



## PLAYER EQUIPMENT SAFETY STANDARDS



**Baseball Bat** – All baseball bats must bear the USA Baseball logo signifying that the bat meets USA Baseball’s Youth Bat Performance Standard. Additionally, the bat diameter must not exceed 2½ inches for the **Major, Minor and Coach Pitch divisions**. For the **Tee Ball division**, all Tee Ball bats (26” and shorter) must also feature the USA Baseball logo and accompanying text which reads ONLY FOR USE WITH APPROVED TEE BALLS. Approved USA Baseball Tee Ball bats are permitted in the Coach Pitch division.

**Coaches:** Each team shall be equipped with 3 to 4 league bats. All bats, league or personal, shall be inspected prior to each game for compliance; safe and proper use for Little League® play.

**Parents:** May purchase a personal bat for their child provided it meets these standards.



**Batting Helmet** – All batting helmets must bear the NOCSAE symbol, be free of cracks or other visible damage; and, all of the internal padding must not be missing, tattered, torn or frayed. See [CDC Heads UP for guidance on proper helmet fit](#). Each team shall be equipped with 4 to 5 league helmets.

**Coaches:** All helmets, league or personal, shall be inspected prior to each game for safety compliance.

**Parents:** May purchase a personal helmet for their child provided it meets these standards.



**Baseball Glove** – **WPSLL does not supply baseball gloves.** Parents/guardians should provide their child with a good-fitting glove. Look for soft, pre-broken-in leather or synthetic materials that provide flexibility to easily open and close while protecting their hand. A glove (size 8.5”–11.5”) should be comfortable, not too snug or loose on their hand. Avoid oversized gloves, which can make learning to catch difficult. Sporting Goods department personnel can usually help with selecting a proper glove.

**Coaches:** Any glove with defects, such as missing or broken laces or webbing, should be brought to the attention of and/or addressed by the player’s parent/guardian for repair or replacement.



**Batting Gloves** – **WPSLL does not supply batting gloves.** While not required, parents/guardians can provide their child with a pair of batting gloves to improve grip, reduce stings from vibrations, and help prevent calluses, blisters, cuts or hand injuries. Batting gloves can also offer some protection while sliding during base running; and, provide a psychological confidence boost when batting. Depending on the frequency of use, new batting gloves should be provided every season.

**Coaches:** Batting gloves should be replaced when the Velcro fails or signs of worn-out leather.



**Baseball Shoes** – **WPSLL does not supply baseball shoes or cleats.** It is highly recommended that parents/guardians provide their child in any division with molded rubber bottom cleats. Cleats offer better traction on grass and dirt but are not mandatory for the Tee Ball division where sneakers are considered appropriate. **However, metal spikes or metal cleats are not permitted at WPSLL.**

**Coaches:** Ensure the cleats/sneakers are securely tied and comfortable for running.



**Catcher’s Gear** – All Major, Minor and Coach Pitch division catchers are required to wear a “hockey style” helmet (NOCSAE approved) with a dangling throat guard; a properly fitted chest protector that covers the groin area; properly strapped shin guards that also cover the ankles; and a protective cup for males or protective “Jill” for females, during practices and games.

**Coaches:** Each team shall be equipped with a complete set of catcher’s gear and 1 or 2 catcher’s mitts. Knee savers are recommended but not required. Major and Minor teams will also be provided an additional helmet with a dangling throat guard. Before games and practices, all catcher’s equipment, league or personal, shall be cleaned and inspected for good and safe condition. Any player warming up a pitcher must wear a mask with a throat guard and a protective cup or Jill.

**Parents:** A protective cup for males or protective “Jill” for females is required. Additional purchase of a heart guard or personal catcher’s gear that meets these standards are permitted.

**Uniforms** – WPSLL outfits every player with a team shirt/jersey, baseball pants, socks and a hat. Major division players will also receive a belt for their pant loops. Team Managers will distribute uniforms and make every effort to ensure a good fit. However, some pants or shirts may have some roominess. If deemed unsafe, replacements may be ordered.