

WATCHUNG LITTLE LEAGUE
TRANSITION LEAGUE RULES

GENERAL:

1. Coaches make mutual decision to call games because of darkness, rain, field conditions etc. Coaches should always check the WLL website (www.watchunglittleleague.org) before games in inclement weather and alert teams promptly if there are cancellations.
2. Weeknight games shall begin at 5:45pm in April; thereafter weeknight games shall begin at 6:00pm. Saturday games will begin according to the official schedule.
3. Coaches shall serve as umpires.
4. All players at the game are to play the field each inning, even if there are more than 9.
3. The batting order must include all players at the game. Any player showing up after the game has started will be inserted at the end of the batting order.
4. Coaches are strongly encouraged to change the batting order each game and give different players a chance to hit in different spots in the order.
5. Every player shall be rotated around the field in different positions. An exception will be made if there is a safety concern raised by a parent or coach.
6. All games played in April will be considered Practice Games (see rules below). Beginning on May 1, all games will be considered Official Games (see rules below). The last six (6) games of the season shall be Tournament Games (see rules below).

PRACTICE GAMES:

The following rules shall apply to Practice Games:

1. Games shall be 90 minutes long. No score will be kept.
2. Each inning will end at the earlier of: (a) 3 outs or (b) the last player in the lineup bats. The following inning will resume with the next batter in the order.
3. The pitching will be exclusively machine-pitch. Each player will get a maximum of 4 pitches from the pitching machine. After the 4th pitch, the player shall hit off of the tee.

OFFICIAL GAMES:

The following rules shall apply to Official Games:

1. Games shall be 3 or 4 innings – up to 90 minutes – at the coaches' discretion. Score will be kept, but there will be no league standings.
2. Each inning will end at the earlier of: (a) 3 outs or (b) the last player in the lineup bats. The following inning will resume with the next batter in the order.
3. The pitching will be exclusively machine-pitch. Each player will get a maximum of 4 pitches from the pitching machine. After the 4th pitch, the player shall hit off of the tee.

TOURNAMENT GAMES:

The following rules shall apply to Tournament Games:

1. Games shall be 4 innings, regardless of the time. Score will be kept, and standings will record wins and losses.
2. The team with the most wins at the end of the tournament shall win the "Most Improved" trophy. If two teams have the same number of wins, they will play against each other in a one-game playoff.
3. Each inning will end at the earlier of: (a) 3 outs or (b) the last player in the lineup bats. The following inning will resume with the next batter in the order.
4. For all innings, the pitching will be exclusively machine-pitch. Each player will get 5 pitches from the pitching machine. A player not putting the ball in play after 5 pitches will be considered out, unless the last pitch is a foul ball, in which case he/she will continue to get an additional pitch.
5. Results of Tournament Games must be emailed to the League Commissioner for inclusion in the standings.
6. At the coach's discretion, at the end of each Tournament Game, there may be a one inning pitched game, in which players are permitted to pitch to batters. Coaches will catch. All players choosing to bat against pitchers shall be placed in a lineup and every player in the lineup gets to bat.

GAME RULES

1. No stealing.
2. The guideline coaches should use for game length is 90 minutes.
3. No bunting.
4. If ball comes to rest on the dirt area of pitcher's mound then at the coach's discretion he should declare the ball dead/"no pitch" so as to avoid players getting tangled up under the machine attempting to make a play.
5. The speed of the machine should be approximately 30 MPH.
6. Players can advance bases on a ball in play at their own risk; however, once the ball is returned to the coach on the pitcher's mound, all players must stop at the nearest base.

OTHER

1. Teams are responsible for "policing" the dugouts and general field area after the game for refuse.
2. No food allowed in dugouts.
3. Only Watchung Little League-issued uniforms and hats are allowed.
4. No non-coach adults or children are allowed in dugout area.
5. Coaches are expected to keep their players under control. This includes:
 - A. Appropriate language and cheering.
 - B. Remaining in the dugout during game.
 - C. 1 Player only in "on deck" area and no bats allowed in dugout.
6. WLL home rule requires batters to use Little League-approved bats, and for batters/runners to wear NOCSAE approved safety helmets with the matching face guard.