

2021 Oakville Little League's Roadmap to Summer Baseball

Oakville Little League and the Board of Directors continue to work hard toward a baseball season this year. With the current "Roadmap to Reopening" this means the season will not start at its usual time, which was the first week in May. Without any certainty that the government's 3-step plan along with stated start dates will actually materialize. We have summarized the government's 3-step plan and also offered some options for you to consider.

When permitted to get on the field by the various government & health groups we will likely move into Step One which is "Training Only". We will continue to train / practice until we are given permission to move into Step Two which may be training and practice with fewer restrictions or possibly game play.

MAJOR T-BALL, MINOR, MAJOR, JUNIOR & SENIOR DIVISIONS

Below is a summary of how Oakville Little League plans to implement the Government's 3-Step Plan, including a full refund option, for your consideration.

Complete Season Refund: This means you have chosen to opt out of participating in all the proposed Steps as presented by the Government of Ontario's Roadmap to Reopening (RTR). **The league will require an email requesting to opt out of the season by June 18th.**

Cancellation of Season after July 31st: Although the Government of Ontario has proposed the Road Map to Reopening, there are still many uncertainties. Therefore it is necessary for us to have a cancellation date if we are unable to offer quality programming or get on the field on or before July 31st. A full refund will be extended to all members.

Step One – Training / Practice in Groups of 10. Possible On Field Start Date: June 26th. Under Step One of the RTR, players in groups of 10 will be allowed to train or practice. OLL understands that the government RTR uses June 14th as a possible start date, however the league does require some time to confirm registrations & withdrawals, field permits, equipment preparation, virtual coaches meeting and coach's clinics.

Step Two – Possibly Larger Training / Practice Groups of 25 or Game Play within the 25 Maximum allowed. Possible Start Date: July 10th. Although the RTR may allow for an earlier start of Step Two, we feel the additional time is needed to get players and coaches up to speed with enough training / practice opportunities. For most of the players and coaches, they have not been on the baseball field for two years. A slow steady approach will better prepare players for a successful season. We are waiting for clarity from the government regarding Step Two, where they state:

1. Larger outdoor gatherings for up to 25 people
2. Outdoor Sports Leagues Open
3. Training for Professional or Amateur Athletes and / or competitions

OLL cannot speculate if this means training / practicing only or if competitive game play is allowed.

Step Three – A continuation of Step Two with fewer restrictions. Possible Start Date: July 25th. As stated previously we are waiting for clarity from the government regarding Step Three, where they state:

1. Larger Indoor & Outdoor Gatherings
2. Outdoor Open with some restrictions.

WHAT ELSE DO YOU NEED TO KNOW

1. When only allowed to train or practice (Step One & Two)

- Players will be on the field twice a week
- Sessions will be between 60 – 90 minutes depending on numbers allowed on the diamond
- Sessions will also be used for player evaluations to create balanced teams and league placement where divisions have National and American leagues.
- No uniforms will be handed out at this point.
- All Covid19 Protocols will be in place and enforced.

2. When Game play is allowed (Step Two & Step Three)

- Teams will be balanced as per evaluations from Step One and will also be placed in appropriate leagues where divisions have National and American leagues.
- Uniforms will be handed out.
- Depending on when game play begins, it is likely teams will play 2 games per week. This is so that we can offer a similar number of games in a normal season.
- It is possible that with two games per week, there will not be scheduled practices. In effect, the second game for the week will be in the place of a practice. Therefore weekends including Fridays will be used for game play.
- It is a possibility that we will play well into September and perhaps as late as October 3rd. This will allow for a full slot of games and playoffs.
- Game Play will have modified rules, as required by Covid19 Protocols.
- All Covid19 Protocols will be in place and enforced.

COMMITMENT TO PARTICIPATION

This means that you have considered and decided to waive the opportunity to receive a full refund and you understand and accept that stated start and finish dates for training / practicing and game play may not occur exactly as stated. OLL is required to follow all government guidelines and restrictions as they apply to Covid19.

OLL will do everything possible to create an enjoyable baseball experience. Knowing that things are fluid and can change at any time, OLL will continue to monitor situations as they are presented.

To further assist with your understanding of the Government's Roadmap to Reopening please visit <https://www.ontario.ca/page/reopening-ontario>