

MDLL MANAGER & PLAYER GUIDELINES FOR TRAVEL BASEBALL

SPRING AND FALL 2017

Mason District Little League (MDLL) recognizes the interests of parents and players to participate in non-Little League baseball programs. The following guidelines are adopted by MDLL to facilitate the understanding of responsibilities for players, parents and coaches involved.

MDLL cannot impose any requirements on non-Little League baseball programs, but can anticipate they would conform to these guidelines in order to protect players from injuries and allow Little League teams to enjoy the benefits of full player participation.

1. Little League Rules - All MDLL coaches will adhere to Little League rules and regulations including but not limited to pitch counts and catcher restrictions for their players. Any attempt to subvert such rules and regulations, whether as an MDLL coach or in a dual-capacity in a travel program, are grounds for probation or removal by the MDLL Board of Directors.
2. League Assets - Uniforms, equipment, and any assets belonging to MDLL (to include any uniform bearing the Little League shoulder patch), cannot be used for non-Little League activities, or in any game or tournament not specifically approved by Little League International. Any player or team that does so may be declared ineligible for further participation in Little League for that year, by action of the Tournament Committee or Charter Committee in Williamsport. The Charter Committee also reserves the right to suspend or revoke MDLL's charter for such violations.
3. Pitch Count / Catcher Information - All MDLL managers are required to share pitch count and catcher use information on games played to travel program managers within 48 hours in order to prevent any player from exceeding pitch-threshold requirements. Travel managers are strongly urged to do the same. MDLL managers, acting as travel managers as well, who attempt to avoid this reporting requirement, will have such actions considered when being evaluated for participation in tournament play.
4. Player Participation - The MDLL Board highly encourages travel programs that have a strong representation of MDLL players to hold open tryouts for all MDLL players. Any travel program that utilizes MDLL players is strongly encouraged to avoid putting players in the predicament of breaking Little League rules and regulations. Players who do participate in any non-Little League activity, and miss games or practices because of such participation, may be suspended or dismissed from their Little League team by action of the MDLL Board of Directors.

5. Fields - MDLL receives access to fields through permits issued by the Fairfax County Park Authority. This includes fields such as Mason District Park #1 and Dowden Terrace Park that travel programs might wish to utilize has field on Sundays. The county does not require permits for fields with less than 25 people in attendance, so if MDLL has not scheduled an event the fields are open to use. However, if a travel game is scheduled on an MDLL-permitted field that is not being used, it does so at its own risk. MDLL will make every effort to make their schedules publically known weeks ahead of time (subject to potential rainouts). MDLL has no authority to transfer its permit to other entities.
6. MDLL Cages – MDLL-permitted cages are for MDLL player and coach use only. If a travel player is also an MDLL player, they may utilize the cages provided there is an MDLL coach involved. Consideration will be given to outside participants who are providing pro-bono services that benefit all of MDLL.
7. Spring (Official) Season – **MDLL coaches shall be given preference for use of pitchers and catchers to their MDLL teams, with the understanding that travel players should be given opportunities outside of MDLL that respects both the rights of parents and coaches.** It is Little League policy that Little League coaches promote and advance players under the Little League system, especially in the Spring season. **MDLL coaches shall resolve any conflicts in favor of Little League.** Coaches on both programs are strongly encouraged to share their schedules as far in advance as possible. More opportunities to pitch and catch at will be available through promotion of MDLL’s Intermediate (50/70) program that utilizes Sundays for practices and games.
8. Fall (Training & Development) Season – **MDLL coaches shall strongly consider the rights of parents to have players participate outside of MDLL during the Fall Season by placing emphasis on MDLL weekday games.** This will allow more participation in outside programs on Sundays provided those pitchers are available for weekday pitching.