

PENN TOWNSHIP ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION GENERAL PLAYER SAFETY POLICY

PTAA general rules pertaining to player safety are outlined below:

- Coaches should inspect equipment on a regular basis, making sure it fits correctly and is in proper working order. Broken or improper equipment can be replaced by contacting the Equipment Manager or league officials. Batting and catching helmets are not permitted when they have been painted by anyone other than the manufacturer.
- Batters must wear protective helmets during practices and games.
- Pitchers must wear heart guards at all ages all the time. All players other than pitchers 8U and above are strongly encouraged to wear heart guards during practices and games.
- Catchers must wear a catcher's helmet with face mask and throat guard, chest protector and shin guards.
- Male catchers must wear a long-model chest protector, protective supporter and cup at all times.
- Warm-up catchers must wear catcher's helmet, facemask, and throat guard while warming up pitchers (skull caps are not permitted). This applies between innings, during bull-pen warm-ups and pre-game infield drills. Adults may NOT warm up a pitcher. This is a safety issue for both the player and the adult.
- Coaches shall instruct all players in safe sliding techniques as well how to avoid a pitched ball or attempted defensive throw to a base. No head first slides are permitted.
- Players must not wear watches, rings, pins, jewelry or other metallic items by Little League baseball rule.
- Parents of players that wear glasses should be encouraged to provide "safety glasses".
- No on-deck batters are allowed. No player should handle a bat even while in an enclosure, until it is his/her turn at bat.

- Players who are ejected, ill or injured should remain under coach supervision until released to the parent or guardian.
- After a game or practice, coaches should not leave the area until all players have been picked up.
- Players will be instructed in proper stretching and general sports health maintenance procedures, including proper throwing, fielding and hitting techniques to limit injury.
- Injuries should be reported immediately to coaches and the PTAA board. Injuries should be properly evaluated by a licensed medical provider.