



West Valley Slammers Safety Protocol and Guidelines

Date of Release: September 2, 2021

Purpose

The West Valley Slammers (WVS) Board of Directors is dedicated to the safety of all players, their families, staff, umpires, and any spectators visiting our facilities. All participants are asked to adhere to the following protocols and guidelines, which are based on current California Department of Public Health (CDPH), Santa Clara County, Centers for Disease Control (CDC), and San Francisco Department of Public Health Guidelines for the prevention of Covid-19 transmission.

General Information

1. The league Safety Officer is the single point of contact for safety protocol and guideline questions, concerns, or potential Covid-19 exposures, and will serve as the liaison to the Santa Clara County Department of Public Health. The league Safety Officer can be contacted at: safety@wvslammers.com. If the league Safety Officer position is vacant, the members of the Executive Board of Directors will fulfill this role collectively.
2. The league Safety Officer is responsible for monitoring Covid-19 updates pertaining to youth sports activities issued by the Santa Clara Department of Public Health and California Department of Public Health. The league Safety Officer will contact players, including parents/guardians and all Personnel (coaches, team managers, chaperones) of any changes made to this protocol.
3. A copy of this protocol and guidelines will be given to each member of participating teams prior to any in-person activity.
4. Players and their parent(s) and/or guardian(s) will be required to sign a waiver acknowledging the associated risks, and a release of liability. These signed waivers will be maintained as part of registration documentation for the playing season.
5. The Cambrian School District (or any other host for practice fields) may have alternative guidelines that may be enforced and supersede this protocol and guideline at the discretion of the WVS Board of Directors.

Covid-19 Vaccination

1. Covid-19 vaccination is encouraged for staff, umpires, children old enough to be vaccinated, and their families, but it is not a requirement for participation.
2. Additional information on vaccination is available at the California COVID-19 Vaccine Website [Homepage \(https://myturn.ca.gov/\)](https://myturn.ca.gov/).
3. Individuals are considered fully vaccinated if it has been at least 2 weeks since they have received the 2nd dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna Covid-19 vaccine, or one dose of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine.

Covid-19 Symptoms & Health Screening

1. The following are known Covid-19 symptoms in children under 18 years of age that are NEW or DIFFERENT from usual:
 - a. Fever (100.4°F/38°C or higher)
 - b. Cough
 - c. Severe headache
 - d. Sore throat
 - e. Loss of taste or smell that started in the last 10 days
 - f. Difficulty breathing
 - g. Vomiting or diarrhea

Note: The Covid-19 symptom list for children under 18 years old is shorter than for adults. (Some symptoms are so common in children that they are not helpful in determining if a child has Covid-19; other symptoms are less common in children with Covid-19 than adults.)

2. The following are known Covid-19 symptoms in adults that are NEW or DIFFERENT from usual:
 - a. Fever (100.4°F/38°C or higher)
 - b. Chills, shivering
 - c. Cough
 - d. Sore throat
 - e. Shortness of breath, difficulty breathing
 - f. Feeling unusually weak or fatigued
 - g. Loss of taste or smell
 - h. Muscle or body aches
 - i. Headache
 - j. Diarrhea
 - k. Runny or congested nose
 - l. Nausea or vomiting
3. Participant families are required to perform health screening prior to their child(ren)'s participation in any practice, games, or other in-person activities. If a participant has any of the above symptoms, they are prohibited from participating. Affected families should contact their child's doctor and request a Covid-19 test for their child and notify the league Safety Officer of their child's illness at safety@wvslammers.com. Documentation of screening results is not required.

4. Participating coaches/staff members are required to perform health screening prior to participation in any practice, games, or other in-person activities. If a participant has any of the above symptoms, they are prohibited from participating. Affected personnel should contact their doctor and request a Covid-19 test and notify the league Safety Officer of their illness at safety@wvslammers.com. Documentation of screening results is not required.
5. Any unvaccinated participants (children or adults) who have had close contact to someone with COVID-19 in the last 10 days are prohibited from attending any in-person activities. Close contact is defined as being within 6 feet of someone with Covid-19 for a total of 15 minutes or more over the course of a day, even if both individuals were wearing a face covering.
6. Any participants (children or adults) who have been diagnosed with Covid-19 or had a test confirming they have the virus in the past 10 days are prohibited from attending any in-person activities. Notify the league Safety Officer of any positive test results at safety@wvslammers.com.
7. Any participants (children or adults) who are not fully vaccinated for Covid-19 are asked to follow CDC guidelines for quarantine and testing after travel prior to resuming in-person activities.
8. Family members of children and staff are encouraged to get tested promptly if they have symptoms of Covid-19. This will lower the risk of infection spreading to Slammers League participants.

Face Covering Use

1. In areas of substantial to high transmission of Covid-19, the CDC encourages people who are not fully vaccinated to wear a mask in crowded outdoor settings or during activities that involve sustained close contact with other people who are not fully vaccinated. As of the date of this document release, the Centers for Disease Control currently lists Santa Clara County as having a "Substantial" level of Covid-19 Disease Transmission.
2. The following face covering requirements are based on a substantial level of transmission and the new CDPH Face Covering Guidance which took effect on June 15, 2021.
 - a. Indoor Locations (i.e., public restrooms, snack shack (food service staff): Face coverings are required.
 - b. Outdoor Locations:
 - i. Face coverings are required for activities where players, coaches, or staff have sustained close contact, such as the use of a dugout where physical distancing is not possible, regardless of vaccination status.
 - ii. Catchers and umpires are strongly encouraged to wear a face covering if they are in close contact (within 6 feet for 15 minutes or more).
 - iii. While current CDPH guidelines do not require facemask use in outdoor settings, all non-vaccinated individuals are strongly encouraged to wear a face mask in highly congested areas as an additional precaution.
 - c. Players (and any other participants or spectators) are allowed to wear masks at any time.

3. When selecting a face covering, choose a mask that has two or more layers of washable, breathable fabric (or a disposable style), which completely covers the nose and mouth, and fits snugly against the sides of the face without gaps. Masks with exhalation valves or vents should not be worn.
4. During high temperatures, implement additional rest and water breaks to ensure all individuals, but especially those wearing face coverings, do not develop heat exhaustion or heat stroke.

Physical Distancing

1. There are currently no minimum physical distancing requirements.
2. Physical distancing is an infection control best practice that may be implemented as an additional safety layer between groups of children and staff to reduce the spread of Covid-19.
3. The use of dugouts is optional; if used, dugouts should be accessed by Personnel and players only.
4. Players and Personnel should minimize direct contact. No handshakes, fist or elbow bumps, or hugging.

Cohorting & Group Attendance

1. Staff and volunteers may work with more than one group.
2. Children may participate in more than one group.
3. The use of WVS practice fields will be limited to participating teams during the times that WVS has permitted fields. This applies to both Bagby Elementary School and local city fields that are used by WVS.
4. The list of individuals from each participating team will be sent to the league President, the Chief Player Agent, and the league Safety Officer.
5. Attendance records should be maintained for all in-person activities to help determine who may be a close contact if someone in the program tests positive for Covid-19. The Team Manager can utilize electronic platforms (i.e. Sports Engine) or any other method for tracking attendance.
6. Spectators are permitted for games and practices, but are expected to abide by this protocol and guidelines.

Hand Hygiene

1. Follow pre-Covid universal health precautions for handwashing. More frequent handwashing for Covid-19 is not required.
2. Handwashing with soap and water is more effective than hand sanitizer. Hand sanitizer is optional, if people can easily wash their hands with soap and water at a sink.
3. Each team will provide hand sanitizer (at least 60% alcohol-based product) to supplement hand washing facilities (where available).

Cleaning and Disinfection

1. Unless there is a known Covid-19 case, routine disinfection of surfaces is not required.
2. Frequently touched surfaces should be cleaned daily.
3. The CDPH recommends additional disinfection only after a confirmed COVID-19 case, and only in areas where the person with COVID-19 spent a large proportion of their time within the last 24 hours.

- a. If more than 24 hours have passed since the person who is sick or diagnosed with COVID19 has been in the space, cleaning is enough.
 - b. If more than 3 days have passed since the person who is sick or diagnosed with COVID-19 has been in the space, no additional cleaning is needed.
4. Players must use their own personal equipment to the extent possible. This includes, but is not limited to gloves, helmets, bats, batting gloves, face masks, and face coverings.
5. If catcher's equipment is to be used by different players, it should be wiped down in between users. It is recommended that a disinfectant be used for the helmet and face mask.
6. Players should not share towels, clothing, or other items that they may use to wipe their face or hands.
7. While at Bagby Elementary School fields are in use, gates and locks will be kept in an open position to allow for touchless entry. This includes entry gates and equipment boxes by the field.
8. Trash generated by a player or Personnel must be placed in trash receptacles (where available) or be taken by that individual when leaving the field. Wastebasket liners are available for teams to place their trash in and take it with them when they leave.

Transportation

1. If families are carpooling to and/or from in-person activities:
 - a. Attempt to carpool with the same stable group of people.
 - b. Open windows and turn the fan on high, set to outdoor air.
 - c. Treat the vehicle as an indoor space; everyone in the vehicle should wear a face covering.

Food and Beverages

1. No team water jugs allowed. Each player should have their own water bottle or jug.
2. Sunflower seeds should not be allowed in dugouts or on the playing field.

Suspected or Confirmed Covid-19 Cases

1. In the event of an outbreak of the virus, the league Safety Officer will coordinate with local health officials and any pertinent organizations regarding any team activity and will follow guidelines regarding notification requirements.
2. Children or Personnel who become ill during in-person activities will be sent home. While children await pick-up, they will be asked to wear a face covering and will wait (supervised) at a location separate from other players and Personnel.
3. Contact the league Safety Officer about suspected cases and exposure to COVID-19 at safety@wvslammers.com.
4. Any individual who develops symptoms of COVID-19 after leaving the field should immediately isolate, seek medical attention, and contact the league Safety Officer at safety@wvslammers.com.

Returning to Softball After Covid-19 Symptoms, Exposure, or Positive Test

Scenario	Return when all of the following are true:
Individual has a negative test after symptoms of COVID-19	Symptoms are improving No fever for 24 hours, without using fever-reducing medicines such as acetaminophen (Tylenol), ibuprofen (Motrin, Advil) or naproxen (Aleve) The individual or parent/guardian must show documentation of the negative test, for example, a copy of the result or a message from the clinic or test site that the test was negative. This may be in electronic form. A separate doctor's note is not needed.
Individual had symptoms of COVID-19 and: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☑ had a positive test/confirmed COVID-19, OR ☑ was not tested, OR ☑ is still waiting for the test result 	10 days have passed since symptoms began Symptoms are improving. No fever for 24 hours, without using fever-reducing medicines such as acetaminophen (Tylenol), ibuprofen (Motrin, Advil) or naproxen (Aleve) A doctor's note or negative test is not needed.
Individual had close contact with someone with confirmed COVID-19, and the individual is not fully vaccinated for COVID-19.	10 days have passed after the last close contact, even if the individual tests negative before 10 days. No symptoms have developed since the last close contact. A doctor's note or negative test is not needed. If the individual has ongoing close contact with the person with COVID-19 (for example, a parent or caregiver), the individual must quarantine for <u>10 days after the person with COVID-19 is no longer infectious</u> . In most cases, this is a total of 20 days after the person with COVID-19 first developed symptoms, or if asymptomatic, had a positive test.
Individual had a positive test but never had symptoms	10 days after their positive test was collected (not 10 days after the result was received) A doctor's note or negative test is not needed.

Exception:

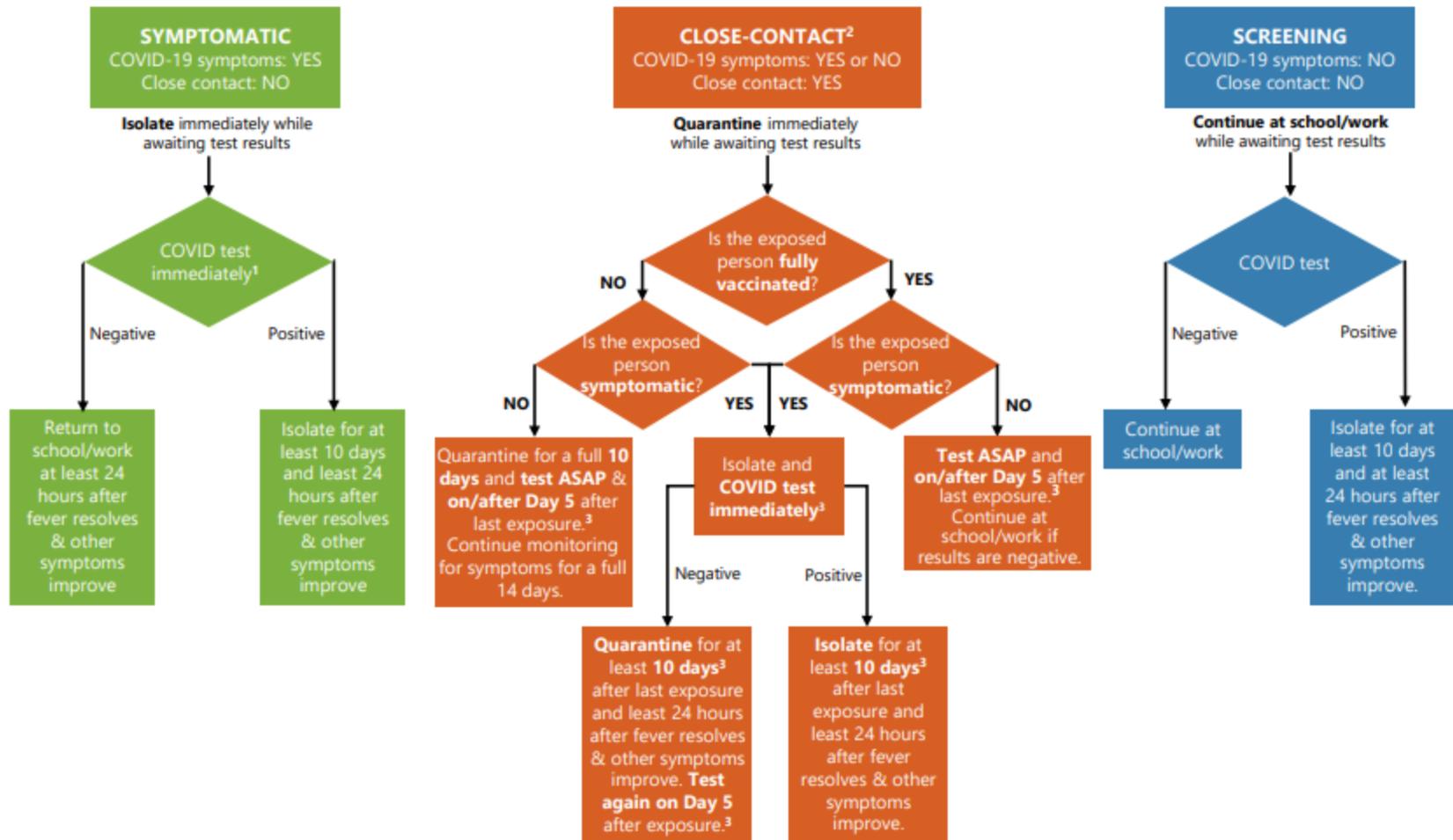
Doctor's Note or Clinic Note

If an individual has COVID-19 symptoms and has a note from a doctor or clinic saying that they can return, WVS will accept the note, even if the individual was not tested. The note may be an email, electronic message, or part of an after-visit summary.

The Santa Clara County Department of Public Health has created the following decision tree for guidance on when to isolate and quarantine and what to do if there is a confirmed or suspected case or close contacts in a group (<https://covid19.sccgov.org/school-guidance>):

2021-2022 TEST RESULT DECISION TREE – CHILDCARE

Isolation and Quarantine Recommendations While Awaiting and After Receiving COVID-19 Test Results



1. If person is not a close contact but has COVID-like symptoms that are common to a variety of illnesses, **the person should get tested** and provide a negative test result to the program. A doctor's note can only be used in place of a negative test under very specific circumstances. See [Education page FAQs](#) for details.
2. A **close contact** is someone who was within 6 feet of the infected person for at least 15 minutes at any time beginning 2 days before the infected person had symptoms or tested positive. Close contacts include people who had at least 15 minutes of contact all at once or repeated contact with the infected person that adds up to 15 minutes or more over in a 24-hour period.
3. Anytime a test is **positive** (regardless of vaccination status), **isolate at home** for at least **10 days** after the first symptoms started (or date positive test collected) and at least **24 hours** after resolution of fever and other symptoms improve.

8.25.2021

What to Do When There Is a Confirmed or Suspected COVID-19 Case or Close Contacts

Scenario	Steps to Take Immediately	Understanding Results	Returning to Program
<p>Scenario 1: Child or staff has one or more COVID-19 symptoms</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Send child/staff home and recommend a COVID test immediately. Tell program administrator and COVID-19 Designee, if you have one. Program stays open. If child/staff is <u>not tested</u> and does not meet exceptions on Test Result Decision Tree, treat as positive case and quarantine 10 days. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If test is <u>negative</u>, child/staff must stay at home until 24 hours after fever goes away and other symptoms improve. If test is <u>positive</u>, child/staff must isolate at home for at least 10 days after the first symptoms started and at least 24 hours after fever goes away and other symptoms improve. Send out letters. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If test is <u>negative</u>, person can return to the program 24 hours after fever goes away and other symptoms improve; they must bring proof of negative test <u>or</u> a medical note to explain why they were not tested. If <u>positive</u>, they can return once the full isolation period is completed.
<p>Scenario 2: Child or staff is a Close Contact* of someone who tested positive for COVID-19</p> <p>A close contact is someone who was:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> within 6 feet of the COVID-positive person (with or without a mask) for at least 15 minutes* when the person could spread the infection (starts 2 days <u>before</u> they had symptoms or tested positive) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Send home child/staff with instructions to quarantine for 10 days after last exposure. Recommend a COVID test immediately and on/after Day 5 after last exposure to case. If symptoms, test immediately and repeat test on/after Day 5 after exposure. Tell program administrator and COVID-19 Designee, if you have one. Send out appropriate letters. Program stays open. All test results should be reported to the program. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Even if tests are <u>negative</u>, contact must quarantine for a full 10 days after the last exposure to COVID-19 case. If exposed continuously during the case's isolation (e.g., household member), quarantine for 10 days <i>after</i> case's isolation period ends. If either test is <u>positive</u>, the contact must isolate for at least 10 days after symptoms start AND >24 hours after fever goes away AND other symptoms improve. (If contact never had symptoms, isolate for 10 days after date of their positive test.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contact can return to the program/work once full 10-day quarantine is completed (or if contact became positive, full isolation period is completed). Contacts should continue watching for symptoms for a full 14 days. No test results or medical note are needed.
<p>Scenario 3: A child or staff member tests positive for COVID-19 in a cohort or non-cohort setting</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">COHORT – Group closes</p> <p><u>Case:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Send home with instructions to isolate. <p><u>Contact:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Send home all members of the group cohort and any other in-program close contacts. Then follow SCENARIO 2. Tell program administrator and COVID-19 Designee, if you have one. Send report to Public Health Department <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">NON-COHORT – Group stays open</p> <p><u>Case:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Send home with instructions to isolate. <p><u>Contact:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use attendance list/roster & staff/child input to identify close contacts and send them home. Then follow SCENARIO 2. 	<p><u>Case:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For child/staff whose test is <u>positive</u>, isolate for at least 10 days after symptoms started AND at least 24 hours after fever goes away AND other symptoms improve. (If the person never had symptoms, isolate for 10 days after the date of their positive test.) <p><u>Contact:</u> FOLLOW SCENARIO 2</p>	<p><u>Case:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Return to program/work once full isolation period is completed. No test results or medical note are needed. <p><u>Contact:</u> FOLLOW SCENARIO 2</p>
<p>Scenario 4: Routine COVID-19 screening (no symptoms, not a close contact)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> After a screening test, the person can continue at the program/work until results are available. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If <u>negative</u>, no action needed. If <u>positive</u>, FOLLOW SCENARIO 3. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If <u>negative</u>, can go to program/work. No test results needed. If <u>positive</u>, FOLLOW SCENARIO 3.

*Close contact can be 15 minutes of contact all at once OR repeated contact with the infected person that adds up to 15 minutes or more in a 24-hour period. Being considered a close contact does not depend on whether the contact or the infected person were wearing face coverings during the time they were in contact.

The CDPH has introduced the concept of modified quarantine for close contacts in a supervised school setting where both parties were wearing a mask. Any participants on a modified quarantine are prohibited from attending any in-person softball activities (or other extracurricular school or community activities) for the duration of their quarantine period.

Equipment

1. Personnel from each participating team is responsible for providing the following supplies at each practice:
 - a. Disinfectant wipes
 - b. Gallon Ziplock bags (or similar bag) for collection and disposal of wipes or first aid trash.
 - c. Alcohol-based hand sanitizer, 60% or greater
 - d. Softballs
 - e. First Aid Kit
 - f. Disposable latex or nitrile gloves
 - g. Instant freeze ice packs
 - h. Additional disposable facemasks