

Local Rules for Derry Little League 2011

League

The divisions of Derry Little League, hereafter called the League, shall be known as:

Minor AA	7 & 8 year old	Up to 13 players per team
Minor AAA	9-11 year old	Up to 13 players per team
Major	10-12 year old	12 players per team
Senior League	13-16 year old	Up to 14 players per team

Managers and Coaches responsibilities (non inclusive):

Managers and Coaches must realize that managing and coaching their team is not the whole part of their job. Other involvement in the League is necessary and required. This will include Auxiliary, fundraising, committees, chaperoning and concession stand. **Attendance at the Managers meeting each year is mandatory.** In addition, attendance at the annual League meeting is highly recommended. The Board of Directors may remove any Manager or Coach not so participating without justifiable reasons. Active involvement is required to help maintain good communications and sharing of the workload.

If a team Manager loses any player(s) on the roster during the current season through illness, injury, change of address, or other justifiable reasons, another player shall be obtained through the player agent, to replace the lost one. The Manager must notify the player agent as soon as possible but no later than seven days from the first game missed. Replacements from the Minor League program during the last two weeks of the Minor League season are prohibited.

Managers shall ensure that the dugouts, stands, field, and surrounding area are picked up after each game by their teams. This includes trash not dropped by your team. Please bring a trash bag for this purpose.

Managers and coaches must wear their team hat or a Derry Little League hat at all games and practices as well as visible league approved identification.

Only players in uniform may play.

Uniforms & Equipment

The Derry Little League furnishes all Little League teams (within all divisions) with shirts, caps, socks and pants. All players must provide their own baseball footwear (no metal cleats), baseball gloves, athletic supporters and protective cups. Additionally, the Derry Little League provides all teams with baseballs, batting helmets, first aid kits, catcher's mitts and catcher's equipment. Please note that, due to safety concerns, under no circumstances will the Derry Little League allow the use of metal cleats.

When more than one game a day is scheduled on a field at different times the prior game must be completed before the new teams may enter the field or dugouts. The umpire of the previous game will indicate when the game has concluded.

Dugouts are assigned as follows: **Home team - first base side, Visitors - third base side.**

Games shall start promptly at posted times, cutting short warm-up times if necessary. **Visitors** will have the field for warm-up starting one half hour prior to game time for 15 minutes. **Home** team will have from 15 minutes prior to game time until game time.

Parking at the Derry Village School, Hood School and Pinkerton shall be in approved areas only.

The draft order for Majors and Senior League divisions will be the reverse order of the standings at the end of the prior season. The standings shall include any games played to determine the league champion. Draft options shall be submitted to the Player Agent prior to the draft.

The Charter Committee in Williamsport has granted Derry Little League a special waiver to the draft rules to **limit the number of high school players on each Senior League team.** All high school players will be placed into a pool to be divided evenly between all teams. **The high school draft will be conducted first.** If a manager has a son on a high school team, he/she must pick him first. When the pool of high school players is exhausted, the draft continues where it left off.

Cancellation of games for weekday play

The President and VP of Baseball Operations will make the decision for the cancellation of games for the entire league whenever possible. This information will be left on the league phone one hour prior to game time as the opening message. To avoid tying up the phone line, **only the manager of the team should call for this information**. No games are to be played if the league calls off play. This does not limit the ability of umpires to cancel games at a later time if necessary.

Cancellation of games for weekend play

The President and VP of Baseball Operations will make the decision for the cancellation of games for the entire league whenever possible. **Weekend games will be cancelled on a per game basis**. This information will be left on the league phone one hour prior to game time as the opening message. To avoid tying up the phone line, **only the manager of the team should call for this information**. No games are to be played if the league calls off play. This does not limit the ability of umpires to cancel games at a later time if necessary.

Make up games shall be rescheduled for a future date by the two-team managers within 7 days from the unplayed game. If the game is not rescheduled then the Umpire in Chief and the division Vice-President will schedule a date for the make-up game. Inability of either team to field a team of nine players for a scheduled makeup may lead to automatic forfeiture. The final decision of forfeiture will be by the Board of Directors.

PLEASE READ YOUR RULEBOOK FOR COMPLETE LITTLE LEAGUE RULES AND DETAILS.

Ask to be loaned a copy of the by-laws and operating manual from the Secretary so that you can understand how your league is setup and run.

Repeated failure of a player to attend team practices may lead to disciplinary action as determined by the President, Player Agent, Team Manager and division vice-president, or the Board of Directors.

Players ejected from a game must be released to a parent or guardian for removal from the playing field or stands. The player will be held on the bench until such time as the parent or guardian becomes available.

Players who refuse to move up to the Majors if called up during the season shall result in forfeiture of further eligibility in the Major League for the current season.

A player may not pitch in more than one game in one day, including any non-Little League teams and/or games.

Board

All checks shall be signed by the Treasurer and either the President or Executive VP. Two signatures are required.

Preferably *all* expenditures will be Board approved however expenditures over \$200.00 *must* be approved by the Board of Directors. Expenditures \$200.00 or less may be approved by the President in the absence of the Board if necessary. Check amounts shall not be divided for the purpose of bypassing this rule.

The Auxiliary shall be allowed to have a petty cash fund of \$200.00. A surplus of more than \$100 in the petty cash fund shall be turned over to the League Treasurer.

If a vote of the Board of Directors ends in a tie, the tie shall be broken by a second vote of a committee consisting of the President, Vice-president, and the Secretary, with the Treasurer to be the first alternate.

Manager selection for Minors, Majors and Senior League regular season teams

All regular season Managers names shall be put forth by the respective division VP's. All Managers names shall be voted on and approved by the Board of Directors. Once Managers have been approved, they may choose their own coaches or have the league assign them one. Each Managers respective coaches names shall be put forth by the respective division VP's. All coaches names shall be voted on and approved by the Board of Directors.

Manager selection for Majors and Senior League Tournament and All-star teams

Tournament and All-star Managers shall be nominated by a committee of the division Vice-President, Player Agent, and President and then approved by the Board of Directors. Such Manager may choose their own coaches with Board approval of choices.

Selection of All-star Teams

Managers shall be nominated by the President and approved by the Board of Directors. Players will be placed on these teams based on a voting process conducted by the League Vice President. The All-star team will have representatives from each team. These representatives will be chosen by a majority vote of team members from each team. The division Vice-President, or board-approved replacement, shall administer the balloting. The number of players selected from each team will be based on the number of teams in the League, and will be decided by the Board of Directors, based on a recommendation from the League Vice President. All-stars need final approval by the Player Agent and division Vice-President before being accepted or announced.

Selection of Tournament Teams

Managers shall be nominated by the President and approved by the Board of Directors. Player selection for Majors 12,11 and 10 year old tournament teams will be made by a vote of all Major Division Managers who attend a mandatory meeting called by the President and/or division Vice-President. Each manager will cast a ballot for ten separate players. The ten players receiving the highest number of votes will automatically be placed on the tournament team. Up to four additional players shall be chosen by the approved manager of the tournament team. Consideration for these choices should be given to the All-star team's specific needs in order to be competitive (i.e. Pitcher, Catcher, etc.). Tournament teams will be filled in order of age starting with 12 year old team first and ending with 10 year old team.

Protest Committee

A committee composed of the President, Player Agent, VP of Baseball Operations and the division VP shall hear and resolve any protests, including interpretation of playing rules.

Child Abuse Prevention Policy

Child abuse takes many forms, has many levels of severity, and requires different responses. League policies and programs to educate, prevent and when indicated, intervene, will assist in the management of the problem and install a greater sense of confidence in all children and adults. Unfortunately, there is no program or policy that can completely prevent this inappropriate and sometimes devastating offense, but all attempts are well worth the effort.

Child abuse is present in youth sports, including baseball and softball. It may take the form of abusive sexual, physical or verbal behavior, and may also be evident by the neglect of a child's needs. Sexual abuse has received the greatest publicity. Leagues have learned that among coaches and volunteers within a program there are sometimes individuals who exploit their unique opportunities for sexual advances. Organizations also recognize that children have been exposed to "neglect" by ignoring a child who needs to develop skills until he/she quits, "verbal abuse" by demeaning a child until he/she withdraws or suffers diminished self-esteem, and "physical abuse" by striking a child or hitting faster balls until a skill is mastered. Any form of child abuse is unacceptable.

The aforementioned examples of child abuse and the potential for inappropriate accusations makes preventive intervention to protect players and volunteers essential.

1. All Board Members, managers, coaches and umpires with access to players are subject to a criminal background check at the time of application. This background check is to be carried out as soon as possible. It is Little League Baseball, Incorporated policy that no person who is a known child-sex offender should be given any access to children in the Little League program.
2. An individual and alternate with optimally professional back ground should be chosen by the league from the community to receive and act on abuse allegations in a confidential manner and to follow the established due process procedure (contained in the bylaws).
3. A liaison should be established with the law enforcement community to assist in the implementation of preventative measures and in response to allegations of illegal behavior. The law enforcement community should also pursue its surveillance and investigation procedures in a discrete and confidential manner until guilt is established.
4. Each year following the background check all returning volunteers will file an application for league involvement, which should ask for, at a minimum, any convictions of crimes against a person. The president should confidentially review the applications.
5. A preseason meeting should be held annually for managers and coaches to define and explain the multiple facets of child abuse and the mechanisms to prevent and detect these occurrences. Additionally during the April meeting of the Board of Directors a similar discussion should be held to inform the general public and parents of our policy.

Confidentiality Procedures

Background Checks

- For the President's eyes only. In the event that the President is unable to perform the duties of the office, the Safety Officer will be responsible for the review of all background checks
- The President's background check will be reviewed by the League's District Administrator
- Not to be photocopied except at the written request for a personal copy by the volunteer
- Not to be discussed with anyone else, including other board members
- No notes in any form may be recorded from the report
- May be retrieved upon written request by the volunteer upon resignation or termination from the League
- The report may be used during due process hearings with permission of the volunteer. Refusal to allow use of the report by the volunteer shall be deemed a voluntary resignation.

Application to Manage, Coach or Volunteer

- For the President or Chair of the Manager's committee eyes only
- Not to be photocopied
- May be discussed with the Manager's committee only
- May be retrieved upon written request by the volunteer upon resignation or termination from the league

Senior Leagues

No new inning shall start after **two hours and forty-five minutes** from the start of a game. For the purposes of this rule a new inning begins immediately following the third out of the prior inning.

A complete roster batting format may be chosen by the Board of Directors on a per season basis

League division playoffs

One double elimination playoff to determine the division champion. Current league standings determine byes and location on the double elimination schedule (i.e. 1 vs. 5). Games without a winner count as a loss for both teams (not played, ties not broken, games less than minimum length). If time or weather becomes a factor, playoffs can be switched to single elimination at the Board of Directors discretion. If such change does occur, any teams with a single lose at that time will be eliminated from the playoffs.

All games played during league playoffs count toward next year's draft order using a percentage basis. Games without a winner count as a loss for both teams (not played, ties not broken, games less than minimum length).

Major League

No new inning shall start after **two hours and thirty minutes** from the start of a game, **unless at this time it is a tie game**. For the purposes of this rule a new inning begins immediately following the third out of the prior inning.

League division playoffs

One double elimination playoff to determine the division champion. They would become the "League Champions" who would play one game to determine the "Derry Champion." Current league standings determine byes and location on the double elimination schedule (i.e. 1 vs. 5). Games without a winner count as a loss for both teams (not played, ties not broken, games less than minimum length). If time or weather becomes a factor, playoffs can be switched to single elimination at the Board of Directors discretion. If such change does occur, any teams with a single lose at that time will be eliminated from the playoffs.

All games played during league playoffs count toward next year's draft order using a percentage basis. Interleague games also count. Games without a winner count as a loss for both teams (not played, ties not broken, games less than minimum length).

Every player on a team roster will participate in each game for a minimum of **nine defensive outs and bat at least one time. If a full six inning game is not played this rule may be reduced to six defensive outs and one at bat as required by Little League.**

Penalty: The player(s) involved shall start the next scheduled game playing any previous requirement and the requirement for this game before being removed. See Regulation IV for additional penalties.

A player under disciplinary action approved by the Team Manager, Umpire, President, Player Agent, or Board of Directors shall not be considered under this rule. An Umpire should so note such disciplinary action and report in writing the circumstances to the President within 48 hours following the game.

Minor AAA

The complete roster shall be used when batting.

Defensive players may be substituted without restriction except for the pitcher and catcher positions. Please see rule xx.xx in the Little League rule book for complete explanation.

There is a **five run limit** per half inning.

No balks shall be called.

No new inning shall start after **two hours and thirty minutes** from the start of a game. For the purposes of this rule a new inning begins immediately following the third out of the prior inning.

League division playoffs

One double elimination playoff to determine the division champion.

Every player on a team will participate in each game for a **minimum of nine defensive outs. If a full six inning game is not played this rule may be reduced to six defensive outs** as required by Little League.

Penalty: The player(s) involved shall start the next scheduled game playing any previous requirement and the requirement for this game before being removed. See Regulation IV for additional penalties.

A player under disciplinary action approved by the Team Manager, Umpire, President, Player Agent, or Board of Directors shall not be considered under this rule. An Umpire should so note such disciplinary action and report in writing the circumstances to the President within 48 hours following the game.

Minor AA

Players shall pitch:

First third of season, during the last two innings.

Second third of season, during the last four innings.

Last third of season, for the complete game.

Managers and/or approved coaches shall pitch to their own teams for the balance of innings.

Make-up games follow pitching rule for date the game is played.

When manager/approved coach is pitching, balls in play should be returned to the child pitcher.

No balls shall be called when manager/approved coach is pitching but strikes will, including third strikes.

There are no walks. The coach will take over the batter once the pitcher has thrown 4 balls (non strikes)

On balls hit into the outfield, runners on base can advance two bases.

Pitchers are limited to two innings per game, four innings per week (Sun. through Sat.).

No balks shall be called. There will be no passed balls.

No new inning shall start after **two hours** from the start of a game or after 8 P.M. For the purposes of this rule a new inning begins immediately following the third out of the prior inning.

Home team provides umpire (on the mound or behind the plate only if properly equipped) when children pitch

Managers and coaches are allowed on the field providing they have visible, proper league approved identification

Shall use **4 outfielders (10 players on the field)**. Team may play with only 9 players if that is all they have.

The ball is considered caught if a player touches a thrown ball while on or near the rubber. No further plays can be made.

Every player on a team will participate in each game for a **minimum of nine defensive outs. If a full six inning game is not played this rule may be reduced to six defensive outs** as required by Little League.

Penalty: The player(s) involved shall start the next scheduled game playing any previous requirement and the requirement for this game before being removed. See Regulation IV for additional penalties.

A player under disciplinary action approved by the Team Manager, President, Player Agent, or Board of Directors shall not be considered under this rule.

Defensive players may be substituted without restriction except for the pitcher and catcher positions. Please see rule X in the Little League rule book for complete explanation.

The complete roster shall be used when batting.

The infield fly rule will be in use. There will be no bunting.

There is a **five run limit** per half inning.

Out of play is the area outside of a line drawn parallel with the baselines from each end of the backstop. Helmets will be worn by runners, child pitchers when manager/approved coach is pitching, and batter.

The purpose of the Minor League (AA and AAA) program is to provide instructional training and develop self-confidence. The players' welfare always comes first.

NOTE: Minor AA is an instructional division and will not participate in divisional league play-off games.