

Warwick Little League

Instructional Baseball Local Rules (Revised 2017)

The Instructional level focuses on teaching/learning the fundamentals of catching, throwing and hitting. No scores are kept and there are no team standings. The Manager is responsible for their personal actions as well as their coaches, players and spectators. Badges shall be worn at all times as a visual assurance to parents and league officials that league approved adults are supervising the players.

Local rules.

1. All games shall consist of 6 innings with no new inning starting 2 hours after scheduled start time. All teams shall conduct their warm ups and game within the two hour time limit.

2. Each team shall supply 1 new game ball for every game.

3. The continuous batting order will be used in accordance with Rule 4.04. Anyone arriving after the start of the game shall be placed at the end of the order. The inning is over when three outs are recorded or all players in the lineup have batted whichever happens first. The batting order will be changed each game.

4. All roster players in attendance must participate a minimum of three innings on defense. Players will be moved to different positions during the game giving each player the opportunity to learn about every position during the course of the season.

5. Coaches pitch to their own players for about the first half of the season after which it is a combined player and coach pitch.

6. A 10th defensive player is allowed and is positioned as a 4th outfielder. Outfielders should be placed at a reasonable distance (10-20ft) from the infield. Defensive substitutions are unlimited. Managers should move players in and out of the game and rotate the positions on defense.

7. One manager and three coaches are allowed per team. While on offense a team must have one coach in the dugout, one at 1st and third as base coaches and the other at the pitching mound. While on defense one coach must remain in the dugout, one positioned behind the catcher and coaches in right center and left center field. The outfield coaches shall give defensive instruction to their players. League designated adults with badgers may be used to fill in if one of the all four regular coaches are not in attendance.

8. A coach from the defensive team should back up the catcher to collect passed balls and to instruct the batter if requested by the other team. Five balls should be used. The home plate coach shall collect each ball pitched. Pitched balls shall be held until the at bat is completed at which time balls are thrown back to the coach pitching.

9. All players must remain in the dugout at all times unless batting, on base or playing a field position. Players unable to control their behavior may be told to sit with their parent until the behavior improves. This can result in a player losing their turn at bat.

10. There is no on deck position. Players may not swing the bat or hold the bat in an unsafe manner while on, around or near the playing field or batting cage area.

11. Each batter will receive five pitched balls to hit. The batter failing to hit a fair ball shall be considered out after five pitches. If a batter fouls off the 5th pitch the at bat will continue until the ball is put in play or a pitch is not fouled off. When a player is pitching if after five pitches have been delivered and the batter has not reached base or been put out the coach will become the pitcher and deliver a maximum of three additional pitches unless the third pitch is hit foul. In that situation the at bat will continue until the ball is put in play or a pitch is not fouled off.

12. Any player who needs to leave the bench during a game or practice will do so only with the permission of the manager. These players must be supervised at all times by the team or the player's parent or responsible person.

13. No double headers!!

14. The catcher can wear any mitt.

15. The pitching distance is 37ft.

16. Players may slide. No head first sliding.

17. Any fair ball batted to and remaining in the infield area shall be ruled a single if the batter makes it to 1st Base before being thrown out. No extra bases on overthrows!!

18. If a ball is batted into the outfield a double may be earned if batter is not thrown out at first or second. If a player hits a fly ball beyond the outfielders a player can take as many bases with the risk of being put out. If hit over the fence; a homerun shall be awarded.

19. All equipment shall be returned to the shed and the shed locked. Both teams share the responsibility for dragging and raking the fields after the game or practice. Anything missing from the shed shall be reported immediately to the Concession Stand.

20. Any injury that occurs during a practice or game requires that an Injury Form (available in the Concession Stand) is filled out and left at the Stand. Notify the league official on duty before leaving the Park. Call the Commissioner and Safety Officer within 24 hours. The Manager should make a follow up call to the injured player's parent for an update on the player's medical status.