

SOLANA BEACH LITTLE LEAGUE LOCAL RULES T-BALL

A. GENERAL GUIDELINES

Solana Beach Little League is a recreational program. Equal emphasis should be placed on sportsmanship, teamwork, learning, fun and competition. Managers and coaches need to respond to all players, regardless of ability, in a positive and calm manner. Many children drop out of recreational youth sport programs because of managers and coaches who place too much emphasis on competition and who are less than patient with players who are not at the top of the game.

Managers, coaches, parents and players should show encouragement and good sportsmanship towards one another. **Derogatory remarks directed at players, managers/ coaches, parents, family members or umpires: WILL NOT BE TOLERATED.** Managers are responsible for the behavior of their coaches, players, player's parents and family members.

Managers are responsible for their players until their parents or an authorized adult arrives. Managers, please make sure that your players' parents or an authorized adult picks up all of your players after all games and practices. **If you are having problems with this issue, please alert the Player Agent or your Division Rep Immediately!**

The Little League Parent/Volunteer Pledge

I will teach all children to play fair and do their best.
I will positively support all managers, coaches and players.
I will respect the decisions of the umpires.
I will praise a good effort despite the outcome of the game.

B. DIVISION/PLAYER DESCRIPTION

First year players league ages 4-6 are assigned to T-ball. Here players have fun learning the fundamentals of the game. All players play all innings and bat around. No scores are kept, so each team wins every game. T-ball teams practice one afternoon per week. One game is played on Saturday each week. In the first half of the season, the kids hit from the Tee. In the second half of the season, some kids will be ready for Coach pitch. If after three pitches, the batter has still not hit the ball, a Tee should be used.

C. SCHOOL/FIELD CARE

Please Pitch In! Help Keep Our Schools & Baseball Fields Neat, Clean & Beautiful!

1. T-Ball games are played at Skyline Elementary and Solana Vista Elementary.
2. Remove all trash bags that are half full from the trash cans.
3. Securely close the full trash bags and carry them over and deposit them into the dumpster located at the northeastern corner of the field. Please do not put trash in the recycle dumpsters.
4. Please line the emptied trashcans with a clean trash bag liner. Clean trash bag liners are conveniently stored in the bottom of each trash can.

D. LOCAL RULES

NOTE: The Solana Beach Local Rules shall be followed by the teams participating in Solana Beach Little League. However, these local rules are **NOT** a complete list of all baseball rules applicable to the little league divisions. The Official Regulations and Playing Rules provided by Little League Baseball set forth the complete rules of the game. All managers and coaches shall have a good understanding of the Official Baseball rules. In the event of a conflict in the rules, the Solana Beach Local Rules shall be applied.

1. GENERAL

- a. **Game Time.** Every effort must be made to start the game on time. If you have **eight (8)** players, you must start the game. If game delays become a problem, we will be forced to shorten your games by the period of time the game starts late. Starting the first morning games on time is critical.
- b. **Run Limit.** There is no run limit.
- c. **Time Limit.** There is a two-hour time limit for all games. The time begins when the Managers start the game. No new inning can begin after the two-hour limit, but if a new inning begins before the two-hour time limit, it will be completed unless 1) darkness or weather prohibits it *or* 2) *the game extends past 2 hours 30 minutes of play time.*
- d. **Rain Outs.** If a game is rained out, you must contact the Division Rep immediately and schedule a make up game.
- e. **Rescheduled Games.** You may not reschedule a game without the approval of the Division Rep. For all rescheduled games, it is the home team manager's responsibility to contact the umpires and advise them of the changes. Contact information is provided separately.
- f. **Dugouts.** Only 3 adults (appointed managers/coaches) are allowed in the dugout or on the field during a game. One appointed manager/coach must stay in

the dugout at all times when there are players on the bench. All players sitting on the bench waiting to bat or who are sitting out an inning, should stay in the dugout, unless they are warming up in the bullpen area. No other adults or minors are permitted in the dugout.

g. Disputes. If there is a dispute about a game, please resolve the issue(s) with your Division Rep & the Player Agent, and if necessary, the President. No protests please. All protests must be made with the opposing Manager and if necessary, Division Rep.

h. Dugout Assignment. The home team will occupy the first base dugout.

2. PRE-GAME

a. Visiting Team. The visiting team sets up the bases.

b. Score Keeping. Score does not determine the outcome of the game and shall not be kept in T-Ball.

3. POST-GAME

a. Dugout Clean Up. Each team is responsible for cleaning up its own dugout after the game. Please have parents/managers/coaches clean out any equipment and trash in the dugout when the game is over so the next team can move in on time. Please move out of the dugouts promptly. Conduct team meetings and serve snacks off to the far sidelines so as not to interfere with the next team.

b. General Clean Up. Please ask players and their family members to clean up dug out and bleacher areas after each game. The League is completely responsible for cleaning up after ourselves! Thank you for your help.

c. Visiting Team. The visiting team puts away the bases and locks the storage shed.

d. Home Team. If playing on an all-dirt infield, the home team drags the infield post-game.

4. PLAYERS

a. Substitution. There will be free player substitution throughout the entire season.

b. Minimum Play. All players play on defense and bat each inning.

c. Injuries. If a player is injured in a SBLL game, you must contact the Safety Officer and President in writing. Injured players, who have been injured in a SBLL game or elsewhere, must have a treating physician/facility, provide written

authorization to resume play.

e. **Discipline.** If a Player is benched for disciplinary reasons, the Manager must discuss it with the Division Rep., the Player Agent and the Player.

5. CATCHING

e. **Catcher Gear Requirements.** All catchers in the act of catching a pitch must use a catcher's glove and a catcher's helmet, with a chin guard —no exceptions. Under no circumstances shall a male catcher not wear a protective cup for their groin area.

6. BATTING

a. **Bat Around.** All teams will utilize the "bat around" method for structuring their batting order. A late arrival will be placed at the end of the batting order. If a player is injured, becomes ill or must leave the game after the start of the game, then that player's turn in the order will be skipped without penalty. If the player returns, he/she will be inserted into the original spot in the lineup.

b. **On Deck Batters. No on deck batters are allowed anywhere.** Not in the bullpen, not on the sidelines and not in the dugout. No player should have a bat in his/her hands until he/she is walking to the batters box.

d. **Stealing bases.** Not allowed in this division.

7. RUNNING

a. **Head First Slide.** Head first sliding is strictly prohibited.

b. **Substitute Runners.** Substitute or courtesy runners are allowed if needed.