

Bridge City Little League Major / Minor League Baseball Rules and Regulations

FUNCTIONAL PURPOSE OF THE MAJOR LEAGUE / MINOR LEAGUE PROGRAM

The Little League Major League / Minor League is a program for ten, eleven and twelve old boys to continue their development in Baseball. They continue to develop their skills appropriate to their ages. The game is structured to develop an understanding of baseball, and the strategies of the game.

MANAGERS/COACHES

The manager must approach this league with the attitude of helping boys through the learning process of Baseball. They should not be concerned **only** with the winning and losing aspects of the game. Skill development is the key ingredient of this league. Managers/Coaches should stress good attitudes to the parents. Managers will be responsible for the behavior of the assistants on the team.

RULES AND REGULATIONS:

Early games will begin at 5:30. No inning will start after one (1) hour and forty five (45) minutes. Once the one (1) hour and forty five (45) minutes has been reached, the inning that was started must be finished. The second game will begin at 7:45. No inning will start after one (1) hour and forty five (45) minutes, and the game will end when you finish the inning that you are in.

Little League Major League / Minor league Curfew is as follows: No inning will start after 10:00 p.m., but play may continue after 10 p.m.

1. All rainouts will be played the first available date after the rainout. There will be no exceptions to the rescheduling of rain out games.
2. The **visiting team** will occupy the **first base dug out**, and will be responsible for operating the **scoreboard**, including pitch count sheet, for the game. The **home team** will occupy the **third base dugout**, and will be responsible for the **official scorebook** and for **marking the field** before any game. **All managers** playing on the field that day are **responsible for field preparation** after rain or rainouts. **Scorekeepers are to sit between the dugouts. Scorekeepers sitting in the stands will not be permitted. Scorekeepers are not to point out any scorekeeping infractions, and should not initiate any conversations with either manager.**
3. Major League / Minor League Baseball games will be **six (6) innings. Four (4) innings** constitute an official game for the Majors. **Three (3) innings** constitute an official Minor League game.
4. After the season starts, a team shall have five (5) active days per week, with a minimum of three (3) active days. **Twelve (12) year olds cannot pitch in the minors.** Pitch count rules will determine how long a pitcher may pitch in each game. There will be no exceptions.

PITCH COUNT RULES:

Boys Age	Max Pitch limit in game		Pitches Thrown	Days Rest
10	75		1-20	0
11-12	85		21-35	1
			36-50	2
			51-65	3
			66-85	4

EXCEPTION: If a pitcher reaches the limit imposed in Regulation VI (c) for his League age while facing a batter, the pitcher may continue to pitch until that batter reaches base or is put out.

NOTE 1: If the pitcher reaches the limit imposed in Regulation VI (c) on his last pitch to a particular batter, the pitcher must be removed before delivering a pitch to the next batter.

NOTE 2: Intentional walk: The pitches must be thrown. Catcher is to stand up in catchers box with hand pointed in toward opposite batter's box to the hitter.

There will be an official pitch counter for each game. The coaches should check with the pitch counter between each inning. The official pitch counter will have the final count if there is a dispute between coaches.

5. All players must play their mandatory time for all games according to the Little League rule book. A Minor League team may start with eight (8) players. If a team starts with 8 players, the ninth slot in the batting order is an automatic out. **No exceptions.** A Major team must have 8 players to continue a game. If, during a Major League game, a team does not have eight (8) players to continue, the game will stop immediately. The game will continue at a later date. Scheduling the game will be the responsibility of the Baseball Vice President and/or the Player Agent.
6. A pitcher may warm-up inside the playing area, along the fence line if possible, using a player guardian. Catcher must wear a mask to warm-up pitcher. **Managers and coaches are not allowed to warm up a pitcher at any time.**
7. **Managers will not be permitted** to leave the dugout without the permission of the umpire.
8. Other than judgment calls, the **manager, not the assistants,** may question the call by calling time and asking for another opinion from the umpire not involved in the play, **if given permission** by the umpire involved in the play.
9. A **Minor League** manager, whose team is ahead **10 RUNS, MAY PASS HIS BAT** and send his team to the field will less than three (3) outs if he chooses. **THE OPPOSING MANAGER DOES NOT HAVE TO AGREE WITH THIS ACTION.** Also, there will be no stealing of home by a team with a 10 run lead. **THERE WILL BE A 5 RUN LIMIT PER INNING FOR THE MINOR LEAGUE. THERE WILL BE NO RUN LIMITS IN THE 6TH INNING ONLY.**
10. The Major Division will enforce the 10 run rule after 4 innings. Since the Minor division observes a 5 run limit per inning, the 10 run rule will **NOT** be enforced.
11. The official league uniform will be issued shirt and cap. A player that is not in official league uniform will not be allowed to participate. No jewelry will be permitted. **(The exception will be Medical Information).**
12. Shirts will be worn tucked inside pants at all times.
13. It is recommended that both managers check the scorebook after the game, in case of possible pitching record errors. If the scorebooks needed in a protest are unreadable, the protest will be voided.
14. The manager or his assistant may coach first or third base when his team is at bat. They must remain at that position until the inning is over.
15. There will be an 11/12 year old All Star team named in the Major league. Also an Eleven year old All Star team will be selected. They will be managed by a Major League coach. Eleven year olds in the minors will be eligible to participate in the 11 yr. old All Star team. Ten-year-old All Stars will be named in the Minors.
16. **ANY MANAGER/COACH EJECTED FROM A GAME WILL BE SUSPENDED FOR A MINIMUM OF TWO (2) GAMES, AND WILL BE BROUGHT BEFORE THE BOARD TO EXPLAIN HIS ACTIONS, WITH DOCUMENTATION OF HIS/HER ACTION. The manager/coach ejected will not be allowed to be on Little League property for the two suspended games. A second offense will be reviewed with possible removal from the team.**

17. All games will be played according to the schedule. Any exceptions will have to approved by the Baseball Vice President or the Player Agent.
18. The maximum number of any one age group will be held to **eight (8)**. If this number is exceeded in the draft, because of the ages of the draftees, the Player Agent will note the players over the maximum number, and these children will be put back into the draft, or traded the next year. The Player Agent will notify the parents of these children after the draft.
19. **ALL MANAGERS AND TEAMS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR CLEANING UP THE TRASH AFTER THEIR GAME. CLEAN YOUR DUGOUTS ALSO.**
20. **THE MANAGER IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ACTIONS OF HIS FANS!!!**
21. Assistant coaches must be selected and approved before tryouts. If not, your assistant will not be selected until after the draft.
22. When a **manager** or assistant gives up his position, he can no longer be associated, on the field or in the dugout, with that team, as long as he is in that division. (EX: He cannot step down to either assistant positions, so that another child can be frozen as the new Manager's child).
23. Each team should be prepared to exit the dugout immediately after the game. Hold your team meeting at a different location.
24. It will be illegal to jump a defensive player attempting to make a tag.
25. A request to reschedule a game because of school functions must be accompanied with a list of students involved in the function. If a team can field nine (9) players, the request will be denied.
26. If a manager/coach is ejected from the last game of the season, the suspension will be enforced on the first two games of the following season.
27. **THERE WILL BE NO SOFT TOSS ALLOWED INTO ANY FENCING AT BCLL.**
28. **PLAYOFF FORMAT: THE PLAYOFFS WILL BE A SINGLE ELIMINATION TOURNAMENT.** All games in the Tournament will be played in the same week. In leagues with 6 or less teams, the team with the best regular season record will advance to the Championship game, while the 2nd and 3rd regular season teams will play each other with the winner advancing to the Championship game. In Leagues with 7 or more teams, the top four teams will advance to the Tournament. The top rated team will play the fourth seeded team, with the second and third place teams will play. The winners of these two games will advance to the Championship game. All teams will receive trophies. The 1st round of play off games will play a time limit. The Championship game will not have a time limit.
29. If two or more teams are tied for a playoff position, the tiebreaker will be as follows:
 - I. Head to head records (if only 2 teams)
 - II. Record against other playoff teams (Start with the highest seeded team not involved in the tie and work down.)
 - III. One game playoff (if time permits)
 - IV. Coin flip