



## Bridgewater Little League Senior League Rules

2019

*Revisions approved by BLL BOD on 1/9/2017*

Below are Bridgewater Senior League local rules which supersede the official Little League rules. Should there be any discrepancy between the "Senior League Rules" and the "Local Rules" the Bridgewater Little League Local Rules will take precedence.

### **General Information**

The Bridgewater Little League Board of Directors i.e. President, Vice President and Officers will be responsible for the Senior League's financial status, record keeping, scheduling, rules enforcement and all other related matters concerning the operation of the Senior League. All Little League/Senior League rules will apply unless amended and approved as local league rules. The Senior League was founded on the general principle of good sportsmanship. This guiding principle means that the league will not tolerate unsportsmanlike conduct of any kind on the part of fans, coaches, or players. Verbal harassment, racial, religious, or ethnic slurs will not be tolerated before, during, or after any Senior League game. The Umpire-in-Chief will use their discretion to enforce the rules of baseball and good conduct. Any violation of this rule will be reported to the league Board of Directors.

### **Field Participation Policy**

- Only Little League CORI approved personnel will be allowed to participate as a manager/coach or instructor on the field with the players at any time. All managers and coaches on the field or in the dugout, MUST wear their BLL issued CORI Approved ID tag. Those who do not have an ID tag, will be asked to join the spectators.
- There are absolutely no exceptions to this rule as individuals not CORI approved by Little League will not be covered by league insurance. It is the responsibility of each team manager to enforce this rule

### **Manager and Coaches Selection**

- Assignment of all managers and coaches will require the Board of Directors approval. Requirements to be nominated for a manager or coach's position include the following:
  - Filing and successfully passing of CORI review
  - In good standing with the league, Board of Directors, Parents, and Players
  - Experience coaching at a high level of baseball competition
  - Know and understand general baseball rules and regulation

### **Manager or Coach Issues**

- Behavior by any coach or manager that in the judgement of the umpire is clearly a serious violation of acceptable conduct established by the league:



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- The umpire shall report the incident to the Senior League Vice President and or League President who may bring it to the attention of the league Board of Directors.
- The league Board of Directors shall reserve the right to take action necessary to eliminate behavioral problems on the part of any manager or coach participating in the Senior League.
- All league actions will be communicated through the respective Senior League Vice President of the offending coach or manager and/or by the league President.

### **Disciplinary Infractions**

Any coach or player ejected from a Senior League game will be:

- Suspended for the next played game.
- If the same coach or player is ejected from another game, their privilege to coach or play will be reviewed by the Board of Directors with the possible immediate termination of said privileges.
- It is the responsibility of the manager of the team of the player or coach who received an ejection from a game to notify the Senior League Vice President within 24 hours of the incident.
- If it is found that an infraction was not reported to the Senior League VP within the specified timeframe then both the manager and player/coach WILL be punished by serving a one game suspension.

### **Equipment**

- Senior League will provide each team the appropriate equipment to be used in league games with the exception of bats.
- Home team is to provide a minimum of three (3) game balls per game.
- Baseballs to be used: Diamond DBR or equivalent (e.g. Rawlings RSL) )
- No substitutes shall be permitted unless approved by the Senior League VP.

### **Player Rosters**

- No player roster should exceed fifteen (15) players in the Senior League division without Senior League VP and/or league President approval.

### **Double Rostering**

- Double rostering is allowed. Players are allowed to be rostered on other teams (ex: High School, Jr. High School, Club Teams etc) Note: double rostering is not allowed for Hockomock Summer League

### **Summer League Eligibility**



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Only players registered for the 2019 Spring Senior League division season and must have played in at minimum 50% (one-half) of his teams scheduled league games prior to the start of Summer League play will be eligible to try-out for a Hockomock Summer League or District team. Any exceptions must be approved by the Senior League VP or League President.

### Schedules

- All schedules will be determined and prepared by the Senior League VP and approved by the League President which will include length of season, amount of games to be played and all other aspects relative to regular season, playoffs and championship play.

### Game Time Limits

- There is no time limit for games that do not have another game scheduled immediately after a game.
- There is a two and a half hour (2 ½) time limit if another game is scheduled after a game.
- You may complete an inning already in progress but cannot start a new inning.
- Games can be called because of darkness and is at the discretion of the umpire in charge. If a game is called because of either time limitation or darkness, the Suspended Game rule is in effect.

### Climate / Suspended Games

- If lightning is visible or rain is moderate to heavy, the game shall be delayed immediately for no longer than thirty (30) minutes (umpire's discretion).
- The umpire may wait a reasonable amount of time before terminating/suspending the game.
- The umpire or upon agreement by the two coaches has the discretion to terminate/suspend any game if weather has created unplayable or dangerous conditions.
- If a game is suspended before a game is considered a complete game (4 ½ or 5 innings if visiting team is winning), then the score reverts to the last complete inning.
- If a game is called due to darkness after 4 innings and there is a 10 run lead, it will be recorded as a complete game.
- Games that are not completed will be rescheduled and will continue from the point of where the game was suspended. Contact Senior VP to reschedule game.
  - Stacy Holyoke 508-326-2582
  - stacyholyoke@gmail.com

### Rescheduling

- All make-up dates offered initially are to be played at the site of the originally scheduled game if possible.
- Re-scheduling of game date and time must be agreed to by both teams and the Senior League VP prior to any final re-scheduling of games.



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### Postponed Games

- If a game is postponed:
  - (Insufficient amount of players is not a reason for postponement. This would result in forfeiture by the offending team.)

### Weather Related Postponements

- To the best of our ability, team managers and umpires will be notified approximately two (2) hours prior to game time of game cancellation by a league representative via email, website update and/or phone call. It is each manager's responsibility to contact his players.
- Additionally the following must be adhered to;
- The home team manager is required to contact the Senior League VP within 24 hours of the game postponement to determine the next available date(s) to reschedule the game.
- The home team manager will offer two make-up game dates to the visiting team manager. These two dates must fall within ten (10) days of the original game date.
- The home team manager has 48 hours from the original game date to notify the Senior League VP of selected rescheduled date and time so the field can be reserved and umpires scheduled. Failure to do so will result in forfeiture by the home team.
- If a game is not played within ten (10) days of the original game, then both teams may be subject to forfeiture.
  - Vice President – Senior Division Stacy Holyoke (508)326-2582
  - Umpire-In-Chief Doug Mahoney (508)245-2874

### Pre-Game Warm-up

- Home team has the field up to 15 minutes prior to game time (see game schedule for official start time)
- Visiting team has the field beginning 15 minutes prior to game time.

### Line-Up / Start of Game / Forfeitures

- Line-up cards will be exchanged between managers five (5) minutes prior to the scheduled time of game.
- A game may not start with less than eight (8) players.
  - Team with less than eight (8) players will forfeit the game.
- The ninth (9) and subsequent players to arrive late will be placed at the end of the batting order, no exceptions.
- Any player arriving after the first warm-up pitch of the game has been thrown, constitutes as being late. A grace period of thirty (30) minutes will be allowed for minimum number of players to arrive.
- Games will be seven (7) innings in length.
- Official Little League Senior Division rules will apply in all aspects of the playing rules except where Senior League Local rules have been adopted.



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### **Substitutions**

- Each team will bat their entire team(i.e. Continuous batting order)
- All teams have free defensive fielding substitution of their players.
- Free defensive substitution does not apply to the batting order. Starting players and substitute players may be rotated each inning to any defensive fielding position, except the pitcher.

### **Re-entry Rule**

- Any player injured and removed defensively from a game may return in the game. If the injured player is passed in the batting order he will not be eligible to return.
- Normal substitutions can be made in case of injury or if a player has to come out of the game.

### **Batting**

- Slashing will not be allowed. A player who slashes will be called out. The ball is dead. No runners may advance.

### **Bat Size**

- As our league is a combined Junior/Senior League we will adopt a combination of Rule 1.10

### **Junior League (ages 13 and 14)**

- Junior League rules apply for all bats
- ANY Composite Barrel bat MUST meet the BBCOR standard to use.
- IF a bat has no composite material in its barrel, it may be used per rule 1.10 of the Little League Rule book.
- Players are eligible to use 2 ¼" bats
- Wood bats are allowed

### **Senior League (ages 15 and 16)**

- Bat shall not be more than 36 inches in length, nor more than 2 5/8 inches in diameter.
- The bat shall not weigh, numerically, more than three ounces less than the length of the bat (e.g. a 33 inch long bat cannot weigh less than 30 ounces i.e. -3 drop).
- If an umpire rules a bat illegal then the bat must be removed from the game.
- As agreed with our umpire organization, Bridgewater Senior League Managers/Coaches will be responsible for monitoring each player to ensure they are using an appropriate size bat for their age, size and ability.
  - This is a safety issue and must be adhered to.
  - Any concerns/disputes regarding a specific player using an inappropriate size bat should be immediately brought to the attention of the Senior League VP for review.
- Any bat size disputes will be decided by the Senior League VP or League President.



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### Fielding

- Each player must play a minimum of three defensive innings in the field in a game and have the opportunity to have at least one (1) time at bat, unless home team is winning after 6 ½ innings. Defensive innings in the field may be consecutive or non-consecutive.
- No hidden ball tricks or deception plays will be allowed.

### Pitching

- No pitcher may pitch more than 95 pitches in any one game unless the pitcher reaches the limit while facing a batter, the pitcher may continue to pitch until the batter reaches base, the batter is put out or the third out is made to complete the half-inning. (Be careful of pitchers pitching for other teams e.g. Junior High, High School, Club Team etc.)
- Anyone who pitches is eligible to catch, providing they deliver no more than 40 pitches (actual count). For 2016, this requirement is waived per direction of the Senior League VP. If frequent abuse of this comes to light, the Senior League VP can restore this requirement at his discretion. The waiver is due to lack of quality and available catcher's playing in Seniors.
- Required Pitching days of rest
  - **13 – 14 Year Olds**
    - 66 or more pitches in a day, four (4) calendar days of rest must
    - 51 - 65 pitches in a day, three (3) calendar days of rest must be observed.
    - 36 - 50 pitches in a day, two (2) calendar days of rest must be observed.
    - 21 - 35 pitches in a day, one (1) calendar days of rest must be observed
    - 1-20 pitches in a day, no (0) calendar day of rest is required.
  - **15 – 16 Year Olds**
    - 76 or more pitches in a day will require four (4) calendar days rest
    - 61-75 pitches in a day will require three (3) calendar days rest
    - 46-60 pitches in a day will require two (2) calendar days rest
    - 31-45 pitches in a day, one (1) calendar day rest required
    - 1-30 pitches in a day, zero (0) calendar day rest required
- Penalties should pitching rules not be followed:
  - 1st Offense
    - If winning team commits the offense
      - Game will be replayed from point of defaulting pitcher's entrance into the game with score and situation reverting to point in time.
      - Defaulting pitcher is not allowed to pitch in replayed game.
      - Manager is placed on warning.
      - Pitch counts do not reset.
      - You have to use that time and date's rest count.
      - The exact rosters have to play in the game. Any player not in the original game cannot play in the rescheduled game.
    - If losing team commits the offense



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- Game is not replayed, score stands
- Defaulting pitcher is not allowed to pitch in his next available game (must take into consideration number of days rest rule from illegal game pitched).
- Manager is placed on warning.
- 2nd Offense
  - If winning team commits the offense
    - Game will be replayed from point of defaulting pitcher's entrance into the game with score and situation reverting to point in time.
    - Defaulting pitcher is not allowed to pitch in his next available game (must take into consideration number of days rest rule from illegal game pitched) or in replayed game.
    - If second offense is with the same pitcher as previous offense, player is suspended for two complete games i.e. next scheduled played game and from replayed game.
    - Manager is suspended for two games i.e. next scheduled played game and replayed game or possible termination from coaching remainder of season (subject to review by Senior League VP or League President).
  - If losing team commits the offense
    - Game is not replayed, score stands.
    - Defaulting pitcher is not allowed to pitch in his next available game (must take into consideration number of days rest rule from illegal game pitched).
    - If second offense is with the same pitcher as previous offense, player is suspended for two complete games, i.e. next scheduled played game and next available game to pitch in (must take into consideration number of days rest rule from illegal game pitched).
    - Manager is suspended for next two games or possible termination from coaching remainder of season (subject to review by Senior League VP or League President).
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Offense
  - To be determined by Senior League VP or League President

### **Trips to the Mound**

- A manager or coach is allowed one (1) free trip to the mound per inning.
- On the second (2) trip in the same inning, the pitcher must be removed from the mound.
- Calling a pitcher or catcher to the sideline will be considered a trip to the mound.
- Once a pitcher is removed from the mound they can be re-entered at any position, except pitcher.

### **Balks**



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- Batter takes 1<sup>st</sup> base, no warnings

### Slide Rule

- The “slide or avoid” rule will be used.
- Head first slides **are** allowed into any base.

### Run Limitations / Starting New Innings

- Unlimited number of runs can be scored in any inning.
- The Umpire-in-Chief will be the sole determinant as to when a new inning may start.
- The Umpire-in-Chief will take into account light available, weather, and the safety of the players.
- There is a 2 ½ hour game time limit for any game that has a game scheduled immediately after (see Game Time Limit Rule)

### Slaughter Rule – (10 Run Rule)

- A game will be terminated once becoming an official game (4 ½ if home team is winning or 5 innings if visiting team is winning) if one team is ahead by ten (10) or more runs. (This rule is in effect to preserve your pitchers)

### Tie Games

- Games may end in a tie (except during playoffs) if it has become an official game (after 4 ½ or 5 innings). If a game ends in a tie
- Each team will be awarded one (1) point.

### Scores/ Game Summary Reports

- The **winning team** is responsible for ensuring the Senior League Game Summary Report is complete, signed by both team’s manager or coach and reported to league official. Information required to be reported will include:
  - Team
  - Number of umpires officiating the game. (This is to know how many umpires are to be paid)
  - All information is to be e-mailed to stacyholyokey@gmail.com and the opposing manager within 24 hours of game played whether game is complete or incomplete.
  - Failure to provide this information will result in the winning team forfeiting the game.
  - The opposing manager should report any discrepancies of information provided by the winning team within 24 hours or information received will be considered accurate and official.
  - Tie or suspended games the home team provides the Game Summary Report

### Standings

- Team/League standings will be determined by the following;
  - Wins will be awarded two (2) points
  - Ties will be awarded one (1) point





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- Losses and Forfeits will be awarded zero (0) points.

### **Metal Cleats**

- Are allowed in the Senior League division for all ages.

### **Chanting**

- Chanting or singing of cadence of any kind is **not** allowed.

### **Field Maintenance**

- Both Home and Away teams are responsible for field preparation and field maintenance before and after each game.
- You must fill all holes on the pitcher's mound, at home plate and any base area.
- When available rake/drag the home plate, pitcher's mound and infield areas.
- Each team is responsible for disposing all trash in their respective dugouts.

### **Playoffs**

- Format - To be determined at a later date by the discretion of the Senior VP and League President.