## Baseball Bylaws & Local Rules

#### **ARTICLE 1 - PLAYING RULES**

Section 1 - Official Rules

The <u>Little League Rulebook app</u> contains the Official Regulations, Playing Rules, and Operating Policies for all divisions of Baseball, Softball and Challenger. The Rulebook app, as well as the Ladera Little League Baseball Bylaws & Local Rules, shall be made available to each Manager and coach prior to the first game of the regular season.

Section 2 - Playing Rules,

All home teams will occupy the dugout on the 3rd base side. All visiting teams shall occupy the dugout on the 1st base side.

Bat Policy: All bats used must comply with the USA Baseball approved bat and must have the logo on the bat. Any bat used which is not on the approved list, is to be removed from the game. The batter is deemed automatically out, and the Manager is subject to a minimum one-game suspension, depending on the number of infractions. It is the Manager's responsibility to ensure his team is only using approved bats.

### A. Major Division

#### HOME/AWAY

- The home team fields first and is responsible for removing the preparing the field which includes dragging and lining the field, preparing the mound, and putting out the bases.
- The away team bats first and is responsible for clean up after the game which includes dragging and watering the infield, raking home plate areas, and prepping the mound
- Each team shall contribute one (1) league-provided game ball/per game and come prepared to contribute a 2<sup>nd</sup> game ball if necessary.
- All game balls, except for those awarded to a player for a home run, are thereafter to be
  used by each Manager as the team's practice balls. A home run ball is to be replaced by the
  team in which the player made the home run.

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#### UNIFORMS/EQUIPMENT

- Players are expected to wear league provided uniforms and hats. Protective cups are required for boys. All shirts are to be tucked in at all times.
- NO METAL cleats or screw in football cleats are permitted.
- Catchers are REQUIRED to wear proper catching gear/equipment catcher's glove, helmet with mask and throat guard, chest protector, and shin guards will be provided by the league.
- Batting helmets are mandatory for hitting but do NOT require safety masks and chin straps.
- No color gloves (fingers) for Pitchers.

#### **GAMF PLAY**

- 6 innings or extra innings, if needed. There is no time limit; however, there is a curfew on weeknights of 8:45 pm. The 10-run rule shall be in effect. If the visiting team leads by 10 or more runs after four or more complete innings, the game shall end. If the home team leads by 10 or more runs after 3-1/2 innings or later, the game shall end.
- 3 outs to complete 1/2 inning.
- A dropped third strike is in play.
- Managers and coaches may warm up pitchers before or during a Regular Season game.
- Little League Tournament rule: No Manager or coach shall warm up pitchers before or during Little League Tournament games -- only players with a face mask (and throat guard) may warm up pitchers during the Tournament.
- Once a hitter has entered the batter's box, the hitter must keep one foot in batter box unless play is occurring at the plate (i.e. pass ball, play at the plate). This is designed to keep game play moving.
- Player must drop (not throw or run with) bat before reaching halfway to first base.
  - A batter who releases the bat at the end of their swing, allowing it to fly away, cannot be called out, but <u>could</u> be ejected from the game for unsafe conduct.
  - Umpires will give players at least one warning before suggesting to the Manager that
    the player not bat again after a second offense. With Continuous Batting Order, the
    player would be skipped over (not an out).

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- If the Manager does not agree, the Umpire has the option to eject the player from the game.
  - Reminder: Any Manager, coach or player ejected from a game is ineligible to play the rest of that game and the next scheduled game. If the batter has a long swing that hits the catcher <u>without</u> the bat being thrown, the umpire will make this determination and make efforts to reposition the hitter if the catcher is correctly positioned in the catcher's box.
- Batting Teams bat through the entire line up regardless of number of players (Continuous Batting).
- All players must be in the dugout (or any area the BOD deems as a dugout) at all times unless warming up a pitcher. At the beginning of an inning, the first batter of the inning may wait outside of the hitting area while the pitcher warms up (subject to the umpire's judgment).
- There must be an adult coach in the dugout at all times. No player may be "on deck" inside the dugout with a bat in their hands.
- If a Manager calls "time-out" he or she must wait until that time-out is granted before leaving the dugout.

#### **RUNNERS**

- Runners must not take a lead until the ball has reached the batter.
- Players must run in base path or will be called out.
- May not interfere with a fielder fielding the ball interference results in the runner being out.
- Must do their best to avoid collisions.
- May not be hit by a batted ball in fair play (runner will be out).
- Feet first sliding is allowed. Head-first sliding is not allowed and will result in an automatic out (Little League rule). However, a runner may return to a base using a head-first slide without being called out. All other head-first sliding will result in an automatic out (Little League rule).

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#### CALLS ON THE FIELD

- Umpire makes the call.
- PLAY APPEAL Procedure
  - CALL TIME OUT after play is complete
  - Appeal to be made between Manager and umpire
  - Balls and strikes may not be disputed

#### UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT

- Profanity/Unsportsmanlike conduct from coaches, players, parents, and umpires will not be tolerated at any time
- Any incident must be reported to any league official immediately. The league official must record the incident and submit the documentation to the BOD within 24 hours.
- Players will be benched by Managers.
- Parents and or Managers and/or coaches will be removed from that game and will be referred to the DRC.
- League officials are permitted to remove any player, Manager/coach, or parent from the league at any time for severe or repeated offenses, with no refund of fees.

Regular Season Pitching Rules - Baseball (From the Little League Rulebook)

#### **PITCHERS**

- (a) Any player on a regular season team may pitch. (NOTE: There is no limit to the number of pitchers a team may use in a game.)
- (b) A pitcher once removed from the mound cannot return as a pitcher.

Junior League Division only: A pitcher remaining in the game, but moving to a different position, can return as a pitcher anytime in the remainder of the game, but only once per game.

(c) The Manager must remove the pitcher when said pitcher reaches the limit for his/her age group as noted below, but the pitcher may remain in the game at another position:

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### League Age:

- 13-15 95 pitches per day (days of rest should reflect Little League Rulebook)
- 11-12 85 pitches per day (days of rest should reflect Little League Rulebook)
- 9-10 75 pitches per day (days of rest should reflect Little League Rulebook)

Exception: If a pitcher reaches the limit imposed in Regulation VI (c) for his/her league age while facing a batter, the pitcher may continue to pitch until any one of the following conditions occurs:

- 1. That batter reaches base;
- 2. That batter is put out;
- 3. The third out is made to complete the half-inning.

Note 1: A pitcher who delivers 41 or more pitches in a game cannot play the position of catcher for the remainder of that day.

Note 2: Any player who has played the position of catcher in four or more innings in a game is not eligible to pitch on that calendar day.

Note 3: Refer to Little League Rulebook for next pitching day

#### RETURNING TO CATCHER AFTER PITCHING

Pitchers league age 14 and under must adhere to the following rest requirements:

- If a player pitches 66 or more pitches in a day, four (4) calendar days of rest must be observed.
- If a player pitches 51-65 pitches in a day, three (3) calendar days of rest must be observed.
- If a player pitches 36-50 pitches in a day, two (2) calendar days of rest must be observed.
- If a player pitches 21-35 pitches in a day, one (1) calendar days of rest must be observed.

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• If a player pitches 1-20 pitches in a day, no (0) calendar day of rest is required.

### Baseball Bylaws & Local Rules

- (d) The official scorekeeper is the home team's scorebook.
- (e) Pitch Count Recording: After each inning, the home and visiting teams must reconcile the current pitch count totals. If there is a difference, the teams are encouraged to work to resolve the issue before beginning the next inning. In any event, the Manager is responsible for knowing when his/her pitcher must be removed.
- (f) The pitch count recorder for each team should inform the umpire-in-chief when a pitcher has delivered his/her maximum limit of pitches for the game, as noted in Regulation VI (c). The umpire-in-chief will inform the pitcher's Manager that the pitcher must be removed in accordance with Regulation VI (c). However, the failure by the pitch count recorder to notify the umpire-in-chief, and/or the failure of the umpire-in-chief to notify the Manager, does not relieve the Manager of his/her responsibility to remove a pitcher when that pitcher is no longer eligible.
- (g) A player may not pitch in more than one game in a day.

#### NOTES:

- 1 The withdrawal of an ineligible pitcher after that pitcher is announced, or after a warm-up pitch is delivered, but before that player has pitched a ball to a batter, shall not be considered a violation. Little League officials are urged to take precautions to prevent protests. When a protest situation is imminent, the potential offender should be notified immediately.
- 2 Pitches delivered in games declared "Regulation Tie Games" or "Suspended Games" shall be charged against pitcher's eligibility.
- 3 In suspended games resumed on another day, the pitchers of record at the time the game was halted may continue to pitch to the extent of their eligibility for that day, provided said pitcher has observed the required days of rest.

### SHORTAGE OF PLAYERS, RESCHEDULING OF GAMES

1. If a Manager believes they will be short players to start or complete a game, they must communicate with the opposing team as early as possible.

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- 2. Games can only be rescheduled if approved by the Board. The games must be rescheduled if there will be fewer than 5 players present for the team scheduled to play. A maximum of 4 players may be borrowed.
- 3. Players from other teams in the division may be asked to play for the team needing players under the following conditions:
  - a. The Manager of the team whose player is being asked to play is contacted.
  - b. The parents of the player being asked to play provide permission.
  - c. The players who are substituting must wear the jersey of their current team and not the team that they are playing for.
  - d. Players of the team with the shortage should be given priority in terms of playing time over the substitute players if there are more than nine players.
  - e. If a team is short of 9 players, they may play with 8. If a player from a lower division is asked to play, care should be taken to make sure that the player is able to play safely at the higher division level.
  - f. The players do not play pitcher or catcher. Borrowed players shall bat at the end of the lineup.
  - g. For insurance and liability purposes, players who are not registered at Ladera Little League are not allowed to play.

### **B.** Minor Division

#### HOME/AWAY

- The home team fields first and is responsible for removing the preparing the field which includes dragging and lining the field, preparing the mound, and putting out the bases.
- The away team bats first and is responsible for clean up after the game which includes dragging and watering the infield, raking home plate areas, and prepping the mound.

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- Each team shall contribute one (1) league-provided game ball/per game and come prepared to contribute a 2<sup>nd</sup> game ball if necessary.
- All game balls, except for those awarded to a player for a home run, are thereafter to be used by each Manager as the team's practice balls.

#### UNIFORMS/FOUIPMENT

- Players are expected to wear league provided uniforms and hats. Protective cups are mandatory for boys. All shirts are to be tucked in at all times. IF A PLAYER PLAYS UP (FROM COACH PITCH) THEY SHOULD WEAR THEIR COACH PITCH UNIFORM.
- NO METAL cleats or screw in football cleats are permitted.
- Catchers are REQUIRED to wear proper catching gear/equipment catcher's glove, helmet with mask and throat guard, chest protector, and shin guards will be provided by league.
- Batting helmets are mandatory for hitting but do NOT require safety masks and chin straps.
- No color gloves (fingers) for Pitchers

### **GAME PLAY**

- 6 innings or a "drop dead" end time of 2 hours total game-time limit, whichever comes first., meaning the game ends after two (2) hours regardless of the circumstances. No new inning will start after 1 hour and 45 minutes. If the inning is not completed when /if the time deadline is reached, then the scores revert back to the last completed inning. There is no "open inning" in which the teams can score as many runs as they can.
- Playoff rules For the championship game only, no new inning will start after 2 hours.

  Therefore, the game will continue until the inning is completed. If there is a tie at the end of the inning completed, the game will continue until one of the teams has won.
- If a team has less than 9 players, the team may play with 8 players but the 9<sup>th</sup> spot in the order will be an automatic out. You may select a player from within the division or from the Rookie division subject to the rules in Shortage of Players sections. For insurance and liability reasons, players from outside the league may not be used.
- If your team has 7 or fewer players, you may still play the game, but this is considered a scrimmage. The game may be rescheduled for a later date as determined by the BOD.
- 5 runs or 3 outs to complete 1/2 inning

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- The home plate shall be opened after the completion of five (5) games, meaning that players can steal home on a passed ball or on an attempt to 2<sup>nd</sup> base when there are runners on 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- Both teams must have completed at least five (5) games before the home plate is considered open.
- Managers and coaches may warm up pitchers before or during a Regular Season game.
- Little League Tournament rules: No Manager or coach shall warm up pitchers before or during Little League Tournament games -- only players with a face mask (and throat guard) may warm up pitchers during the Tournament.
- Once a hitter has entered the batter's box, the hitter must keep one foot in the batter's box unless play is occurring at the plate (i.e. pass ball, play at the plate). This is designed to keep game play moving.
- Player must drop (not throw or run with) bat before reaching halfway to first base.
  - A batter who releases the bat at the end of their swing, allowing it to fly away, cannot be called out, but *could* be ejected from the game for unsafe conduct.
  - Umpires will give players at least one warning before suggesting to the Manager that the player not bat again after a second offense. With Continuous Batting Order, the player would be skipped over (not an out).
  - If the Manager does not agree, the Umpire has the option to eject the player from the game.
    - Reminder: Any Manager, coach or player ejected from a game is ineligible to play the rest of that game and the next scheduled game. If the batter has a long swing that hits the catcher <u>without</u> the bat being thrown, the umpires will make this determination and make efforts to reposition the hitter if the catcher is correctly positioned in the catcher's box.
- Batting Teams bat through the entire line up regardless of number of players (Continuous Batting) and each player must play six (6) consecutive outs in the field.
- All players must be in the dugout (or any area the BOD deems as a dugout) at all times unless warming up a pitcher. At the beginning of an inning, the first batter can wait outside of the hitting area while the pitcher warms up (subject to the umpire's judgment). There must be an adult coach in the dugout at all times. No player may be "on deck" inside the dugout with a bat in their hands.
- If a Manager calls time out, he or she must wait until that time-out is granted before leaving the dugout.

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#### **RUNNERS**

- The Runners must not take a lead until the ball reaches the batter.
- Players must run in base path or will be called out.
- May not interfere with a fielder fielding the ball interference results in runner being out.
- Must avoid collisions.
- May not be hit by batted ball in fair play (runner will be out).
- Feet first sliding is allowed. Headfirst sliding is not allowed and will result in an automatic out (Little League rule). However, a runner may return to a base using a headfirst slide without being called out. All other headfirst sliding will result in an automatic out (Little League rule).

#### CALLS ON THE FIFLD

- Umpire makes the call.
- PLAY APPEAL Procedure
- CALL TIME OUT after play is complete
- Appeal to be made between Manager and umpire
- Balls and Strikes may not be disputed

#### UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT

- Profanity/Unsportsmanlike conduct from coaches, players, parents, and umpires will not be tolerated at any time.
- Any incident must be reported to any league official immediately. The league official must record the incident and submit the documentation to the BOD within 24 hours.
- Players will be benched by Managers.
- Parents and or Managers and/or coaches will be removed from that game and will be referred to the DRC.
- League officials are permitted to remove any player, Manager/coach, or parent from the league at any time for severe or repeated offenses, with no refund of fees.

## Baseball Bylaws & Local Rules

Regular Season Pitching Rules - Baseball (From the Little League Rulebook)

#### **PITCHERS**

- (d) Any player on a regular season team may pitch. (NOTE: There is no limit to the number of pitchers a team may use in a game.)
- (e) A pitcher once removed from the mound cannot return as a pitcher.

Junior League Division only: A pitcher remaining in the game, but moving to a different position, can return as a pitcher anytime in the remainder of the game, but only once per game.

(f) The Manager must remove the pitcher when said pitcher reaches the limit for his/her age group as noted below, but the pitcher may remain in the game at another position:

### League Age:

- 13-15 95 pitches per day
- 11-12 85 pitches per day
- 9-10 75 pitches per day
  - 7-8 50 pitches per day

Exception: If a pitcher reaches the limit imposed in Regulation VI (c) for his/her league age while facing a batter, the pitcher may continue to pitch until any one of the following conditions occurs: 1. that batter reaches base; 2. that batter is put out; 3. The third out is made to complete the half-inning.

Note 1: A pitcher who delivers 41 or more pitches in a game cannot play the position of catcher for the remainder of that day.

Note 2: Any player who has played the position of catcher in four or more innings in a game is not eligible to pitch on that calendar day.

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Pitchers league age 15 and under must adhere to the following rest requirements:

- If a player pitches 66 or more pitches in a day, four (4) calendar days of rest must be observed.
- If a player pitches 51-65 pitches in a day, three (3) calendar days of rest must be observed.
- If a player pitches 36-50 pitches in a day, two (2) calendar days of rest must be observed.
- If a player pitches 21-35 pitches in a day, one (1) calendar days of rest must be observed.
- If a player pitches 1-20 pitches in a day, no (0) calendar day of rest is required.

A calendar day begins at midnight and ends at midnight the following evening. Example: If a pitcher in the Little League Minor Division throws 60 pitches in a game on Saturday morning, that pitcher cannot pitch again until Wednesday, when he/she has had three calendar days of rest (Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday).

- (d) The official scorekeeper is the home team's scorebook.
- (e) Pitch Count Recording: After each inning, the Home and Visiting teams must reconcile the then current pitch count totals. If there is a difference, the teams are encouraged to work to resolve the issue before beginning the next inning. In any event, the Manager is responsible for knowing when his/her pitcher must be removed.
- (f) The pitch count recorder for each team should inform the umpire-in-chief when a pitcher has delivered his/her maximum limit of pitches for the game, as noted in Regulation VI (c). The umpire-in-chief will inform the pitcher's Manager that the pitcher must be removed in accordance with Regulation VI (c). However, the failure by the pitch count recorder to notify the umpire-in-chief, and/or the failure of the umpire-in-chief to notify the Manager, does not relieve the Manager of his/her responsibility to remove a pitcher when that pitcher is no longer eligible.
- (g) A player who has attained the league age of twelve (12) is not eligible to pitch in the Minor League. (See Regulation V Selection of Players)
- (h) A player may not pitch in more than one game in a day.

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### SHORTAGE OF PLAYERS, RESCHEDULING OF GAMES

- 1. If Managers believe they will be short players to start or complete a game, they must communicate with the opposing team as early as possible.
- 2. Games can only be rescheduled if approved by the Board. The games must be rescheduled if there will be fewer than 5 players present for the team scheduled to play. A maximum of 4 players may be borrowed.
- 3. Players from other teams in the division may be asked to play for the team needing players under the following conditions:
  - a. The Manager of the team whose player is being asked to play is contacted.
  - b. The parents of the player being asked to play provide permission.
  - c. The players who are substituting must wear the jersey of their current team and not the team that they are playing for.
  - d. Players of the team with the shortage should be given priority in terms of playing time over the substitute players if there are more than nine players.
  - e. If a player from a lower division is asked to play, care should be taken to make sure that the player is able to play safely at the higher division level.
  - f. The players do not play pitcher or catcher. Borrowed players shall bat at the end of the lineup.
  - g. For insurance and liability purposes, players who are not registered at Ladera Little League are not allowed to play.

#### NOTES:

4 The withdrawal of an ineligible pitcher after that pitcher is announced, or after a warm-up pitch is delivered, but before that player has pitched a ball to a batter, shall not be considered a

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violation. Little League officials are urged to take precautions to prevent protests. When a protest situation is imminent, the potential offender should be notified immediately.

- 5 Pitches delivered in games declared "Regulation Tie Games" or "Suspended Games" shall be charged against pitcher's eligibility.
- 6 In suspended games resumed on another day, the pitchers of record at the time the game was halted may continue to pitch to the extent of their eligibility for that day, provided said pitcher has observed the required days of rest.

### C. Rookie - Machine/Coach Pitch Division

### Home/Away

- The home team (Field first) is third base dugout: Responsible to remove the mound cover and put out bases. If you are the last game on your field, you are responsible to water and drag the infield, cover the mound, and put the bases back in the shed.
- The away team is first base dugout: Responsible for dragging and watering the infield, raking home plate areas, and prepping the mound.
- Each team shall contribute one (1) league-provided game ball/per game and come prepared to contribute a 2<sup>nd</sup> game ball if necessary.
- All game balls, except for those awarded to a player for a home run, are thereafter to be used by each Manager as the team's practice balls.

#### UNIFORMS/EQUIPMENT

- Players are expected to wear league provided uniforms and hats. All shirts are to be tucked in.
- NO METAL cleats or screw in football cleats are permitted
- Catchers are REQUIRED to wear proper catching gear/equipment Helmet with mask, chest protector, and shin guards will be provided by league. Protective cups are recommended
- Batting Helmets are mandatory for hitting but do NOT require safety masks and chin straps
- Pitching machine speeds are to be set per the league instructions. They are not to be altered or modified to higher/slower speeds to accommodate hitters during game play.

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• Coaches may choose to pitch to players rather than have the machine pitch. If one team chooses to pitch to their players, the other team may still use the machine.

#### **GAME PLAY**

- 5 innings or a "drop dead" end time of 75 minutes, whichever comes first, meaning the game ends after 75 minutes regardless of the circumstances.
- If an inning ends and there is less than 5 minutes left before the 75 min time limit, do not start a new inning.
- If a team is short the 9 players, they may play with 8. Five runs or three outs to complete 1/2 inning
- If batting ball makes contact with the pitching machine without player interference, the ball is dead, and the batter is awarded a single. Base runners may advance one base.
- If the ball hits a pitching coach it will be ruled a single. Play will stop and the runners will advance one base. If the ball hits a defensive coach, the ball is to be played live. If a situation occurs which is not covered here, teams are to use good judgment to determine if the play requires a re-pitch. In the event of a re-pitch, runners retreat to previous base
- Five pitches to make a hit. If the final pitch is foul, the batter gets another pitch until they hit or strike out.
- If the batter fouls a pitch during the count, they are not awarded an extra pitch at the end of the count. They may only be awarded an extra pitch if they foul off the 5<sup>th</sup> (or later) pitch
- No three strike rule, player may swing at every pitch if they choose
- No intentional bunting
- Players must drop (not throw or run with) bat before reaching halfway to first. A batter who releases the bat at the end of their swing, allowing it to fly away, cannot be called out but could be ejected from the game for unsafe conduct. Umpires will give each player at least one warning before giving the Manager/coach the option of removing the player before the player is ejected. With Continuous Batting Order, the player would be skipped over (not an out). Reminder: Any Manager, coach or player ejected from a game is ineligible to play the rest of that game and the next scheduled game. If the batter has a long swing that hits the catcher without the bat being thrown, the umpires will make this determination and make efforts to reposition the hitter if the catcher is correctly positioned in the catcher's box.

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Teams bat through entire line up regardless of number of players

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• Field is standard 9 positions, with 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 12th, position(s) additional outfield or on bench

### PITCHING/DEFENSIVE COACHES

- Coaches will load pitching machine no player is to pitch
- Only 3 Defensive Coaches are permitted on field No Parents or Fans (NO EXCEPTIONS)
   during defense, does not include Pitching Coach for team batting
- Coaches will do their best not to interfere with hit balls, only as a safety precaution for a player. In the event of a safety stop of the ball, the ball will be re-pitched, and runners will retreat to previous bases.

#### **RUNNERS**

- No stealing or leading off base.
- Players must run in base path or will be called out.
- Fielders must give clear paths for baserunners.
- May not interfere with a fielder fielding the ball interference results in runner being out
- Must avoid collisions
- May not be hit by batted ball in fair play (runner will be out)
- Feet first Sliding is allowed, no headfirst sliding

#### CALLS ON THE FIELD

• Games are self-officiated which means there are no umpires, and the coaches will make the calls. Closest base coach/fielding coach makes the call. The first base coach calls plays at first base and the fair/foul balls on the 1<sup>st</sup> base line. The third base coach calls plays at third base and the fair/foul balls on the 3rd base line. Defensive team will select a coach to make the calls at 2<sup>nd</sup> base. A tie goes to the runner. Please be fair on calls and respect the calls of the other coaches.

#### PLAY APPEAL Procedure

- CALL TIME OUT
- Appeal to be made between Managers only and is to be discussed respectfully.
- If agreement cannot be made, default base runner is SAFE.

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#### **DEVELOPMENT**

Coaches should make an effort to develop at least two or three pitchers who can pitch from a 30-foot distance. Teams that have pitchers who are able may be eligible to play a limited number of games in which players pitch.

### **UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT**

- Profanity/Unsportsmanlike conduct from coaches, players, parents, and umpires will not be tolerated at any time
- Any incident must be reported to any league official immediately. The league official must record the incident and submit the documentation to the BOD within 24 hours.
- Players will be benched by Managers.
- Parents and or Managers and/or coaches will be removed from that game and will be referred to the DRC.
- League officials are permitted to remove any player, Manager/coach, or parent from the league at any time for severe or repeated offenses, with no refund of fees.

#### D. Tee-Ball Division

### HOME/AWAY

- The home team (Field first) is third base dugout: Responsible for removing the mound covers and putting out bases. If it is the last game on your field, you are responsible to water and drag the field, cover the mound, and put the bases back in the appropriate shed.
- The away team is first base dugout and bats first
- Each team shall contribute one (1) league-provided game ball/per game and come prepared to contribute a 2<sup>nd</sup> game ball if necessary.
- All game balls, except for those awarded to a player for a home run, are thereafter to be used by each Manager as the team's practice balls.

## Baseball Bylaws & Local Rules

#### UNIFORMS/EQUIPMENT

- Players are expected to wear league provided uniforms and hats. All shirts must be tucked
  in at all times.
- NO METAL cleats or screw in football cleats are permitted
- Batting helmets are mandatory for hitting but do NOT require safety masks and chin straps

#### **GAME PLAY**

- 3 innings or one-hour time limit, whichever comes first
- All players bat through the line up
- 1 Base limit on bases for hits.
- Players remain on bases regardless of safe/out

### Alternative "Structured" game play (based on board approval)

- · 3 Innings or one-hour time limit, whichever comes first
- 5 runs or 3 outs whichever occurs first
- · No strikeouts

#### UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT

- Profanity/Unsportsmanlike conduct from coaches, players, parents, and umpires will not be tolerated at any time.
- Any incident must be reported to any league official immediately. The league official must record the incident and submit the documentation to the BOD within 24 hours.
- Players will be benched by Managers.
- Parents and or Managers and/or coaches will be removed from that game and will be referred to the DRC.
- League officials are permitted to remove any player, Manager/coach, or parent from the league at any time for severe or repeated offenses, with no refund of fees.

League officials are permitted to discontinue player, Manager, coach, or parent from league with no refund of fees, if applicable, at any time due to conduct.

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Safety Note: There shall be no "on-deck" batters allowed either on or outside of the field of play.\*

\*On Deck - At the beginning (or middle) of an inning; only the leadoff batter may warm up on the field of play before play starts (This is permissible only in the area adjacent to the dugout at a safe distance from home plate, as determined by the Umpire).

#### **ARTICLE 2 - CODE OF CONDUCT FOR MANAGERS & COACHES**

Per the Little League Official Regulations and Playing Rules regarding ejections and poor sportsmanship, if a Manager or coach is ejected from a game, a one game suspension is imposed. If removed by the umpire a second time, the offense will not be tolerated and result in dismissal from duties as Manager or coach. Please note that the above are minimum consequences. Any ejection of a Manager or coach will result in an investigation by the DRC.

### Section 1 - Manager Responsibilities

The Board wants to sincerely thank all Managers for their time and dedication to the children of our league. Managers are responsible for the "management" of the team, including but not limiting the following:

- a. Tryouts/Evaluations: every Manager and coach is needed to help run the tryouts and evaluate talent. All Managers/coaches are required to attend tryouts regardless of the division they are managing or coaching.
- b. Team selection: a draft process is used to select each team. This event is scheduled by the Player Agent and President.
- c. Practice: Each Manager is expected to hold regular practices. Failure to do so will cause removal of the team Manager.
- d. Scorekeeper & Pitch Counter: the home team is the official scorekeeper of the game. An individual other than the Manager should be recruited. The person should be an individual familiar with the game. Both the home and visiting teams shall have a scorekeeper and pitch counter for their team. The Manager is responsible for making sure their team has a scorekeeper and pitch counter for each game.

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### Section 2 - Manager and Coach Guidelines

LLL appreciates, admires, and respects, all those willing to manage and/or coach. It has been stated many times that the program of any Little League can only be as good as the quality of leadership in the management team. As Managers and coaches, you make the program work for LLL. Therefore, in order for LLL to consider someone for the position of a Manager or coach, that individual must recognize they hold a position of trust and responsibility in a program that deals with a sensitive and formative period of a young child's development.

Knowledge of the game is essential, but not the only requirement of a Manager or coach. The Manager or coach must be a LEADER. They require understanding, patience, and the capacity to work with young children. They must be sensitive to the mental and physical limitations of these young children and recognize the game is a vehicle of training and enjoyment. Young children are strongly influenced by adults whose ideals and aspirations are similar to their own. The Manager, coach, and player share a common interest in the game and a desire to excel as a ballplayer. Young children often idolize their Manager, or coach, not for their success, but for their source of inspiration. People holding these positions should be able to inspire confidence and earn respect. Above all, they must realize they are helping to shape the physical, mental, and emotional development of your children, and set an appropriate example in line Little League values and principles.

Therefore, all Managers and coaches must abide and adhere to the attached Coaching Principles & Objectives (Exhibit A).

Section 3 - Role and Formation of Disciplinary Review Committee (DRC)

In some circumstances, complaints about Managers and/or coaches may require disciplinary action from the league. A DRC will be appointed by the President immediately following a complaint. To facilitate the timeliness of disciplinary actions, the DRC shall meet to review disciplinary issues. Complaints or negative evaluations may necessitate inquiries to other parents, coaches, or league officials, but such complaints shall not be given credence unless confirmed by secondary sources. Complaints or negative evaluations about Managers or coaches shall be in writing and must be filed with the League within 30 days of the end of the season. Only after the DRC has reviewed the pending complaint and made a recommendation to the Board, can the

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matter be open to the Board for discussion. At that time, Board members would be afforded the opportunity to discuss the merits of the complaint as they would any new complaint that follows the procedures outlined below.

### Section 4 - Procedural Issues

The Player Agent shall contact the individual(s) under review within 3 business days of the formation of a DRC following receipt of a complaint. Upon request of the individual(s), the DRC shall provide a copy of the alleged complaint. The individual(s) shall be given an opportunity to review and respond in writing and/or in person to the DRC before the matter is discussed openly by the BOD. Upon request, the DRC shall make available to the individual(s), information or documents related to the alleged offense. Individual(s), against whom the alleged complaint has been filed, may be reprimanded, or disciplined only after proper notification and the DRC has made a review. Reasonable attempts should be made by the DRC to contact the individual(s) involved in the alleged offense. If the League has not received a response from the individual(s) within three (3) days of being notified that a complaint is pending, the DRC may make a disciplinary recommendation to the full BOD for action at the next scheduled Board meeting or an urgent disciplinary meeting. After careful deliberation of the alleged infraction and after individuals (s) have been notified, a preliminary recommendation of the discipline action shall be made by the DRC and presented to the individual(s).

The individual(s) shall have the right to appear at the next Board meeting for the purpose of appealing the DRC's recommendation to the BOD. In all cases where the DRC has determined the individual(s) is to be removed from the position of Manager or coach, or if it is deemed necessary to remove the individual(s) from the league entirely, a motion shall be made to that effect, and the BOD (voting members) must vote on the decision. Upon the unanimous (2/3<sup>rd</sup>) recommendation to remove a Manager or coach from his position by the DRC, a majority vote of eligible voters on the Board is sufficient. Upon recommendations by the DRC that are not unanimous, the removal of any coach or Manager shall require a two-thirds vote of the voting Board members.

#### Section 5 - Notification

Upon receiving a DRC recommendation, the league shall provide an immediate notice to all voting BOD members and the individual(s) that a disciplinary action will appear on the Board's agenda. In

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those circumstances, BOD members shall be notified by phone or email that the disciplinary item will appear on the agenda. The league shall make every effort to treat all parties involved with respect, and a sense of fairness, and make every effort to ensure that the disciplinary process is not being used for purposes of smearing the reputation of another individual or for personal gain.

### Section 6 - Proper Record-Keeping

A Manager or coach under disciplinary review may respond in writing to a complaint and LLL shall attach such response to the League's documentation and original complaint. LLL shall maintain complaints on file.

### Section 7 - Annual Evaluations

Managers and coaches shall be evaluated annually near the end of the season. The Coaching Coordinator with assistance from the Player Agent(s) and BOD shall conduct a league sanctioned Manager/coach evaluation to be completed near the end of each season. Such evaluations should be completed and delivered to the league President within 30-days of the season terminating.

### Section 8 - Evaluations: Preparing for the Next Season

In determining the appropriateness of Managers and coaches, the Manager/Coach Selection Committee shall review complaints and evaluations from the past season. Any Manager suspended from a game will not be permitted to manage a team with LLL during the next season. Also, in some circumstances that require the league to determine the historical behavior of a Manager or coach, the Manager/Coach Selection Committee may review prior seasons for evaluations and complaints.

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#### **ARTICLE 3 - FIELD DECORUM & PARK REGULATION**

Section 1 - Field Decorum

The actions of players, Managers, coaches, umpires, scorekeepers, and officials of LLL must be above reproach.

- A. Only the following persons are allowed on the field during the games.
  - · Uniformed players
  - · Managers
  - · Coaches
  - · Umpires
- B. No more than three (3) adults shall be allowed in the dugout area or inside the fence behind the back stop. Each adult must be a registered Manager or coach and have a cleared background check. One adult must remain in the dugout at all times.
- C. Scorekeepers and pitch counters must remain outside the fence at all times, unless the scorekeeper and/or pitch counter is a Manager or coach.
- D. Except for the batter, base runners, base coaches and defensive players, all players and coaches are to remain in their dugout(s) during play. Managers or coaches may not leave the dugout during the game, except in the event of an injury, or when time has been called by the umpire to confer with a player alternatively, the umpire or to report a player change to the scorekeeper. Managers and coaches are allowed on the field in T-Ball and Rookie divisions for instructional purposes.
- E. Smoking or the use of any tobacco products, consumption of alcohol and swearing is prohibited. No Manager, coach or umpire shall be allowed to use tobacco products or consume alcoholic beverages on or near the field of play. Additionally, all forms of tobacco and alcohol are banned from the dugout and the playing area and swearing shall not be allowed. Any violation, of these rules, is to be enforced by ejection from the game.
- F. Managers and coaches shall discourage players from unison chanting against, or intimidation of, opposing batters and the pitcher.

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G. Players shall not be allowed to warm-up against or near buildings, and buildings are not to be used as backstops.

### Section 2 - Park Regulation

LLL families must conduct themselves with dignity and courtesy toward the neighbors living near the ball fields. As a condition to a player's participation in LLL, each parent or guardian shall agree to honor the following "Good Neighbor" policy of the league.

A. They shall park their vehicles during games so as not to interfere with the ingress or egress of any neighborhood driveway, sidewalk, or fire hydrant.

- B. They shall leave the bleachers and surrounding areas in clean condition upon completion of each game and prior to departure.
- C. The sidewalks and surrounding areas shall not be used for the dumping of trash or the cleaning of cleats.
- D. Under no circumstances shall any side-yard, fence or outdoor shrubbery be used as a substitute for a restroom.
- E. There shall be no confrontations of any kind at any time with the pedestrians in or near the ball fields.

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### **ARTICLE 4 - SELECTION OF THE ALL-STAR TEAMS**

Method of selection is to be determined by the local league Board of Directors.

### **ARTICLE 5 - CODE OF CONDUCT**



Today, poor behavior is a widespread problem in youth sports leagues. A goal of the Board is to provide the most positive experience for our players. The actions of Managers, coaches, players, volunteers, parents, and spectators have the strongest impact and effect on the growth of our children. The conduct of our membership and visitors must exhibit courteous civil behavior and sportsmanship behavior whether on the field or in the stands.

According to Webster's Dictionary, sportsmanship is the ability of a person who can take loss or defeat without complaint or victory without gloating and who treats his opponents with fairness, generosity, and courtesy. Examples of poor sportsmanship include throwing equipment, using illegal equipment, bad language, arguing with an umpire's judgment call or harassing an umpire, opposing players or spectators.

Most important, remember that Little League baseball is only a game. By the time they arrive at the parking lot after the game, most of the children don't care who won or lost the game. However, if the parents set the tone by criticizing the Manager or the umpire, the children will get upset about it, too. <u>Don't ruin your child's baseball experience</u>. Be positive and supportive.

To reduce any problems at LLL activities, the BOD requests you to adhere to the following important guidelines:

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- Players and spectators are allowed ONLY TO ENCOURAGE players through cheering. A
  positive atmosphere should be maintained at all times.
- Chants or comments that are disrespectful, distracting, or derogatory to ANY player, Manager, coach, or umpire is prohibited.
- DO NOT distract participants from concentrating on the game. This includes the players, coaches, Managers, or umpires.
- DO watch for safety problems during games and practices to help prevent injuries. This includes watching your other children in the stands or on the surrounding grounds.
- Parents, Managers, and coaches are expected to set an example of good sportsmanship at all times by positively encouraging players and not vocally questioning or criticizing umpire calls or Manager decisions.
- Umpires have the authority to halt play and, if necessary, eject players, Managers, coaches, or spectators who are disrespectful, distracting, or derogatory and/or engage in other unsportsmanlike conduct to anyone involved in the game.
- Pick up all of your trash and your children's trash after each game or practice. Our playing and practice fields are to be kept clean. Please be responsible and help any time that you can.
- Smoking, smokeless tobacco, alcoholic beverages, or illegal drugs are prohibited by Little
   League Rules & Regulations where the little league is functioning.

Poor sportsmanship by Managers, coaches, players, spectators can result in ejection from the game and removal from the fields. Therefore, the BOD has adopted the following disciplinary actions on misconduct:

Parents and visitors: If any person initiates any physical confrontation or altercation or assault, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department will be notified as soon as possible by dialing 9-1-1. Any individuals involved in a physical confrontation will be required to come in front of the BOD and explain their actions. Disciplinary action by the BOD may result in banning or suspension from LLL and its activities. Any individuals involved in verbal confrontations may be required to come in front of the BOD and explain their actions as well.

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### **ARTICLE 6 - AMENDMENTS**

Section 1 - Rule Changes

Subject to the rules of Little League, LLL Local Rules may be amended at any time by a majority vote of the LLL Board of Directors. To the extent that any of LLL Local Rules may conflict with the rules and regulations of Little League, the rules and regulations of Little League Baseball, Inc. shall prevail and shall be deemed controlling.