



McLean Little League Local Rules 2011

1.0 GENERAL RULES APPLYING TO ALL PROGRAMS

The purpose of Little League is to assist youth in developing citizenship, discipline, teamwork and physical well being, with proper guidance and exemplary leadership. The ball game is the means to these objectives and all participants have a responsibility to keep this perspective.

1.1 Conduct of Program Participants and Spectators

1.1.1 Conduct by any person, on the grounds of McLean Little League (MLL) including spectators, that is not in support of the program's objectives is grounds for ejection from the game and/or park area by the umpire-in-chief (plate umpire), Board Member on Duty or by a Board Member. Obscene, profane, abusive and/or unsportsmanlike language or conduct will not be tolerated and is grounds for ejection and/or disciplinary action.

1.1.2 Any manager, coach or player ejected from a game is subject to an automatic one game suspension, under National Rules, and shall be required to appear before the Rules, Conduct and Protest Committee, as established in Article VIII, Section 10, of the McLean Little League Constitution and By-Laws to explain the cited behavior. Any additional penalty imposed may include suspension or removal from the program.

1.1.3 Pets, bicycle riding, skateboarding or other activities that may endanger others are not allowed in the Little League Park.

1.1.4 TOBACCO PRODUCTS AND ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ARE PROHIBITED at all McLean Little League fields, property and events including games and/or practices.

1.1.5 Throwing balls or swinging bats is only allowed in Little League designated areas.

1.1.6 The manager, coaches and players must remain within the physical confines of the dugout except as permitted below and in sections 3.09, 3.17, 4.05 - 4.08, 5.10(d) and 8.06 of the Official Rules of Little League Baseball and Softball. Uniformed players, news photographers, managers, coaches and umpires only shall be permitted within the confines of the playing field just prior to and during games. Batboys and/or bat girls are not permitted. Except for the batter, base-runner, and base coaches at first and third bases all players shall be in their dugouts or in the bullpen when the team is at bat. When the team is on defense, the manager, coaches and all reserve players shall be in the dugout or in the bullpen.

Two adult base coaches are permitted. If a player is used as a first or third base coach he must wear a batting helmet.

A manager or coach shall not leave the dugout or coaching box to confer with a player or an umpire until time is called and permission is granted by the umpire-in-chief (plate umpire). (Exception: In Minor League including single A, Transition, and Tee Ball, managers and coaches may be on the field for instructional purposes, but shall not assist runners or touch a live ball.)

At least one manager or coach must be in the dugout at all times. No more than one manager and two coaches are permitted in the dugout.

1.1.7 Managers and coaches shall not warm up pitchers.

1.1.8 Batting and Soft Toss Cage Safety. Batting cage equipment is only to be operated by managers, coaches or an adult designated by a manager or coach. Children are not permitted to operate batting cage equipment. No child will have a bat in his/her hand in the batting or soft toss cage area unless he or she is inside the batting or soft toss cage. An adult must be present inside a soft toss cage when in use.

1.2 Responsibilities of Managers and their Teams

1.2.1 Insure that the throwing of balls or swinging of bats is only done in Little League designated areas.

1.2.2 Managers are specifically responsible for:

- (a) The conduct of players, coaches and partisan fans;
- (b) Keeping unauthorized persons out of the dugouts, on-deck areas and the area between the dugout and on-deck area. Only one manager, two coaches, and roster players are allowed in the dugout and playing areas;
- (c) Keeping players and coaches who are in the dugouts out of the dugout doorways and behind the protective fencing;
- (d) Arranging to have their assigned dugout and bleacher areas cleaned of debris after each game;
- (e) Notifying the Safety Officer Paul Shiffman in writing safety@mcleanll.com or by telephone 703-522-0244 of any accidents that require medical treatment;
- (f) The home team will provide the pitch count and results of each game by dropping off the hard copy in the snack bar . The winning team will provide results of each game upon completion **directly to the website, using their assigned passwords. Any write-ups and team pictures may be posted directly to the website.**
- (g) Ensuring that they, and all program participants under their control, abide by both the spirit and letter of the rules as published by Little League, Inc. and McLean Little League, Inc.;
- (h) Maintain liaison with the team's sponsors and, at a minimum, provide the sponsor with the team's schedule and insure the sponsor receives a team plaque; and
- (i) At the AA, AAA and Majors baseball level for delegating to someone the responsibility of counting pitches.
- (j) If they are the last scheduled game, and have used a batting cage, making sure that, the extension cord and ball bucket for their cage has been returned to the storage box and that pitching machine has been covered with a trash can.
- (k) **Ensuring that their team wears the McLean Little League issued jerseys during games.**

1.2.3 A request by a manager, coach, or other person for a specific umpire for a game will not be honored for any reason. Only the Chief Umpire or his designated representative may assign umpires. In their absence, the Board Member on duty, may assign or reassign an umpire only to insure that all games have proper umpire coverage.

.4 It is the responsibility of all baseball and softball managers to ensure that at all times (practice sessions, pre-game warm-up, and between innings) their catcher(s) are wearing regulation headgear, mask, protective athletic supporter and chest protector when catching. Violation of this rule may result in suspension or dismissal.

1.3 Scheduling Policies

1.3.1 The regular season schedule for each team shall be determined by the scheduler in a fair and random manner.

1.3.2 In all cases, the home team is listed first in the schedule and shall occupy the first base dugout.

1.3.3 All games are governed by time limits set forth below. The limits are measured from the scheduled starting time, not when the game actually is commenced. Under the "Last New Inning" limit, no new inning shall begin after the duration specified below for each level of play. A new inning begins at the moment the third out is made concluding the previous inning. Under the "Maximum Duration of Play" limit, the umpire shall stop the game at the time designated for each level of play regardless of the status of the inning in progress, however no game can end in the middle of a batter's at bat, and if a pitching change has just been made, that pitcher must pitch to at least one batter to the conclusion of his or her at bat. All persons must clear the fields by 9:35 pm and all lights shall be turned off by 9:45pm. The designated umpire's watch or one designated by him/her will be the only time piece used in applying these rules.

<u>Level of Play</u>	<u>Maximum Duration of Play</u>	<u>Last New Inning</u>
Senior League	1 hr 30 min.	1 hr. 30 min.
Major League	2 hrs.	1 hr. 45 min.
AAA Level	2 hrs	1 hr. 45 min.
AA Level	1 hr 45 min.	None
A-Ball/Transition	1 hr 15 min.	None
T-Ball	1 hr.	None

1.3.4 Managers at the AA, AAA and Majors level must exchange lineups, including name and jersey number of each player present at the beginning of the game. Managers must be prepared to begin play at the designated starting time of the game without regard to the time the field became available to their team, and expedite play at all times.

1.3.5 Prior to the start of any game, the Board Member on Duty, in consultation with the President, if available, and the Chief of Field Maintenance, shall cancel a game if he or she determines that the field is unsafe or unfit for play. In the absence of the Board Member on Duty and when unable to reach the President, the Chief of Field Maintenance has the authority to cancel a game if he or she determines the field is unsafe or unfit for play.

1.3.6 Once a game begins, the Umpire-in-Chief (plate umpire) shall determine whether play is to continue in case of inclement weather or poor field conditions. Every effort must be made to make the field playable and to continue play. In the event that the game is not considered a regulation game under Little League rules, the game must be rescheduled consistent with the provision of Rule 1.3.7 of these rules. If there have been sufficient number of innings to constitute a regulation game, the home team was behind at the end of the last completed inning, ties the game in the bottom of the final inning, but that inning is not completed, the game should be continued as an interrupted game under Rule 1.3.7 below.

1.3.7 All games (AAA or higher) cancelled by the League for weather or other unusual circumstance must be rescheduled, and all games interrupted for any reason before they are considered a regulation game under Little League rules must be played to their conclusion (six innings, or seven innings in the case of Senior League Softball, unless extended further because of a tie score) at a later time; provided, that, in AAA softball, games tied after regulation will not be continued and will be recorded as a tie.

If a game is called because of the time limit in accordance with Rule 1.3.3 and there is not a winner, the managers must notify the scheduler (Jamie Loving: loving@bluewatercapital.com or (703) 862-3296) to reschedule the game. From the scheduled start time of a cancelled game or from the point of interruption of a cancelled but started game or when a game is suspended because of time limitation without a winner, the managers have twenty-four (24) hours from that time to notify the scheduler of the cancelled/incomplete game by e-mail (Jamie Loving: loving@bluewatercapital.com or (703) 862-3296).

To the extent possible, the scheduler will, in the original order in which they were scheduled, reschedule each cancelled/incomplete game in the first available slot on the master schedule. To the extent possible, for each Senior, Major, and AAA League softball and Major and AAA League baseball, each game cancelled by the League must be rescheduled such that each team will play all their rescheduled games in the same order that the cancelled game(s) occurred in the regular schedule. This only applies to the initial rescheduling of a cancelled game. The scheduler shall give each manager no less than twenty four hours (24) notice of a rescheduled time. Notification by the scheduler includes leaving a message on an answering machine, e-mail, or notifying a coach of the subject team. Due to field shortages, all games interrupted before they are considered a regulation game and having completed at least one complete inning will be resumed from the exact point of interruption. The umpire-in-chief (plate umpire) is responsible for noting the exact point of interruption and circumstances of play.

All games interrupted for any reason after they are considered a regulation game under Little League rules shall end with the winner determined according to National Little League rules.

1.3.8 Managers must be prepared to play all cancelled or interrupted games at the time and location rescheduled by operation of these rules. Failure to abide by this rule may result in suspension or dismissal of the manager and/or forfeiture of the game.

1.3.9 Any Majors, AAA or AA game that is stopped because of the time limit, curfew, darkness or weather will be an official game as specified in the National Little League rules.

1.3.10 Infield practice should commence 15 minutes before the scheduled start time of the game. Each team will split the available time for infield practice equally, with the visiting team taking the field for the first 5 minutes and the home team taking the field for the next five minutes. If there is not at least 5 minutes before the game, then no infield practice will be allowed.

1.4. League Standings, Play-Off Seeding, and Awards

1.4.1 No standings will be kept at the Tee-Ball, Transitional Tee-Ball, A level or AA levels of play. Participation medals will be awarded for Tee-Ball, Transition and A levels of play to all players at these levels.

1.4.2 Regular season standings for Senior, Major and AAA Leagues will be decided by the best overall winning percentage, with ties broken, in sequence, by the following criteria:

- Best record in head-to-head regular season play;
- Best winning percentage in intra-league play;
- Least runs allowed **per defensive inning** in head-to-head regular season play;
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- And by a coin toss for other positions.

1.4.3 Seeding for the City Series Tournament will be determined by:

- Best overall winning percentage;
- Head to head results will break ties;
- Least runs allowed in head-to-head regular season play **per defensive inning**;
- If a tie still exists, a coin toss will be used.

1.4.4 For Senior League Softball, Major League Baseball and Softball, and Minor League Level AAA Baseball and Softball, trophies will be awarded to those teams finishing in 1st and 2nd place in overall standings in their respective leagues for regular season play, and to the teams which finish in 1st and 2nd place in the McLean City Series Tournament.

1.5 Player Team Assignment

Players are assigned to teams by means of a player selection draft in Senior Softball, Major League Baseball and Softball, AAA Baseball and Softball and AA Baseball and Softball where, with the exception of AAA and AA teams, teams maintain roster continuity from year to year. That is, once selected to a team, the player shall remain on that team until completion of their eligibility at that level of play. Players at all other levels of play are assigned to teams and these teams are disbanded at the completion of the season.

A player who was 11 years old or younger and a permanent member of a Major League roster at the end of the previous Spring season will be assigned to the roster of that same team for the following Spring season, providing the player has registered (including filling out the registration form and paying all required fees) prior to the start of the draft for the league in which his/her team is in. If the player has not registered with the league at the start of the draft, the player is automatically released from their Major League team roster. If the player registers with the league after the start of the draft of the appropriate Major League draft, the player will be eligible to be drafted by a AAA team. If the AAA draft has also been conducted when the player registers, the player will be assigned to a AAA team. Assignment will be as follows: if all teams have a complete and full roster (generally 12 players), the team that picked first in the AAA draft will receive the player. However, if at the time of assignment one or more AAA teams have a roster vacancy for any reason, then the player will be assigned to the team that had the earliest pick in the first round of the AAA draft. The assigned player then should be considered first if a vacancy occurs on a Major League roster in his/her respective league.

The Board of Directors sees removal of a player from the roster of a team in Senior League Softball, and Major League Baseball and Softball as a serious and extreme measure which should only occur for compelling reasons. It shall only occur with the specific approval of the Board of Directors, and where it is determined to be in the best interest of both the player and League.

The procedures outlined below shall be followed where there is a request by the parents of a player to allow that player to be traded.

When a parent of a player who is a permanent member of a Majors or Seniors team expresses an interest in having their child traded, the parent must first request a meeting with the appropriate League Vice President to discuss their concerns. If after the meeting, the parent continues to feel that the player should be removed from his or her assigned team, the parent must make a written request to the League Vice President detailing the reasons for their request. This request must be submitted to the League Vice President no later than the first day of tryouts. The Vice President shall submit the request to the Executive Committee who shall make a decision in time that if a trade is warranted, the manager of such player has time to work on a trade before the date of the draft. Members of the Executive Committee, who are team managers, related to a manager or have a player on the team in question, shall abstain from voting on situations which affect that league. The Vice President shall inform the parents of the player of the decision of the Executive Committee.

The Vice President shall report to the Board on all inquiries or requests by parents of this nature to insure that the Board is fully informed of all situations where player tampering may be involved. If the Board finds that player-tampering has occurred, the offending coach or manager shall be suspended from the league for at least one year, and the team shall be penalized by the loss of its first-round draft choice in the upcoming player selection draft.

1.6 Try-Outs, Draft Procedures And Player Replacement

1.6.1 To be eligible to be drafted by a Senior League Softball, a Major League Softball, a Major League Baseball, or a AAA Baseball or a AAA Softball team, and AA Baseball and Softball, who have

not previously been drafted by a team, must try out. A player must be at least 9 years old to play on a Major's Baseball team.

Only players who live within the MLL boundaries or who have played in MLL since spring 2008 and were born by April 30, 2001, are eligible to play Majors baseball.

Unless otherwise approved by the board, the last day of registration for all baseball and softball players wanting to play AAA or Majors is the last day of tryouts and prior to the tryouts concluding.

1.6.2 Each child who tries out will be rated between 1 and 5 (with 5 being outstanding and 1 poor) by an independent evaluator who has no connection other than Player Agent to the league for which he/she is the evaluator in **three areas** : hitting, fielding and throwing. **Running speed will also be assessed.** A total score of 15 points is the highest rating Candidates scoring 9 through 15 points are considered Major League material.

Tryouts are not open to the public and shall be conducted only in the presence of those persons approved by the Vice Presidents of the League.

1.6.3 All candidates who are league age twelve (12) must be drafted to a Little League Major Division team. Exceptions can only be made **by request of the parent(s)** with written approval from the District Administrator, and only if approved at the local league level by the Board of Directors and the parent of the candidate.

In order to try to provide that each Majors Baseball team will be competitive from one season to the next, it is the policy of the McLean Little League to require every Major League team to draft at least one, but no more than two 10 year olds each year. **Each Vice President of Baseball and his or her designee may modify this requirement in advance of the draft if for some reason there are not deemed to be enough qualified 10 year olds to allow for this requirement.** To achieve this objective, the **Independent Evaluator** and League Vice President(s), will at the completion of tryouts, review the player evaluations for each 10 year old who participated in tryouts to determine whether that player is qualified to play on a Major League team.

To make a qualification determination, the reviewers must look to the scores received as well as other factors such as the ability to protect one's self in the event of an errant pitch, throw or hit. The reviewers must also consider the level at which the child would have the greatest opportunity for successful play with an overall positive experience. Upon completion of their review and prior to the draft, the Vice President and Player Agent must prepare a list of all 10 year olds that, in their judgment are qualified be drafted by a Major League team.

In order to comply with the policy stated above, the Executive Committee will recommend the appropriate number of Majors teams depending on the number of qualified players, managers, and coaches available, or recommend to the Board some other procedure to implement the policy stated above.

In order to try to provide that each Majors Softball team will be competitive from one season to the next, it is the policy of McLean Little League to require every Major League softball team to have at least one but no more than three 9 and/or 10 year olds each year. The Vice President of Softball and/or his/her designee may modify this requirement in advance of the draft if for some reason there are not deemed to be enough 9 or 10 year olds to allow for this requirement. **The Vice President of Softball and/or his designee may modify this requirement in advance of the draft based upon the number of majors softball roster spots to be filled and the number of qualified 9, 10, 11 and 12 year olds eligible to be considered for such roster spots.**

1.6.3.5 **No still photos or video of any players may be taken during the tryouts.**

1.6.4 From the list of all players trying out, the Player Agent or League VP, prior to the draft and after all requirements have been taken into consideration, will prepare a Player Agent List of all players who have qualified as eligible candidates for the Major League draft.

1.6.5 For safety reasons, the Player Agent List for the Major League draft will not include any players who were rated either a 1 or a 2 with respect to hitting or fielding, except 12 year-olds whose parents did not sign a waiver for them to play in the Minors.

1.6.6 It is recommended that players not on the Player Agent List for the Major League draft be placed in the developmental league. An exception would be made if the player's size poses a potential danger to younger players.

For AA and AAA Baseball, the Player Agent's will present a list of players who pitch and catch to all managers at the beginning of the draft.

1.6.7 Except in extreme situations, all 11 and 12 year olds not drafted on a Majors team, will play at the AAA level. If an 11 or 12 year old is considered a safety factor by the Independent Evaluator, Player Agent and League Vice President, they will not be included on the Player Agent List for the AAA draft.

1.6.8 Applicable Draft Options

Brothers/Sisters—If there are brothers, sisters, or brother/sister, including step brothers and sisters, in a draft, once the first sibling is drafted, the manager must immediately, prior to the next manager drafting, submit verbally to the Player Agent whether he/she wants an option on the remaining siblings(s). If the manager elects to exercise this option, the manager automatically takes the sibling on the manager's next turn. If the manager does not exercise the option, the sibling is available to be drafted by any team.

Brothers/Sisters Sibling Option—A manager may submit an option to the Player Agent and League VP on a draftee if the player candidate's brother or sister is already a member of the manager's team. This option must be exercised within the first three draft selections.

Sons and/or Daughters of Managers/coaches (Majors)—A manager/coach who has sons and/or daughters eligible for the draft who wishes to draft them must state so in writing to the Player Agent and League VP prior to the draft. If so stated, the parent-manager is required to exercise this option prior to the close of the specific draft round depending on league age of the sons and/or daughters as set forth in the Little League Operating Manual (Little League age 9-10: in or before round 5, Little League age 11: in or before round 4; and Little League age 12: in or before round 3). Parent-manager option takes priority over any other option. If the manager so chooses, the option on a son or daughter may be waived. In the event the parent becomes a manager in another league, the parent may not claim the son or daughter.

Sons and/or Daughters of Managers/coaches (AAA). The son/daughter of only the manager may be protected for purposes of the draft. Prior to the draft, the Vice President and Player Agent will determine what round the player(s) shall be drafted.

Majors: A returning coach through the manager may exercise an option in writing through the Player Agent provided: 1. the coach has had two or more years of concurrent service as a manager or coach in the league (at any level) and, 2. The coach is returning to the same Major League team this year. Both items 1 and 2 must apply in order to exercise an option.

Bonus Picks:

(a) Each manager requiring 8 or more players to complete the roster prior to the draft will be allowed one bonus pick at the completion of the 4th round. If more than one manager has this requirement the order of selections will be consistent with the rotation of the regular draft order.

1.6.9 To ensure players are given the best opportunity to play, the VP in consultation with the executive committee and player agent can mandate the number of 12 year olds that must be drafted to each Majors baseball and softball team.

At the draft the League VP in consultation with the executive committee and player agent has final authority concerning draft disputes including issues not spelled out in the **last approved MLL Local Rules**.

The League VP, in consultation with the Executive Committee and Player Agent, has final authority concerning draft disputes and replacement player issues, including issues not spelled out in the **last approved MLL Local Rules**. The VP shall have the sole responsibility and right to interpret any draft and replacement rules to ensure the intent that National and Local Rules are met.

1.6.10 Replacements. When a rostered player is lost to a team during the playing season for any of the following reasons:

- (a) He/she moves to another city or state too distant to commute for practice and play.
- (b) He/she is injured and will not be able to return for the remainder of the season.
- (c) He/she has for personal reasons decided to terminate his/her association with the team.
- (d) Any other justifiable reason reviewed and approved by the Board of Directors.

The manager of the team losing a player shall within 24 hours advise the League Vice President. The League Vice President shall advise the Player Agent, President and the Board. If the release of a player is approved, the President will send a letter of release to the player and the parents stating that the player is released from the Major league team and the league for a justifiable reason. If this action creates an opening for a replacement on the team roster, the manager shall review the available player list with the Player Agent and shall select a replacement consistent with Rule 1.6.9. The replacement becomes a permanent member of the team. NOTE: Failure by the manager to notify the League VP of a player's continued absence will result in disciplinary action against the manager.

In Major's Baseball, in accordance with Rule 1.6.3 allowing a maximum of two 10 year olds, if the team already has two 10 year olds on the roster, the manager may not select a 10 year old as a replacement player.

Once it has been determined that a Major's baseball team needs a replacement player, the League VP will give the manager a list of the players that were on the Major's draft list (see 1.6.4) and have not opted out of playing for a Major's team. If there are any 12 year olds in AAA who are on a waiting list for Major's, they must be taken first.

1.6.11 The timing for the replacement of a non-released player or a permanent replacement must conform to the following procedure. When a manager learns that a player may miss at least two (2) consecutive weeks (14 days including Sundays) of the season because of injury, illness, etc., the manager must immediately notify (a broken bone or concussion shall require immediate notification) the Vice President of his/her League. The manager will have seven (7) days from notification to the Vice President to replace the player on the roster with a player from the Player Agent List.

Sometimes the duration of time that a player will miss is uncertain at the outset of the absence. If a player misses two (2) consecutive games and is not expected to play in the next scheduled game, the manager must notify the respective Vice President.

The Vice President will review the situation not later than seven (7) days after the first game the player missed. This could include discussions with the player's parents. If after this review, it is still uncertain when the player will be able to resume play, the Vice President will notify the manager that he/she has seven (7) days to bring up a replacement player selected from the Player Agent List.

For the above situations, the first regular season game missed by the player will be considered the starting point for the period of absence and in all cases; the replacement process will be complete no later than fourteen (14) days after the first game missed by the player. The replacement becomes a permanent member of the team if brought up fifteen (15) days or more before the originally scheduled McLean Little League Regular Season End for the relevant league. The team roster shall increase by the addition of the replacement player and the absent player

shall remain a permanent member of the team unless released. Replacements from the Minor League program onto a Majors team during the last two weeks of the regular season schedule are prohibited at all levels.

1.6.12 A Player Agent has the authority to place any player (including a player determined to be ineligible per section 1.6.2) on a higher level team if done solely for safety reasons and with the approval of the Board.

1.6.13 For the purpose of interpreting the "Duration of Title" requirement of the National Little League Rules, "duration of title" for the original draft team shall cease if a player does not play for that team in consecutive years.

1.6.14 If a player is either drafted onto a Major League team or during the course of the season is selected to fill a roster vacancy on a Major League team, and refuses the selection, such refusal shall result in forfeiture of eligibility in the Major League for the current season. Players who elect not to be in the Major League draft pool forfeit all eligibility in the Major League for the current season.

It is the policy of McLean Little League to ensure the integrity and fairness of the draft process. Attempts by parents to have their child drafted by a specific team, particularly at the Majors' level, are to be discouraged by any manager contacted regarding such proposition. If a parent is found to manipulate or attempt to manipulate the draft process, the Executive Committee may impose sanctions on the player to include forfeiture of his bid to be drafted in Majors.

1.6.15 The National Little League draft system "Plan A" will be used for Majors Baseball and Softball.

1.6.16 For AAA Softball and Baseball, AA Softball and Baseball each league will conduct a draft consisting of all players ages 9–12 (and any qualified 8 year olds who have indicated a desire to play AA) who tried out and were not drafted by a Major League team. (The Vice President of Softball or designee may also determine AA teams, in consultation with managers, but without a formal draft.)

Drawing numbers from a hat will determine the order of the draft (

In exceptional circumstances, 8 year olds may be considered for AAA and 7 year olds may be considered for AA.)

The draft will be conducted as a snake, therefore, each odd round will be done in the normal order of 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 etc. and the even rounds will be conducted in reverse order of 5, 4, 3, 2, and 1.

A manager can only be accompanied by one approved coach. A manager can protect the son/daughter of one coach. There is no option for a second coach's son/daughter, which thus requires a manager to draft that son/daughter.

All options must be submitted in writing (via E-mail) to the Player Agent at least forty eight (48) hours prior to the draft. Exemptions to this time are subject to the approval of the Player Agent or League Vice President and then the Board of Directors.

Manager and coach's options will be assigned by the League Vice President based on the ranking of the independent evaluator of those players eligible for the draft. Thus, if there is a five team AAA league and a manager's child is ranked 13th and his/her coach's child is ranked 29th, the players would be assigned to their team in the third and six rounds, respectively.

1.7 All Stars

Being named an All-Star is an honor. All players chosen as All-Stars will be recognized by the League (yearbook, plaque, and at the Closing Ceremony) including those whose name might not appear on the Official Tournament Roster.

Composition of the Tournament Teams will be based on the eligibility and availability of the named All-Stars. All Chartered Little Leagues are eligible to participate in Tournament Play, but

there is no obligation to do so. If there are not enough players who can commit to a post-season tournament team for the duration of tournament play, there will not be an All-Star team for that respective League for that summer.

1.7.1 All-Star Manager Selections and Responsibilities

Subject to final approval by the Board of Directors, for Majors Softball and Majors American and National League Baseball the regular season championship team managers will have first choice on whether they manage the Majors, 10–11 year-old, or the 9/10 team all-star team. The manager of the second place regular season team in each league will have the choice of which of the remaining teams he/she will manage. The manager of the third place regular season team in each league will have the choice of managing the remaining team (assuming all three teams are fielded). If one or more of these three managers is not available to manage an all-star team, the Executive Committee shall decide who will be the manager(s) of any unfilled teams.

Subject to final approval by the Board of Directors, in Senior softball the manager of the regular season championship team will have his/her choice of managing the Senior or Junior team. The manager of the second place regular season team will be offered the other team.

All-Star Managers are required to meet with the Executive Committee prior to the final selection of official rostered All-Star players. At this time, managers will be made aware of the League's expectations of the All-Star program and informed about officially releasing the names of the Tournament Team All-Stars. The managers will also advise the Executive Committee at this meeting who they would like to name as their two coaches for the All-Star team. The Board of Directors shall be the final approval authority for all All-Star coaches.

Managers are expected to enforce the League rules including the rules specified in Little League's official "Tournament Rules and Guidelines" handbook.

The manager must select his or her team coaches from his or her League's approved coach's list.

All All-Star coaches must be coaches of record approved by the Board of Directors in their respective leagues.

1.7.2 All-Star Player Selection and Responsibilities.

The Junior Softball, 10–11 year-old baseball and softball and 9–10 All-Star teams may be selected by the manager or through an invitational tryout selection held by the manager of the Tournament Team.

Major League, Senior League All-Star teams (up to 14 person rosters) are selected on the following basis:

(a) The first five players are selected by confidential balloting of league players. Where more than one

player has an equal number of votes to qualify for the fifth position, then all of those players will be placed on the team.

(b) In joint consultation, the next seven (or six or five as a result of ties in the player balloting) players are selected by the managers of the respective leagues.

(c) The remaining two (2) slots [13th & 14th] are at the discretion of the All-Star team manager.

The League Vice President(s) will contact and verify the eligibility and availability of all players selected to be on the Tournament Team(s). If a player is ineligible (e.g. did not participate in 60% of the regular season games) or unavailable (e.g. injury, illness, or other commitments such as vacation or camps) to participate, the All-Star team manager has the discretion to choose a replacement player.

To be an official rostered Tournament Team player, each player must meet the requirements of the Little League Eligibility Affidavit and be available to participate. Also, a written commitment will be signed by players and parents stating that players will attend all practices and

tournament games. If a player repeatedly misses practices or games, the All-Star team manager, subject to Executive Committee approval, may disqualify that player from the team.

Names of players selected for the All-Star teams will not be officially released until the McLean Little League Closing Ceremonies.

The Major League team will be formed first and will take any and all players to field the strongest team possible. The 9-10 team will next be formed and they will take any and all players to field the strongest team possible. The 10-11 team, if fielded, will be formed next and may select any eligible players not otherwise on the Major's or 9-10 teams.

1.7.3 All-Star Player Selections for Softball

The Junior and Senior Softball All-Star teams will be formed through mutual agreement amongst the Senior Softball managers. Any disagreements as to which team a player should play on will be decided by the Vice President-Softball.

At the lower levels, the Major League team will be formed first and will take any and all players to field the strongest team possible. The 9-10 teams will next be formed and they will take any and all players to field the strongest team(s) possible. The 10-11 teams, if fielded, will be formed next and may select any eligible players not otherwise on the Majors or 9-10 teams.

2.0 RULES APPLYING TO THE BASEBALL PROGRAM

2.1 Rules Applying to Major League Baseball

2.1.1 The rule book for Little League Baseball as published by Little League, Inc. for Major League baseball will govern all play.

2.1.1 There will be no Mercy Rule in Major's baseball.

2.1.2 Any player inserted into a game either as a starter or as a substitute must play at least six (6) consecutive defensive outs and get one (1) at bat before being removed from the lineup. All players must have been inserted into the lineup no later than the beginning of the 4th inning.

2.2 Rules Applying to Minor League Baseball-AAA Level

2.2.1 The rule book for Minor League Play as published by Little League, Inc. will govern all play except as noted below.

2.2.2 The batting lineup will include all players who shall bat in rotation. Players shall continue to bat even when not playing in the field. Late arriving players will be placed at the bottom of the lineup. Managers must exchange lineups, including name and jersey number of each player present at the beginning of the game and the position of each starter. Managers must be prepared to begin play at the designated starting time of the game without regard to the time the field became available to their teams, and expedite play at all times.

2.2.3 During the first five innings of a game, an offensive half inning will end when three outs are made or when five runs have scored. A team can score more than five runs only if they are the result of a home run hit over the fence. In the sixth inning, there is no run limit; therefore, an offensive half inning will end when three outs have been recorded.

2.2.4 It is the intent of the League that each player is given every reasonable opportunity to participate in each game. Therefore, unless they become sick or injured, every player on a team roster will participate in each game. No player will sit out consecutive innings. No player will sit out more than two innings.

Managers should advise the League Vice President of apparent failures to comply with this rule. Failure to comply with this rule may result in disciplinary action by the Board of Directors against any manager or coach consistent with Regulation IV (i) of the Little League rule book.

2.5 For the Spring and Fall Season the "Mercy Rule" is in effect. If after four (4) innings, three and one-half innings if the home team is ahead, one team has a lead of ten (10) runs or more, the manager of the team with the least runs shall concede the victory to the opponent. Little League Official Rule 4:10(e)

2.2.6 See 2.0.1 Above. Twelve year olds can not pitch at the AAA Level.

2.2.7 AAA games may be played with only 8 players, but the 9th batting position will be an automatic out unless and until a 9th player shows up.

2.2.8 In instances when the offensive team's catcher for their next defensive inning is on base and there are two outs or four runs have been scored, the offensive team may insert a "courtesy" runner to run for the catcher. This runner will be the player who made the most recent out of the inning, or, if no outs have been recorded, the player who scored the most recent run.

.1 Rules Applying to Minor League Baseball—AA Level

2.3.1 The rule book for Minor League Play as published by Little League, Inc. will govern all play except as noted below.

2.3.2 No league umpire will be assigned by the League at this level of play. Generally, the home and visiting teams will provide one adult volunteer who shall serve as the home and base umpire for each game. Managers must be prepared to begin play at the designated starting time of the game without regard to the time the field became available to their teams, and expedite play at all times.

2.3.3 Pitching Regulations for the AA Program are as follows:

- a. Any player on a regular season team **age 10 or younger may pitch 40 pitches or two innings, whichever comes first.** (NOTE: At the AA level 11 and 12 year olds may not pitch. With the institution of the new pitch count rule there is now no limit to the number of pitchers a team may use in a game.)
- b. The manager must remove the pitcher when said pitcher reaches the limit for his/her age group as noted below, but the pitcher may remain in the game at another position.

Pitchers league age **10** and under must adhere to the following rest requirements:

i. If a player pitches 36 – **40** pitches in a day, two (2) calendar days of rest must be observed.

ii. If a player pitches 21 – 35 pitches in a day, one (1) calendar day of rest must be observed.

If a player pitches 1–20 pitches in a day, no (0) calendar day of rest is required.

d. The Home Team scorekeeper or another game official is the official pitch count recorder. After each half inning, the Home Team pitch counter will confer with the Visiting Team scorekeeper to ensure they are in agreement with the number of pitches thrown by the pitcher(s) in the previous half inning. Any differences in the number of pitches thrown by a pitcher(s) must be resolved before the start of the next half inning.

At the conclusion of the game, the Home Team manager will give to the Board Member on Duty the pitch count chart used by McLean Little League. The Board Member on Duty for the last game of the day will give all the pitch count charts for that day to the Executive Vice President of the League. The Executive Vice President will be responsible for posting on the McLean Little League webpage the pitch count for each pitcher prior to the next game. NOTE: Warm-up pitches are not included in the pitch count.

e. DELETED

f. The official pitch count recorder should inform the umpire-in-chief when a pitcher has delivered his/her maximum limit of pitcher for the game, as noted in Regulation VI(c). The umpire-in-chief will inform the pitcher's manager that the pitcher must be removed in accordance with Regulation VI(c). However, the failure by the pitch count recorder to notify the umpire-in-chief, and/or the failure of the umpire-in-chief to notify the manager, does not relieve the manager of his/her responsibility to remove a pitcher when the pitcher is no longer eligible.

g. Violation of any section of this regulation can result in protest of the game in which it occurs. Protest shall be made in accordance with Playing Rule 4.19.

h. A player may not pitch in more than one game in a day.

i. There will be no walks in AA in regular season and City Series.

NOTES:

1. The withdrawal of an ineligible pitcher after that pitcher is announced, or after a warm-up pitch is delivered, but before that player has pitched a ball to a batter, shall not be considered a violation. Little League officials are urged to take precautions to prevent

protests. When a protest situation is imminent, the potential offender should be notified immediately.

2. Pitches delivered in games declared "Regulation Tie Games" or "Suspended Games" shall be charged against pitcher's eligibility.

2.3.4 Adults may coach base runners from the coaching boxes at first and third base. One defensive coach is allowed on the field and must be positioned on the outfield grass so as not to interfere with normal play.

2.3.5 The batting lineup will include all players who shall bat in rotation. Players shall continue to bat even when not playing in the field.

For the first game of the year, the manager puts the players in a permanent (season long) batting rotation. If in the first game the player batting in the eighth position makes the final out of the game, for the second game, the players would bat in the same rotational order, except the player that was in the ninth position in the first game is now the leadoff hitter for the second game and the player who made the final out in the first game is batting last. This will allow all players the opportunity to leadoff a game or bat "clean up" in a game rather than always batting near the bottom of the batting order. If a player misses a game just slide everyone else up a position in the batting order for that game, but in the next game, the player that missed the game will be back in his normal spot in the rotational order.

NOTE: At the start of the City Series, the manager has the option to bat the players in any order that he/she wishes.

2.3.6 Play ends when the player positioned as the pitcher has control of the ball on the mound area. Base runners are entitled to a base if they are over half way to that base from the previous base when the pitcher gains control of the ball. Play remains live as a result of any actions by the pitcher other than an effort to gain control of the ball and stop play (i.e., throwing for put out, etc.).

2.3.7 Base stealing and leading off the bases is not permitted.

2.3.8 An offensive half inning will end when three outs are made or when five runs have scored. A team can score more than five runs only if they are the result of a home run hit over the fence.

2.3.9 The defensive team field's ten players with the tenth player positioned in the outfield.

2.3.10 Every player must play defensively in the field at least every other inning unless injured. Every player shall play at least one inning per game in the infield. **No player shall play the same position for more than 2 innings per game.** All players on a team are generally expected to play equal amounts of time in each game.

2.3.11 The infield fly rule will not be enforced.

2.3.12 Bunting is permitted.

.13 During regular season play, no standings for competitive purposes will be kept.

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2.3.14 In an attempt to speed up play at the AA Baseball, Single A Baseball and Transition levels, the Board of Directors is instituting the following local rules:

a. Manager must exchange lineups (optional at the Transition level), including name and jersey number of each player present at the beginning of the game. Managers must be prepared to begin play at the designated starting time of the game without regard to the time the field became available to their team, and expedite play at all times.

b. When the offensive team's catcher for the next defensive inning is on base and there are two outs or four runs have been scored, the offensive team must insert a substitute runner for the catcher (other than this situation, there are no substitute

runners allowed at the AA Baseball, Single A Baseball and Transition Baseball levels). This runner will be the player who made the most recent out of the inning, or, if no outs have been recorded, the player who scored the most recent run. The manager or his designated coach is responsible to assist the catcher getting into his equipment as soon as possible.

- c. During the regular season, there will be no walks. If the batter has a count of three balls and two strikes and the pitcher throws ball four to the batter, the batter will remain at the plate. The pitcher will assume the position behind the pitching rubber and the manager or coach of the offensive team will continue pitching to the batter. The batter will still have two strikes and with the manager/coach pitching, will either hit the ball or strike out. Pitches thrown by the manager/coach do not count against the pitcher's pitch count limit.
- d. At AA Baseball and below the maximum pitches that may be thrown by a player are as follows: 10 year olds – 60 pitches, 9 year olds – 50 pitches, and 8 year olds – 40 pitches. Once the pitcher has reached the maximum pitches stated above he must be replaced and may not continue to pitch until the batter is retired.

2.4 Rules Applying to Single "A" (8 year olds)

2.4.1 The rule book for Minor League Play as published by Little League, Inc. for this level of play will govern all play except as noted below.

2.4.2 Managers will use the pitching machine (balls should be fed into the pitching machine by the manager or designated adult representative of the team at bat). The pitching machine will be set up from the regulation baseball rubber. All batters will be given a maximum of seven pitches in which to either strike out swinging, or hit the ball. A pitch which hits the batter is a dead ball and is not considered a pitch. No walks will be awarded. When the machine cannot be used, the manager or coach of the offensive team will pitch to the batters.

2.4.3

2.4.4 League umpires will not be assigned by the League to games played at this level of play. Each team must provide one adult volunteer who shall serve as umpire for each game. Volunteer adult umpires shall alternate their positions in the field and behind the plate each inning.

2.4.5 Adults may coach base runners from the coaching boxes at first and third base. One defensive coach is allowed on the field and must be positioned on the outfield grass so as not to interfere with normal play.

2.4.6 The batting lineup will include all players who shall bat in rotation. Players shall continue to bat even when not playing in the field. The Board of Directors recommends that in order for all players to bat about the same number of times during the regular season the manager adopt the following procedure. For the first game of the year, the manager puts the players in a permanent (season long) batting rotation. If in the first game the player batting in the eighth position makes the final out of the game, for the second game, the players would bat in the same rotational order, except the player that was in the ninth position in the first game is now the leadoff hitter for the second game and the player who made the final out in the first game is batting last. This will allow all players the opportunity to leadoff a game or bat "clean up" in a game rather than always batting near the bottom of the batting order. If a player misses a game just slide everyone else up a position in the batting order for that game, but in the next game, the player that missed the game will be back in his normal spot in the rotational order.

2.4.7 Play ends when the player positioned as the pitcher has control of the ball on the mound area. Base runners are entitled to a base if they are over half way to that base from the previous base when the pitcher gains control of the ball. Play remains live as a result of any actions by the pitcher other than an effort to gain control of the ball and stop play (i.e., throwing for put out, etc.).

2.4.8 Base-stealing and leading off the bases is not permitted.

2.4.9 An offensive half inning will end when three outs are made or when five runs have scored. A team can score more than five runs only if they are the result of a home run hit over the fence.

2.4.10 The defensive team fields all players, unless they are injured, with only six in the infield and the remainder positioned on the edge of the outfield grass.

2.4.11 Every player shall play at least two (2) innings per game in the infield, with the exception of the catcher's position (catcher can play more than two innings).

2.4.12 The infield fly rule will not be enforced.

2.4.13 There shall be no bunting.

.14 During regular season play, no standings for competitive purposes will be kept.

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.15 Games at the "A" level will not be made-up due to inclement weather. However, individual managers may elect to reschedule a cancelled game if they agree to play during one of their practice times.

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2.4.16 In an attempt to speed up play at the AA Baseball, Single A Baseball and Transition levels, the Board of Directors is instituting the following local rules:

- a. Manager must exchange lineups (optional at the Transition Level), including name and jersey number of each player present at the beginning of the game. Managers must be prepared to begin play at the designated starting time of the game without regard to the time the field became available to their team, and expedite play at all times.
- b. When the offensive team's catcher for the next defensive inning is on base and there are two outs or four runs have been scored, the offensive team must insert a substitute runner for the catcher (other than this situation, there are no substitute runners allowed at the AA Baseball, Single A Baseball and Transition Baseball levels). This runner will be the player who made the most recent out of the inning, or, if no outs have been recorded, the player who scored the most recent run. The manager or his designated coach is responsible to assist the catcher getting into his equipment as soon as possible.
- c. During the regular season, there will be no walks. If the batter has a count of three balls and two strikes and the pitcher throws ball four to the batter, the batter will remain at the plate. The pitcher will assume the position behind the pitching rubber and the manager or coach of the offensive team will continue pitching to the batter. The batter will still have two strikes and with the manager/coach pitching, will either hit the ball or strike out. Pitches thrown by the manager/coach do not count against the pitcher's pitch count limit.
- d. At AA Baseball and below the maximum pitches that may be thrown by a player are as follows: 10 year olds - 60 pitches, 9 year olds - 50 pitches, and 8 year olds - 40 pitches. Once the pitcher has reached the maximum pitches stated above he must be replaced and may not continue to pitch until the batter is retired.

2.5 Rules Applying to Transition Baseball (7 year olds)

2.5.1 The rule book for Minor League Play as published by Little League, Inc. for this level of play will govern all play except as noted below.

2.5.2 Umpires will not be assigned by the League to games played at this level of play. Each team must provide one adult volunteer who shall serve as umpire for each game. Volunteer adult umpires shall alternate their positions in the field and behind the plate each inning.

2.5.3 Pitching Rules for the Transition Program are as follows:

Managers will have the option to use Coach pitch or machine pitch (balls should be fed into the pitching machine by the manager or designated adult representative of the team at bat).

The pitching machine will be set up from the regulation minor softball rubber (35 ft.). All batters will be given a maximum of seven pitches in which to either strike out swinging or hit the ball. A pitch which hits the batter is a dead ball and is not considered a pitch. No walks will be awarded.

2.5.4 Adults may coach base runners from the coaching boxes at first and third base. One defensive coach is allowed on the field and must be positioned on the outfield grass so as not to interfere with normal play.

2.5.5 The batting lineup will include all players who shall bat in rotation. Players shall continue to bat even when not playing in the field. The Board of Directors recommends that in order for all players to bat about the same number of times during the regular season the manager adopt the following procedure.

For the first game of the year, the manager puts the players in a permanent (season long) batting rotation. If in the first game the player batting in the eighth position makes the final out of the game, for the second game, the players would bat in the same rotational order, except the player that was in the ninth position in the first game is now the leadoff hitter for the second game and the player who made the final out in the first game is batting last. This will allow all players the opportunity to leadoff a game or bat "clean up" in a game rather than always batting near the bottom of the batting order. If a player misses a game just slide everyone else up a position in the batting order for that game, but in the next game, the player that missed the game will be back in his normal spot in the rotational order

2.5.6 Play ends when the player positioned as the pitcher has control of the ball on the mound area. Base runners are entitled to a base if they are over half way to that base from the previous base when the pitcher gains control of the ball. Play remains live as a result of any actions by the pitcher other than an effort to gain control of the ball and stop play (i.e., throwing for put out, etc.).

2.5.7 Base-stealing and leading off the bases is not permitted.

2.5.8 An offensive half inning will end when three outs are made or when five runs have scored. A team can score more than five runs only if they are the result of a home run hit over the fence.

2.5.9 The defensive team fields all players, unless they are injured, with only six in the infield and the remainder positioned on the edge of the outfield grass.

2.5.10 Every player shall play at least two (2) innings per game in the infield, with the exception of the catcher's position (catcher can play more than two innings).

2.5.11 The infield fly rule will not be enforced.

2.5.12 There shall be no bunting. **There shall be no catchers.**

.13 During regular season play, no standings for competitive purposes will be kept.

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2.5.14 Games at the Transition level will not be made-up due to inclement weather. However, individual managers may elect to reschedule a cancelled game if they agree to play during one of their practice times.

2.5.15 In an attempt to speed up play at the AA Baseball, Single A Baseball and Transition levels, the Board of Directors is instituting the following local rules:

- a. Manager must exchange lineups (optional at the Transition Level), including name and jersey number of each player present at the beginning of the game. Managers must be prepared to begin play at the designated starting time of the game without regard to the time the field became available to their team, and expedite play at all times.
- b. When the offensive team's catcher for the next defensive inning is on base and there are two outs or four runs have been scored, the offensive team must insert a substitute runner for the catcher (other than this situation, there are no substitute runners allowed at the AA Baseball, Single A Baseball and Transition Baseball levels). This runner will be the player who made the most recent out of the inning, or, if no outs have been recorded, the player who scored the most recent run. The manager or his designated coach is responsible to assist the catcher getting into his equipment as soon as possible.

3.0 RULES APPLYING TO THE SOFTBALL PROGRAM

3.1 Rules Applying to Senior League Softball

[Note, at this time, the League has suspended Senior (and Junior softball); i.e., 13 and over teams. Consideration to re-establishing the program at that level will be given if there is sufficient interest, together with any other local Little League, to form at least 4 teams. If this level is re-established in combination with other league(s), the rules may be adjusted by the Vice President of Softball to harmonize them with the rules of the other leagues.

3.1.1 The rule book for Senior Softball as published by Little League, Inc. for Senior League Softball will govern all play except as noted below. NOTE: In a game using optic yellow softballs, the use of a white bat is permitted. A WHITE BAT MUST NOT BE USED IN ANY GAME INVOLVING A BALL OTHER THAN AN OPTIC YELLOW SOFTBALL.

3.1.2 It is the intent of the Board of Directors of the League that each player is given every reasonable opportunity to participate in each game and that any player committed to their team (i.e. regularly attends practices and games) should expect to play at least half of the innings played by the team over the course of the regular season. The batting lineup will include all players who shall bat in rotation. Players shall continue to bat even when not playing in the field. Late arriving players will be placed at the bottom of the lineup. No player will sit out consecutive innings in the field.

3.1.3 Pitching shall be consistent with the rules established in the Senior League Rules, except where modified by the local rules as noted below.

3.1.4 After a game is considered to be a complete game under Little League rules, the manager of a team, which is behind by at least ten (10) runs, may end that game at any point by so informing the umpire.

3.1.5 No player can pitch more than fourteen (14) innings per week, nor more than seven (7) innings per day. If a player pitches more than three innings in the first game of a doubleheader, that pitcher is not eligible to pitch in the second game regardless of the innings limitations above.

3.1.6 If a team has eight or more players at the start of the game, the game should begin and proceed until completion based on time or number of innings played. If a team has less than eight (8) players at the scheduled start of the game, there will be a grace period of 15 minutes to wait for an eighth player to arrive prior to having to forfeit. Once the eighth player arrives, the game should begin immediately. Any new players arriving after the game has started will be inserted at the end of the lineup in the order of arrival. No team having at least one half of their roster present shall be required to forfeit during the high school softball season.

The standard number of players to be placed on defense is nine (9).

If a game is called because of darkness, regardless of the amount of time which has been played, the rules regarding it being a complete game are identical to those discussed in the Senior League Softball rulebook for complete games. 16 year olds may participate in the Senior League Softball program, and be eligible for all star teams at the end of the season provided that the selected individuals meet all the necessary requirements.

.7 The Senior League Softball season will consist of a series of weekly doubleheaders commencing with the start of the MLL season. Every effort will be made to schedule the doubleheaders on Sunday evenings in order to help minimize conflicts with the high school softball season and the

select/travel softball tournament schedules. The games will have time limits of: 1 hour and 20 minutes (no new inning) and 1 hour 30 minutes (drop dead). The teams will remain in the same dugouts for both games and will sit in the dugout based on home/visitor in the first game. All games played will count towards the regular season standings and City Series pairings. Given the shortened regular season game times, speed up rules will apply. In an attempt to get seven innings in per game, a pitcher will receive 5 warm ups the first inning, 3 every inning thereafter. A new pitcher will receive 5 warm ups. In addition, infield/outfield balls will be permitted in the 1st inning only. Stalling will not be tolerated, and as such, huddles outside the dugout between innings will be discouraged, and there shall be a maximum of one minute allowed between innings.

.8 City Series Rules

- .1 No pitcher can throw more than 9 innings per day and per week.
- .2 City Series games will not be doubleheaders. There will be 1 game played between two teams with time limits of: 2 hours (no new inning) and 2 hours and 20 minutes (drop dead) from the scheduled start time of the game.
- .3 All other City Series rules are the same as the regular season rules.

3.2 Rules Applying to Major League Softball

3.2.1 The rule book for Little League Softball as published by Little League, Inc. for Major League Softball will govern all play except as noted below.

3.2.2 It is the intent of the League that each player be given every reasonable opportunity to participate in each game. Therefore, unless they become sick or injured, every player on a team roster will participate in each game. No player will sit out consecutive innings. In order to insure that the intent of this rule is followed, the Vice President of the League will periodically inspect game rosters. Managers should advise the league Vice President of apparent failures to comply with this rule. Failure to comply with this rule may result in disciplinary action by the Board of Directors against any manager or coach consistent with Regulation IV (i) of the Little League rule book.

3.2.3 The batting lineup will include all players who shall bat in rotation. Players shall continue to bat even when not playing in the field. Late arriving players will be placed at the bottom of the lineup.

3.2.4 No more than 12 innings per week can be pitched by 12-year-olds regardless of the number of 12-year-old pitchers. No player can pitch more than six innings per week. If a team is scheduled to play more than 3 games during a week as noted in 3.2.7 below, then the maximum number of innings that all the 12 year olds on any one team can pitch during the week will increase to 18 innings. **There are no rest requirements.**

3.2.5 The 10-run rule as documented in the National Little League Rule Book will not be implemented. Thus all games are expected to be played to completion or through their time limits whichever occurs first.

3.2.6 If a team has eight or more players at the start of the game, the game should begin and proceed until completion based on time or number of innings played. If a team has less than eight (8) players at the scheduled start of the game, there will be a grace period of 15 minutes to wait for an eighth player to arrive prior to having to forfeit. Once the eighth player arrives, the game should begin immediately.

3.2.7 If a team is scheduled to play more than 3 games during a week, then the number of maximum innings that can be pitched by any pitcher will be increased by 3 innings for each additional game beyond the 3 games scheduled for the week. For example, if a team is scheduled

to play 4 games during the week, then each of their pitchers may pitch a maximum of 9 innings for that 4 game week.

3.2.8 All players must wear helmets with face masks when batting, running the bases or coaching from either the first or third base coach's box.

3.3 Rules Applying to AAA Softball

3.3.1 The rule book for Little League Softball as published by Little League, Inc. for Major League Softball will govern all play except as noted below.

3.3.2 It is the intent of the League that each player be given every reasonable opportunity to participate in each game. Therefore, unless they become sick or injured, every player on a team roster will participate in each game. No player will sit out consecutive innings. **No player will sit out more than two innings.** In order to insure that the intent of this rule is followed, the Vice President of the League will periodically inspect game rosters. Managers should advise the league Vice President of apparent failures to comply with this rule. Failure to comply with this rule may result in disciplinary action by the Board of Directors against any manager or coach consistent with Regulation IV (i) of the Little League rule book.

3.3.2.5 A complete game is one in which three complete innings has been played. If the visitors have completed three at bats and the home team has not yet completed their third at bat, but the home team is winning when the game is stopped due to time or weather, the game will be considered official.

3.3.3 The batting lineup will include all players who shall bat in rotation. Players shall continue to bat even when not playing in the field. Late arriving players will be placed at the bottom of the lineup.

3.3.4 Twelve (12) year olds are not permitted to pitch at this level. While the pitching machine is being used. no player may pitch more than half of the number of scheduled innings per week allowed for kid pitching. Therefore, if a team has 2 games scheduled for the week and the first two innings of each game is scheduled for machine pitch, no pitcher may pitch more than 4 innings in that week. Once all games are kid pitched, the rules on innings pitched that apply in Majors softball shall apply. **There are no rest requirements.**

3.3.5 The 10–run rule as documented in the National Little League Rule Book will not be implemented. Thus all games are expected to be played to completion or through their time limits whichever occurs first.

3.3.6 Games should begin and proceed until completion based on time or number of innings played regardless of the number of players present. If a team has less than six (6) players at the scheduled start of the game, there will be a grace period of 15 minutes for a sixth player to arrive prior to having to forfeit. Even if a team is required to forfeit due to a lack of players, the game will be conducted as a practice scrimmage and should continue until completion.

3.3.7 Reserved

3.3.8 An offensive half inning will end when three outs are made or when five runs have scored. A team can score more than five runs only if they are the result of a home run hit over the fence. The Vice President of Softball and/or his/her designee may reduce the run limits for the innings pitched by kids if deemed necessary to improve the quality of play.

3.3.9 The stealing of second base is not permitted. The stealing of third and home plate is permitted. When stealing all runners may only advance one base per attempted steal. Delay stealing is not permitted. Once the catcher has released the ball back to the pitcher, a runner may not attempt to steal. If the runner is already in the process of stealing the base when the throw is

made back to the pitcher, the runner may continue to advance to the next base. Should a player attempt to delay steal, they will return to their original base without penalty. There is no “halfway” rule with respect to base running (at this or upper levels). In addition, there is no limit to the number of bases a runner may advance on an overthrow with the exception of the stealing rules above.

3.3.10 The defensive team field’s ten players with the tenth player positioned in the outfield. All outfielders must be positioned in the outfield grass.

3.3.11 The pitching distance is 35 feet.

3.3.12 City Series rules are the same as the rules used at the conclusion of the regular season. All time limits are in effect, with the exception of the Championship Game which will be played until completion unless weather shortens a game that has played the required innings (3) to be official.

3.3.13 In instances when the offensive team’s catcher for their next defensive inning is on base and there are two outs or four runs have been scored, the offensive team may insert a “courtesy” runner to run for the catcher. This runner will be the player who made the most recent out of the inning, or, if no outs have been recorded, the player who scored the most recent run.

3.3.14 The Vice President or designee will publish the pitching rules for AAA softball prior to the beginning of the season, which may provide for modifications during the season.

3.3.15 All games played during the regular season will count towards the regular standings and the City Series pairings. City Series games will follow the same rules as used at the conclusion of the regular season; however, in all cases all City Series games will be entirely kid pitch.

3.3.16 All players must wear helmets with face masks when batting, running the bases or coaching from either the first or third base coaches box.

3.3.17 When using the pitching machine, the pitch should come to the batter at a rate of speed such that the pitch is “flat”. The pitch should not “loop” in to the batter with an arc.

3.3.18 The infield fly rule is NOT in effect.

3.4 Rules Applying to Minor League Softball—AA Level

3.4.1 The rule book for Minor League Play as published by Little League, Inc. will govern all play except as noted below.

3.4.2 The batting lineup will include all players who shall bat in rotation. Players shall continue to bat even when not playing in the field. Late arriving players will be placed at the bottom of the lineup.

3.4.3 An offensive half inning will end when three outs are made or when five runs have scored. A team can score more than five runs only if they are the result of a home run hit over the fence. The Vice President of Softball and/or his/her designee may reduce the run limits for the innings pitched by kids if deemed necessary to improve the quality of play.

3.4.4 It is the intent of the League that each player be given every reasonable opportunity to participate in each game. Therefore, unless they become sick or injured, every player on a team roster will participate in each game. No player will sit out consecutive innings. **No player shall play the same position for more than 2 innings per game.** In order to insure that the intent of this rule is followed, the Vice President of the league will periodically inspect game rosters. Managers should advise the league Vice President of apparent failures to comply with this rule. Failure to comply with this rule may result in disciplinary action by the Board of Directors against any manager or coach consistent with Regulation IV (i) of the Little League rule book.

3.4.5 The defensive team field's ten players with the tenth player positioned in the outfield. All outfielders must be positioned in the outfield grass.

3.4.6 The stealing of second and third base is not permitted. The stealing of home plate is permitted. Delay stealing is not permitted. Once the catcher has released the ball back to the pitcher, a runner may not attempt to steal. If the runner is already in the process of stealing the base when the throw is made back to the pitcher, the runner may continue to advance to the next base. Should a player attempt to delay steal, they will return to their original without penalty. There is no "halfway" rule with respect to base running. Runner's may advance only one base on an overthrow.

3.4.7 **The Vice President or designee will publish the pitching rules for AA softball prior to the beginning of the season, which may provide for modification during the season.**

3.4.8 In instances when the offensive team's catcher for their next defensive inning is on base and there are two outs or four runs have been scored, the offensive team may insert a "courtesy" runner to run for the catcher. This runner will be the player who made the most recent out of the inning, or, if no outs have been recorded, the player who scored the most recent run.

3.4.9 No player shall pitch more than one (1) inning in a game that has three (3) innings pitched by the pitching machine. If there are two (2) or fewer innings of machine pitching, then the rules on innings pitched that apply in AAA softball shall apply. **There are no rest requirements.**

3.4.10 Both teams are required to maintain a scorebook documenting participation and results for each game. If there is a disagreement about the outcome of a game which cannot be resolved between the managers, the scorebook of the home team will be considered to be the official record of the game.

3.4.11 A complete game is one in which three complete innings has been played. If the visitors have completed three at bats and the home team has not yet completed their third at bat, but the home team is winning when the game is stopped due to time or weather, the game will be considered official.

3.4.12 Games should begin and proceed until completion based on time or number of innings played regardless of the number of players present. In the City Series if a team has less than six (6) players at the scheduled start of the game, there will be a grace period of 15 minutes for a sixth player to arrive prior to having to forfeit. Even if a team is required to forfeit due to a lack of players, the game will be conducted as a practice scrimmage and should continue until completion. During the regular season, games should begin on time regardless of the number of players in attendance for either team.

3.4.13 The 10-run rule as documented in the National Little League Rule Book will not be implemented. Thus all games are expected to be played to completion or through their time limits whichever occurs first.

.14 Each player present for the entire game shall play at least one (1) defensive inning in the infield.

3.4.15 During regular season play, no standings for competitive purposes will be kept.

3.4.16 City Series games will follow the same rules as used at the conclusion of the regular season [with the exception of rules specifically stated as applicable to the regular season].

3.4.17 All players must wear helmets with face masks when batting, running the bases or coaching from either the first or third base coaches box.

3.4.18 When using the pitching machine, the pitch should come to the batter at a rate of speed such that the pitch is “flat”. The pitch should not “loop” in to the batter with an arc.

3.4.19 During the regular season, there will be no walks. If the batter is thrown four (4) balls by the player pitcher, the batter will remain at the plate. The pitcher will assume the position behind the pitching rubber and the manager or coach of the offensive team will continue pitching to the batter. The batter will retain the number of strikes they had from the player pitcher and with the manager/coach pitching will either hit the ball into fair territory or strike out. The Vice President of Softball and/or his/her designee may determine to apply this rule in this paragraph above in the City Series. In all cases, batters still take first base if hit by pitch.

3.4.20 The infield fly rule is not in effect.

3.4.21 During the regular season, umpires WILL NOT be assigned by the League to games played at this level of play. Each team must provide one adult volunteer who shall serve as umpire for each game. Volunteer adult umpires shall alternate their positions in the field and behind the plate each inning.

3.5 Rules Applying to Transitional Softball

3.5.1 The rule book for Minor League Play as published by Little League, Inc. will govern all play except as noted below.

3.5.2 Umpires WILL NOT be assigned by the League to games played at this level of play. Each team must provide one adult volunteer who shall serve as umpire for each game. Volunteer adult umpires shall alternate their positions in the field and behind the plate each inning.

3.5.3 Pitching Rules for the Transition Softball Program are as follows:

Pitching will be by the pitching machine when available or an adult representative of the team at bat when the pitching machine is not available.

All batters will be given a maximum of seven pitches in which to either get 3 swinging strikes or hit the ball. A pitch, which hits the batter, is a dead ball and is not considered a pitch.

No walks will be awarded. If after 7 pitches the batter has not swung and missed 3 times or gotten a hit, then the batter shall be considered “out”. If a batter fouls off the 7th pitch, they will receive additional pitches until they either swing and miss or hit the ball into fair territory.

. (Note, in rare circumstances, if a player is struggling so much that a manager determines over the course of several games that she has no reasonable prospect at making contact with a ball pitched from the machine, the manager may, in consultation with the manager of the other team, allow the player to hit a soft tossed pitch or off a tee, while continuing to work with the player to get her to the point that such alternative is not necessary.)

3.5.4 Adults may coach base runners from the coaching boxes at first and third base. One defensive coach is allowed on the field and must be positioned on the outfield grass so as not to interfere with normal play.

3.5.5 The batting lineup will include all players who shall bat in rotation. Late arriving players will be placed at the bottom of the lineup.

.6 Play ends when the player, positioned as the pitcher, has control of the ball on the mound area.

3.5.7 Base-stealing and leading off the bases is not permitted.

3.5.8 An offensive half inning will end when three outs are made or when five runs have scored. A team can score more than five runs only if they are the result of a home run hit over the fence.

3.5.9 The defensive team fields all players unless injured, with only six in the infield (two (2) pitchers and no catcher) and the remainder positioned in the outfield on the grass. The infielders should be positioned no closer to the batter than the thirty-five foot pitcher's plate. Outfielders must be positioned on the outfield grass.

3.5.10 Every player shall play at least two (2) innings per game in the infield. No player shall play the same position for more than one (1) inning per game. All players on a team are generally expected to play equal amounts of time in each game.

3.5.11 The infield fly rule will not be enforced.

3.5.12 There shall be no bunting.

3.5.13 During regular season play, no standings for competitive purposes will be kept.

3.5.14 It is the goal of the league to maximize the participation at this level. As a result, there is no minimum number of players that must be present in order to begin play. If the two teams have numbers of clear disparity, the managers may elect to "share" players to assure maximum participation for all involved.

3.5.15 There is no catcher at this level.

4.0 RULES APPLYING TO TEE-BALL 2 (6 year old) PROGRAM

4.1 The rule book for Minor League and Tee-Ball as published by Little League, Inc. except as noted below.

4.2 Umpires WILL NOT be assigned by the League to games played at this level of play. The defensive coaches will umpire the bases and the offensive batting coach will umpire home plate. Disputes on the field shall be resolved by team managers without interference from others. If a dispute cannot be resolved, the play in question shall be replayed.

4.3 Two (2) games will be played simultaneously on each field. In the outfield, players will play a game using a tee with regular tee balls (safety balls) on a field of thrown-down bases. In the infield, players will play a game using a softball pitching machine and lite flight softballs. In the infield, players will receive three swings against the machine and if they have not hit a ball into fair territory, the tee will be brought out and they can then hit off the tee. The tee shall be positioned in front of home plate at waist level of the batter (in order to develop a proper swing down and through the ball). After 25 minutes, the teams will switch venues between the infield machine-set game and the outfield tee-set game, so that every child has the opportunity to play in the infield and to hit off of the machine.

4.3.1 The second half of the season (approximately six games), the outfield venue will be coach soft toss with regular tee balls (safety balls). Coach pitch outfield games may begin as early in the season as the managers mutually agree on a game-by-game basis. A batting tee shall remain readily available for use by any player desiring to continue to develop a swing with a tee-set ball throughout the entire season.

4.4 Defensively, six players will play the field with players positioned at pitcher's mound (two (2) players here), 1st, 2nd, 3rd, SS. Offensively, there will be 6 batters. Please make SAFETY your #1 priority!

4.5 The ball must carry the mark "Little League Tee Ball" or meet Little League specifications and standards for a regulation ball (e.g., Void Safe Ball). "Hard" balls are NOT PERMITTED.

4.6 The bat must carry the mark "Little League Tee Ball" or meet Little League specifications and standards for a regulation bat.

4.7 Two defensive coaches are permitted on the field. Three offensive coaches are permitted, one at home plate, and one each at first and third base. Coaches may instruct the players but may not touch a live ball.

4.8 The batting lineup will include all players who will bat in rotation. Players will continue to bat in rotation until all players have batted once in each inning.

4.9 An offensive half inning will end when all the players on the offensive side have batted one time, regardless of the number of outs made. Coaches shall continue to reinforce the concept that three outs will end the inning next season in Transition Baseball or Softball, and all older leagues.

4.10 Outs are made just as in regular baseball: fly ball caught by defensive player or a force out at any base. Players are discouraged from "running home with the ball"! The Coach behind the plate is asked to play the catchers position for the purpose of a defensive out.

4.11 Games at the T-Ball level are not required to be made-up due to inclement weather. Whenever possible the league will attempt to reschedule these games; however, this is dependent

on field availability. Individual managers may elect to reschedule a cancelled game if they agree to play during one of their practice times.

5.0 RULES APPLYING TO THE TEE-BALL 1 (5 year old) PROGRAM

5.1 The rule book for Minor League and Tee-Ball as published by Little League, Inc. except as noted below.

5.2 Umpires WILL NOT be assigned by the League to games played at this level of play. The defensive coaches will umpire the bases and the offensive batting coach will umpire home plate. Disputes on the field shall be resolved by team managers without interference from others. If a dispute cannot be resolved, the play in question shall be replayed.

5.3 Players will hit off the tee the entire season. The tee shall be positioned in front of home plate at waist level of the batter (in order to develop a proper swing, down and through the ball).

5.4 Defensively, six players will play the field with players positioned at pitcher's mound, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, SS and between 1st & 2nd. Offensively, there will be six batters. The remaining players, from each team, will be allowed to practice in the outfield or play a Tee-Ball game with throw-down bases, with the proper adult supervision.

Please make SAFETY your #1 priority! After 25 minutes, the teams will switch, so every child has the opportunity to play in the infield.

5.5 The ball must carry the mark "Little League Tee Ball" or meet Little League specifications and standards for a regulation ball (e.g., Void Safe Ball). "Hard" balls are NOT PERMITTED.

5.6 The bat must carry the mark "Little League Tee Ball" or meet Little League specifications and standards for a regulation bat.

5.7 Two defensive coaches are permitted on the field. Three offensive coaches are permitted, one at home plate, and one each at first and third base. Coaches may instruct the players but may not touch a live ball.

5.8 The batting lineup will include all players who will bat in rotation. Players will continue to bat in rotation until all players have batted once in each inning.

5.9 An offensive half inning will end when all the players on the offensive side have batted one time.

5.10 Outs are made just as in regular baseball: fly ball caught by defensive player or a force out at any base. Players are discouraged from "running home with the ball"! The Coach behind the plate is asked to play the catchers position for the purpose of a defensive out.

5.11 Games at the T-Ball level will not be made-up due to inclement weather. However, individual managers may elect to reschedule a cancelled game if they agree to play during one of their practice times.

2011 CITY SERIES TOURNAMENT RULES

1.0 GENERAL RULES APPLYING TO ALL PROGRAMS

1.1 Conduct of Program Participants and Spectators.

The purpose of Little League is to assist youth in developing citizenship, discipline, teamwork and physical well being, with proper guidance and exemplary leadership. The City Series Tournament is a means to these objectives and all participants have a responsibility to keep this perspective. The actions of players, managers, coaches and spectators must be above reproach.

1.2 All Star rules are applicable to Tournament play 1.3 Home Team. For each game, the team listed first in the Tournament schedule is the home team and will occupy the first base dugout.

1.3 Pitching Rules. All pitching rules applicable to the regular season. The new pitch count rules are in effect and rest requirements are not forgiven at the start of or for purposes of the Tournament. (In softball, innings pitched during the regular season will not be considered relative to rest requirements.)

1.4 Time Limits. **The “drop dead” rules shall not apply during City Series games. Once an inning has started, the game shall not end until that inning has been completed.** If a game is not considered a regulation game under Little League rules, the League President or a designee shall determine the time and location for completion of the suspended game. A resumed non-regulation game shall only be continued until it becomes a regulation game. If a game is a regulation game but is a TIE game (see also Rule 1.7), it shall be continued upon resumption until (1) the visiting team has scored more total runs than the home team at the end of a completed inning, or (2) the home team scores the winning run in an uncompleted inning.

Managers must be prepared to exchange line-ups and begin play at the designated starting time of the game without regard to the time the field became available to their team, and expedite play at all times.

All championship games will have no time limits and will be played to conclusion under the national playing rules.

1.5 Inclement Weather. All games cancelled because of inclement weather or poor field conditions will be rescheduled by the League President or a designee. Once a game begins, the umpire-in-chief (plate umpire) of the game, in consultation with the league’s Chief Umpire or a designee, is responsible for determining whether play is to continue in case of inclement weather or poor field conditions. A game called because of inclement weather or poor field conditions is a complete game if it is a regulation game under Little League National Rules.

In the event that a game called because of inclement weather or poor field conditions is not a regulation game under Little League national rules, the League President or a designee shall determine the time and location for completion of the suspended game. The game will be resumed from the point of interruption and played to a conclusion under Little League national rules or until the expiration or new time limits (see Tournament Rule 1.5), whichever occurs first.

1.6 Reversion Rule. The reversion rule [Playing Rule 4.11(d) EXCEPTION] will be in effect for the Tournament. In certain situations where a game is halted during an uncompleted inning due to time limits or weather, this can mean that the score will be rolled back to the last complete inning.

1.7 Curfew. The regular season curfew of 9:45 pm remains in effect for the Tournament. All persons shall be clear of the fields by 9:35 pm and the lights shall be shut off no later than 9:45 pm.

1.8 Protests. In the programs not provided umpires during the regular season (AA baseball), protests will not be permitted. Judgment decisions of the umpire are final and shall not be objected to by any manager, coach or player. All protests of a rule interpretation shall be made immediately to the umpire. Protests must be made and resolved before the next pitch or play. Protests not made before an intervening pitch or play shall not be considered.

Protests made due to use of an ineligible player or pitcher may be considered only if made to the umpire before the final out of the game. Such protests must be lodged immediately upon recognition of the violation and failure to do so may, in the discretion of the protest official, result in the protest being disallowed with the only penalty being the removal of the player in question. Use of an ineligible player or pitcher may, however, subject the offending manager to sanctions by the League. The respective managers at the plate meeting prior to the game shall discuss eligible players and pitchers.

The League's Chief Umpire or an Assistant Chief Umpire will be available during all games to serve as the final authority to rule on all protests. Where practicable, one or more Board members who are not managers or coaches, or other disinterested individuals, may be called upon, in the discretion of the ruling official, to assist in the evaluation of the protest.

1.9 Umpires. Umpires will be assigned to all games by the League's Chief Umpire.

Participants in programs not provided umpires during the regular season (AA baseball) should note that the umpires will enforce all local, tournament and national rules with special emphasis on those relating to player safety.

If needed, AA baseball teams shall provide one umpire each to assist an umpire assigned by the League. An umpire assigned by the League will ask for such assistance, if needed or desired, prior to the start of the game.

For purposes of tournament games in those programs not provided umpires during the regular season, the League's Chief Umpire and Assistant Chief Umpires shall be considered as if assigned to umpire these games with authority to enter the playing field at any time to enforce any playing rule or Board policy and/or prescribed penalties.