

MONTESANO LITTLE LEAGUE

Bylaws

This document contains the local rules and regulations of the Montesano Little League (MLL) as directed by Article XII of the Constitution of Montesano Little League. The purpose of these bylaws is to provide operational rules for the Montesano Little League that are not prescribed by the MLL constitution or by Little League.

Section 1 – Teams and Player Drafts

A. Teams & Rosters

The Board of Directors shall determine each year the number of teams in each division (Major League, Minor League, Coach Pitch, and T-Ball) and whether there shall be more than one division within each of those divisions. The President of the Board shall have discretion to set the roster size for teams within each division. Major League teams shall not have less than eleven (11) players.

B. Draft Eligibility

All players of the playing ages 10, 11, and 12 who wish to be considered for a Major League team shall try out by attending not less than 50% of all Major League tryout sessions. The executive board, on the advice of the managers and coaches shall establish the number and the dates of the tryout sessions. The managers and coaches shall determine which drills and methods will be used for player evaluation, however it is well understood that a player's ability to play safely shall be a major focus of the tryout process. Failure to tryout shall disqualify a player from the Major League draft, unless that player is of playing age 12. Players not chosen for a Major League team shall be automatically placed on a Minor League team.

C. Draft

Player selection will be done by **Alternate Plan B** of the Little League Operating Manual.

D. Draft Order

Each year, the draft order for all divisions will be determined randomly without regard to the final standings from the previous season.

Section 2 - Games

A. Rules of Play

All games shall adhere to the Little League Baseball Official Regulations and Playing Rules also known as the "Green Book" and the following regulations.

B. Time Limits & Curfews

Major and Minor League

The home plate umpire shall be responsible for noting the starting time of each game. There shall be a two (2) hour time limit on all games in Major League and Minor League divisions, except for the final game of each day. Games shortened by time limit are considered official completed games as long as one team is ahead of the other at the end of the final inning played. Games shortened by time limit where the score is tied at the end of the final inning played, shall be finished at a later date.

Coach Pitch and T-Ball League

The head coaches shall be responsible for noting the starting time of each game. There shall be a one and a half (1-1/2) hour time limit on all games in the Coach Pitch and T-Ball divisions, except for the final game of the day. No inning shall begin after one hour and fifteen minutes has elapsed.

There shall be a curfew of 10 P.M. on all games played Sunday through Thursday and 11 P.M. on all games played on Friday and Saturday.

Regardless of local curfew time, no new inning shall be started after 10 pm on any day of the week. Games stopped by the home plate umpire shall be completed at a later time or a winner declared, as provided by Official Rules 4.10-4.12.

C. Scheduling

Games scheduled Monday thru Friday shall begin no earlier than 5:30 P.M. If the first game is delayed due to weather or field conditions, it must begin no later than 6 P.M., after which time it shall be cancelled and rescheduled.

D. Run Rule

For Minor League and Coach Pitch play there shall be a (4) four run maximum per half inning with the exception of the last inning which unlimited runs are permitted. There is no score kept in the T-ball division.

E. Batting

Coach Pitch teams shall bat all players on their lineup card in a continual order including players not playing defense. Mandatory playing time as outlined in the Little League Official Rules shall be followed. T-ball teams bat through their entire lineup every inning with the inning completed when the entire lineup has batted.

F. On-Deck Circle

There is not an on deck circle for any level of play. Only players carrying bats to and from the batting box should have a bat in hand. There shall be no swinging of bats during a game except by the current batter in or around the batter's box. Swinging of bats within the uncovered fenced portion of the dugouts shall be grounds for ejection from a game at the discretion of the home plate umpire.

G. Dugouts

Any player not under the covered portion of the dugout shall be wearing a batting helmet at all times during a game. Teams are permitted to have only one manager, two assistant coaches and their current roster of players in the dugout. Siblings of players, parents, or coaches in excess of the permitted amount shall not be in the dugout or on the playing field during a game unless carrying out the duties of umpire. There shall be an adult coach or manager in each dugout at all times during a game. If a team only has one adult manager or coach on site for a game that person must remain in the dugout at all times during the game and use players for base coaches. No person shall be permitted on the playing field or in a dugout that has not completed and passed a current season Little League background check. The home plate umpire may stop a game at any time when a team is in violation of these rules and suspend play until it is corrected. The offending team will forfeit that game if they refuse to comply immediately.

H. Pitching

Minor League

Rules for pitch counts are designated in the Little League International rule book.

Coach Pitch

In the Coach Pitch division of play only, the batting team's coach shall pitch the ball while in contact with the pitching rubber at all times. That coach shall make every effort to not interfere with the play of the game in any manner and shall avoid contact with a live ball whenever possible.

I. Defensive Players

In Minor League and Coach Pitch there shall be four (4) outfielders and all must play the position of outfielder. In T-Ball, all players on the roster play at the same time on defense. Catchers for all divisions must wear full catchers gear including a dangling throat protector on the catcher's mask regardless of mask style. T-Ball catchers may use their standard glove while playing catcher.

J. Equipment

Players and coaches shall only use equipment approved for use by Little League during a game including bats, gloves, protective gear, uniforms, footwear, etc. Only equipment currently in use by a player shall be on the field during play. Items not currently in use shall be removed immediately. Any item found to not meet Little League playing rules shall be immediately removed from the field and dugout. Team managers are responsible for producing proof that equipment is approved as needed. If proof is not available, the equipment will be removed from the dugout immediately.

K. Field Preparation

The home and visiting teams are responsible for preparing the field for play prior to each game. This includes putting out the bases, raking and chalking the field, as well as putting out the street signs. Both teams are responsible for raking the field and putting the bases away following the last game of the day. Both teams involved in the last game of the day are responsible for emptying trash, picking up grandstand debris, cleaning dugouts, turning off the lights, putting street signs away, and securing the facility before leaving the park.

L. Snacks

Food and sunflower seeds shall not be permitted on the playing fields or in the dugouts at any time.

Section 3 - Discipline

A. Ejection for conduct

Any player, manager, or coach who has been ejected from a game by an umpire for unsportsmanlike conduct or any other behavior issues is automatically suspended for one game and the Board of Directors shall review the incident and call the player or manager to appear to give testimony for consideration of further possible discipline.

B. Reports of Poor Conduct

If the Board becomes aware or receives reports of unsportsmanlike conduct or any other negative behavior issues, to include conduct off the field that may reflect poorly on the MLL, by any player, manager, or coach not resulting in ejection by an umpire, the Board may investigate the report and require appearance of any player, manager, or coach before at least three members of the Board. Poor conduct includes disclosure of confidential results of player selection for regular season and tournament teams prior to authorization by the president.

C. Punishment and Sanctions

After completing its review of the conduct issues under A or B above, the Board may suspend the player, manager, coach, or any other person whom the board has jurisdiction over from one or more future games or, in the case of extreme misconduct, may terminate the membership of the offending player, manager, coach, or other person for the remainder of the season or duration deemed appropriate.

Section 4 – Tournament (All-Star) teams

A. Teams & Rosters

Each year, the Board of Directors shall decide the number of tournament teams that will represent MLL in All-Star competition. For each team, the Board will set the roster size.

B. Manager Selection

The manager of each tournament team shall be selected by a vote of managers from within their division. Assistant coaches shall then be selected by the elected manager from within their division. Election shall be by secret ballot which shall be supervised by at least two board members. In case of a tie, the tie will be broken in a random number drawing. Each manager and coach who desires to be considered for selection must submit written notice to the president prior to the selection process.

C. Player Selection

During the last two weeks of the regular season, the players from the Major League teams shall be provided ballots to elect at least four players to each of the tournament teams. Process: Each player shall vote for 4 players (only from other teams) for each tournament team. The ballots shall be tallied and the four players receiving the highest number of votes for each team shall be elected to that team. No player may be elected to more than one team. The remaining players for each of the tournament teams shall be selected by vote of team managers only, in the presence of the player agent and one additional board member.

Section 5 - Player registration fees

The board shall establish player fees on an annual basis.

Section 6 - Sponsor Fees

The Board shall establish the annual sponsor fees for Major and Minor League teams and sign sponsors. The fees may be adjusted yearly as directed by the board of directors.

The executive board shall establish an annual sign sponsor fee schedule.

The fees may be adjusted yearly as directed by the board of directors.

Section 7 - Food service / concessions

The purpose of the concessions is to generate revenue for the league. The president with the consultation of the board of directors shall arrange for management of the food concessions. This may be done by volunteer or by contract with a party not affiliated with the Montesano Little League. Nepotism and conflicts of interests shall be avoided. All local and state health laws shall be enforced. Any contract entered into for management of the food concessions shall be reviewed on an annual basis but the MLL Board of Directors has the right to decide on renewal of current concessions contract prior to end of season.

Section 8 – Managers, Coaches, and Volunteers

A. Required Background Checks

In order to participate in any program where contact with children is likely to occur, the participant shall have undergone a national background check as required by Little League on an annual basis.

B. Managers

Individuals must apply annually for a manager's positions by submitting a resume and letter of intent to coach. As detailed in the green book there is no tenure for returning coaches or preference given to any individual for prior years of service.

Adopted or reviewed at the regular business meeting, dated _____.

President: _____ Secretary: _____

Date: _____ Date: _____