

Wylie Baseball Association

Safety Issues Newsletter

October 25, 2010

This week's newsletter is designed to keep all of us focused on maintaining an environment of good health and safety for all the kids playing in our league.

Coaches, please share and/or apply this information with your players and their parents at your next scheduled team activity.

General Field Safety

Our WBA game umpires do a great job in-game of implementing Little League safety requirements, but the umpires are not available to monitor things during practices or in between games. Following are a few simple steps that all of us can implement to increase player safety in games and practices.

- **One of the purest ways of controlling player injury is to make sure all players maintain proper fundamentals. Don't let things slide! While each player is of a different ability level, all can and should be coached in the proper manner to catch, throw, run and swing a bat.**
- **Make sure all catchers wear the dangling throat protector; ensure that the protector actually dangles when the mask is moved up and down. If the protector is fixed in relation to the mask, the catcher's throat remains vulnerable.**
- **Coaches shall not warm up pitchers. Team members must warm up pitchers in between innings and in the bullpen. Catchers must wear an approved mask/helmet when warming up pitchers or participating in pre-game infield.**
- **Catchers must also wear the "long" chest protector (crotch protector) and a protective cup.**
- **No on-deck batters in Little League division and younger.**
- **Maintain a clean and well controlled dugout.**
- **No jewelry, watches, pins, rings or any kind of metallic item is permitted to be worn by players during the game. The only exception to this, and one requiring approval of the field umpires, is a medical ID bracelet.**
- **While the opposing team is warming up in between innings and your kids are in the dugout area, make sure that everyone is behind the fence and not in the dugout opening. The leadoff batter in the inning may be outside your bench area, but make sure that he/she is down the line and not in proximity of throws across the infield to first base.**