL Board** and is posted on the WYAL website. It will be updated as necessary.

Certified by: **Jerome A. Degerness, WYAL President**