

# Vernon Rockville Little League Bylaws 2015

(4th Draft for review of Merger Committee)

Still being reviewed/discussed

Resolved items

The following guidance is provided by the Vernon Rockville Little League (VRL) Board of Directors(BOD) to all Umpires, Managers, Coaches, and parents/guardians. This information is available on the League’s website. VRL follows the processes, procedures and rules set forth in the *Operating Manual* and the *Little League Baseball Official Regulations and Playing Rules* as published by Little League Baseball, Incorporated, Williamsport, PA. Any changes, modifications, clarifications, or deviations are clearly identified or they are underlined and in italics. All changes, modifications, clarifications, or deviations have been reviewed with Eastern Regional Headquarters.

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# Vernon Rockville Little League Board of Director Procedures

## 1<sup>ST</sup> MEETING- AFTER BOARD POSITIONS ARE FINALIZED

### 1. Mandatory Committees Established

a. **Audit** – Chaired by the **Secretary**

- 2 Board Members

- 1 Non-Board Member (may be a Regular Member)

Deliverable - Complete review of League's books and records prior year **to the Annual Meeting**

b. **Budget** – Chaired by the **Treasurer**

- VP of both Baseball and Softball

- 2 Board Members

Deliverable -“ Make budget recommendations for the upcoming year, **by the December Board Meeting**”

c. **Baseball Committee** – Chaired by the **Vice President – Baseball**

- **Player Agent, Division Directors, Safety Director, Player Development Director**

- Open to all Managers and coaches from prior Spring, Summer, & Fall season.

Deliverable -“Review Baseball Operating Procedures and Playing Rules and make recommendations for changes, **by the February Board Meeting- final vote of approval required at the March Board meeting**”

d. **Softball Committee** – Chaired by the **Vice President – Softball**

- **Player Agent, Division Directors, Safety Director, Player Development Director**

- Open to all Managers and coaches from prior Spring, Summer, & Fall season.

Deliverable -“Review Softball Operating Procedures and Playing Rules and make recommendations for changes, **by the February Board Meeting- final vote of approval required at the March Board meeting**”

e. **Disciplinary Committee**– Chaired by the **President**

- VP both Baseball and Softball

- Player Agent both Baseball and Softball

- 2 Board Members

Deliverable -“Review Disciplinary Policy and make recommendations for changes, **by the January Board Meeting- final vote of approval required at the February Board meeting**”

### 2. Set Board Meeting Rules and Requirements for the Current Year

a. **Constitutional Requirements**

a. A quorum shall consist of 50% +1 of the Board of Directors

b. Each member of the Board of Directors shall have one vote at Board of Director meetings- if one BoD holds two positions they will have only 1 vote.

b. **Annual Requirements- requires votes on the following, plus any new motions made**

a. Determine normal monthly meeting day, time, and place

b. Determine Presidential voting rules – in case of a tie only – Y or N

c. Determine if email votes are allowed during the year – Y or N

i. If Y – can any member object and stop the vote for debate at the next Board of Directors meeting – Y or N

ii. If N – is a Super-majority of 2/3 required for passage – Y or N

- d. Determine Board of Director Attendance Policy
  - i. In order to continue serving on the Board of Directors, current Board members must have attended more than 75% of the meetings during the year. An excused absent for emergency only. – Y or N
  - ii. Any Board Member that misses 2 meetings in a row will not be able to vote at the next Board Meeting they attend. Voting privileges will be restored immediately following the attendance of a regularly scheduled Board Meeting – Y or N.
- e. Determine **Board of Director** Code of Conduct
  - i. First instanced of use of profanity by Board Member will be on probation for 6 months – Y or N
  - ii. Second instanced with in probation time frame will be asked to resign from the board. – Y or N

## Baseball Operating Procedures

**\*\*\* Must be reviewed by the Baseball Committee-some items may change, others need to stay as is for at least the first year \*\*\***

**Still being reviewed/discussed**

**Resolved items**

The following Operating Procedures apply to VRLL Baseball. The procedures have been reviewed(some items were reviewed in the past, some are still in review) with Little League’s Eastern Regional Headquarters(ERH), and a copy has been sent and is in the league’s file.

### Division Structure

#### **Howard Daniels Baseball School (4-7 yrs old)**

All registered players age 4 or 5 will be in the Baseball School without exception. All players age 6 that have not played Tee Ball in any program will be in the Baseball School. All players age 6 that have played 1 yr of Baseball School (or Tee Ball) in VRLL can, upon the parent/guardian request, be evaluated to move to the Single A Division.

(note: player’s age 6 that did not complete 1 yr of Baseball School (or Tee Ball) with VRLL, but did play at least 1 yr elsewhere can petition the league to request a waiver from ERH to allow the child to move to the Single A Division. Such request must be in writing and include proof of participation in another program for 1 season. VRLL’s BOD will make the final decision to apply for a waiver based on the number of roster spots in the Single A Division and the Player Agent’s evaluation of the player.)

Players age 6 will be eligible to move up to the A Division if; a) the player(s) have demonstrated the ability throw, catch, and remained focused while taking direction from the Player Agent, b) there roster spots available at the Single A Division, and c) the parents/guardians agree to allow the player to move up. Players age 7 may be recommended for the Baseball School after evaluation if the Player Agent believes that it is in the best interest of the child(requires BOD Approval).

#### **Single A Division (6-10 yrs old) – Old Instructional Division**

The Single A Division is a subset of the Minor Division. The A Division is a combination of Machine and Coach Pitch, and is a developmental Division. No player pitch is allowed at this division. **Players age 6 that meet the requirements** above are eligible for this Division.

Most 7 year olds will be in this Division, unless;

- a) the Player Agent and the player's parents/guardians believe it is in the best interest of the player to remain in the VRLB Baseball School (Tee Ball) or,
- b) the player evaluates very highly and the Player Agent recommends that the player be moved to the AA Division (requires the parent/guardian approval and spots available in the higher Division).

Players age 9 or 10 may be recommended for the Single A Division after evaluation if the Player Agent believes that the player would be at risk of injury in the Double A Division and that it is in the best interest of the child (requires BOD Approval).

### **Double A Division (7-12 yr Old) - Old Minor Division-Player/Coach Pitch**

The Double A Division is a developmental player pitch league. Coach pitch will be substituted when necessary. Players age 7 that the Player Agent evaluated highly will be moved up if roster spots are available and the player's parents/guardians agree.

Most 8 year olds will be in this Division, unless;

- a) the Player Agent believes it is in the best interest of the player to remain in the Single A or,
- b) the player evaluates very highly and the Player Agent recommends that the player be moved to the AAA Division (requires the parent/guardian approval and spots available in the higher Division).

Players age 9-10 that did not get selected for the AAA Division will be in the AA Division, unless after evaluation, the Player Agent believes that the player would be at risk of injury in the AA Division and that it is in the best interest of the child to play in the A Division (requires BOD Approval).

Players age 11 & 12 may be recommended for the AA Division by the Player Agent if, after discussion with the Major Division Managers, the Player Agent believes that the player would be at risk of injury in the AAA or Major Division and that it is in the best interest of the child to remain in the AA Division. A formal waiver process must be followed for 12 year olds. (**note- Very few, if any, 11 or 12 year olds will be in this Division.**) Only players age 8-11 may pitch in this division, 12 yr olds are prohibited to pitch by rules established by Little League.

### **AAA Division (8-12 yr Old) –Competitive Player Pitch only**

The AAA Division is a player pitch league, and is a competitive Division. Players age 8 that the Player Agent evaluated highly will be eligible if the player's parents/guardians agree. Players age 10-12 that did not get selected for the Major Division will be eligible for the AAA Division. Players age 9-11 may be recommended for the AA Division after evaluation if the Player Agent believes that the player would be at risk of injury in the AAA Division and that it is in the best interest of the child. Players age 12 may be recommended for the AA or AAA Divisions by the Player Agent if, after discussion with the Major Division Managers, the Player Agent believes that the player would be at risk of injury in the Major Division and that it is in the best interest of the child to remain in one of the Minor Divisions. The vast majority, if not all, of the 11 and 12 year olds that do not make the Major Division will be in the AAA Division. . A formal waiver process must be followed for players age 12 to play in either AA or AAA Division. Only players age 8-11 may pitch in this division, 12 yr olds are prohibited to pitch by rules established by Little League.

### **Major Division (10-12)**

The Major Division is made up of **players age 10-12 yrs old**. All players at this level were evaluated highly by the Player Agent (see Major Division Evaluation & Draft Processes below), and were selected by a Major Division Manager with the possible exception of some 12 yr olds that are mandated as Major Division players by Little

League. Each team has a roster of 12 players. Players remain (with very few exceptions) with the same team from the year drafted through the remainder of their eligibility. The number of players drafted in a given year is based on the number of open roster spots created by players leaving based on age, moving, or not registering. The addition, or reduction, of teams is based on the long term projection of players available for both the Major and Minor Divisions. This is the most competitive division in VRLLE Baseball.

## Registration

Baseball registration is scheduled each year for 3 or 4 nights in late January and February. After the 2<sup>nd</sup> registration Major Division Managers will be provided a list of their players that are eligible to return, that have not yet registered. Manager's should attempt to contact these players and have them register. Parents can still register for baseball after the 3 official dates have past, however the late registration is guided by the following rules/guidelines that will be enforced by the VP Baseball/Baseball Player Agent/League Registrar;

- 1) All returning Major Division players must register prior to the 1<sup>st</sup> pick of the Major Division Draft. After that point they will be ineligible to play that season; **IV(f) – Note.**
- 2) To be eligible for the Major Division, players (10-12) must register prior to the last evaluation session. They also must go through at least the final evaluation session to be eligible for the Major Division. **IV(f)**
- 3) Players (10-12) that register after the last evaluation session will be ineligible for the Major Division. If after a review of their skills by the Player Agent, the player's ability will allow them to play safely in the AA or AAA Division (ie. Not a risk to other player's in the division), the player will be allowed to register up until May 1<sup>st</sup> as long as there is room on a roster in that Division. 12 players is the maximum roster size in the AA or AAA Division. If the player is 12 year old, a waiver must be obtained prior to the player joining a AA or AAA Division team.
- 4) Players age 8 and younger will be accepted until May 1<sup>st</sup> as long as there is room on a roster in the Division the player is assigned.

## Major Division Evaluation

The Major Division Evaluation process is based on the method set forth in the Operating Manual. The purpose of the evaluation process is to identify players age 10-12 that are ready to play at the Major Division level. Based on the evaluation scores (see below) a "draft pool" of players that are eligible to be drafted is created. The "draft pool" will consist of enough players to fill open Major Division roster spots, plus enough players to create a "replacement pool" of players to fill roster spots that could open up during the season due to injuries or players moving out of town. A typical "replacement pool" will consist of 5-10 players, and will be made up of players that were eligible to be drafted, but were not select by a Major Division team during the draft. The players in the "draft pool" will be released by the Player Agent to only the following individuals; President, VP-Baseball, the Player Development Director, the Safety Officer and the Major Division Managers. Major Division Managers may share the list with their coaches to prepare for the draft. This information is not published nor is the entire list disclosed to anyone other than the individuals listed above. However, the President, VP-Baseball, and Player Agent can discuss any player's status with the parent or guardian of a player. This is for the purpose of ensuring that players made available for the draft will play in the Major Division.

Each player will be evaluated by the Player Agent (or BOD approved designee) and scored on the following 5 skills:

1. Throwing (1-5 - 5 being the highest)
2. Hitting (1-5 - 5 being the highest)

3. Fly Balls (1-5 - 5 being the highest)
4. Ground balls(1-5 - 5 being the highest)
5. Running (2-4 - 4 being the highest) (2 below average, 3 average, 4 above average)

The scoring for the 5 skills are listed in the order above as a guide to the Player Agent and the Managers based on safety concerns for the player and the other players in the AA or AAA Division. Skills 1-Throwing & 2-Hitting are areas that a good player could be a risk to AA or AAA Division players. Skills 3-Fly Balls & 4-Ground Balls are areas that the player could be at a greater risk if he/she were in the Major Division. Running is graded on a tighter scale (2-4) so as not to keep a slower player out of the Major Division based on a low score of 1 and not to help promote a faster player to the Major Division before they are ready because of a high score of 5.

Skills 1 through 4 are graded on a 5 point scale. The 5 points on the scale are;

(1 Needs Development, 2 Minor Division, 3 Borderline, 4 Major Division, 5 Dominate Player)

All players, age 10-12, obtaining a total score of 17 or higher in the 5 categories will be automatically eligible for the Major Division Draft. Any players that score a 5 in throwing and a 5 in hitting will be designated a "mandatory Major Division player". Any player receiving this designation must be drafted into the Major Division in the upcoming draft. The number of player's scoring 17 or higher will be compared to the number of players required to complete the draft. This will help determine the number of players that score below 17 that will be made eligible, and included in the draft pool. **\*\*\* Note previously approved by ERH. Merger Committee has agreed in principle, but still under review with Rockville Player Agent\*\*\***

The Player Agent and the Managers will discuss all players that scored between 13-16. From this group of players, the Player Agent and managers will try to identify enough players to make available to complete the draft plus have enough for a "replacement pool" of approximately 5 to 10 players. The total number of players made eligible for the draft should be based on the level of play of the returning Major Division players. The final decision as to which players are made eligible will be made by the Player Agent. The Player Agent and Managers must discuss any 12 yr old that scores 13 or lower prior to the player being made eligible for the draft. While all 12 yr olds are automatically eligible based on the Little League rule that was passed for 2007, the Player Agent and the Managers owe it to the players and their families to continue to try to get all players drafted or assigned to the proper division based on their ability, not their age. If after the discussion between the Player Agent and the Managers, the Player Agent believes the 12 yr old player is at risk of injury if drafted to a Major Division team, the Player Agent must bring the issue to the attention of the League President and the player's parent(s) or guardian(s). The President and the parent(s), or guardian(s), will make the decision whether or not to pursue a waiver for the player to be assigned to the Minor Division.

The only exception to this process is;

The parents of any player, except 12 yr olds (see below), have the right to request that their son/daughter not be made eligible for the "draft pool". After evaluation, if the parents of this player, after discussion with the Player Agent, Major Division Managers, and the VP of Baseball, will not allow their son or daughter to play in the Major Division; the player will be allowed to remain in the Minor Division as long as the player is not an injury risk to the other players in that division. As stated previously we must make sure that each player is made eligible for, or placed, in the appropriate division based on his or her ability. Any player that is not drafted because of the parents'/guardians' refusal to allow their name to be placed into the draft will not be eligible to be called up as a replacement player during the current season.

If the parents of a 12 yr old request that their son/daughter be allowed to play in the AA or AAA Division, they will need to have the BOD agree, and the BOD and the Parents will need to submit a waiver request to the District Administrator for approval, which may or may not be granted.

The Player Agent will ensure that only players that are ready for the Major Division will be made eligible. If there are not enough players that qualify, based on the process described above, to create a “draft pool” the Player Agent will notify the BOD. The BOD will discuss options such as (but not limited to) reducing the number of Major Division teams or petitioning Little League to play with 11 players per team for 1 season.

This process must be described to the parents of the players being evaluated. Any parents that have questions or concerns with their son or daughter playing in the Major Division must make the Player Agent and VP-Baseball aware of the situation prior to the completion of evaluations.

## Major Division Draft

Major Division managers and their existing coaches, the Player Development Coordinator, the Player Agent, VP Baseball, and President will meet within 1 week of the final evaluation to complete the Major Division Draft. Teams will select in reverse order of finish based on the prior year’s regular season. Each team will fill their open roster spots during the draft. Each manager may select any player made available (“draft pool”) for the draft by the Player Agent. All teams must carry the minimum number of 12 year olds described in **Attachment A or alternate method to be decided once registration is complete.**

## Maintenance of Roster

All existing, previously *drafted*, Major Division players remain with the team that *drafted* them for the duration of their eligibility (with very few exceptions). VRLI follows the Player Selection “Plan A” as described in the Operating Manual, with 4 exceptions related to; 1) Replacement Players, 2) Mandatory Major Division Players, 3) Parent declared Minor Division players, 4) clarification of the process related to Manager and Coaches Options. \*\*\* Note previously approved by ERH. Must submit for their review after the merger\*\*\*

- 1) Replacement Players- Any player that came up from the AAA Division, after the 1st week of regular season play during the previous season must be selected to the team that called them up by the end of the third round (Replacement Player Option). These are mandatory picks and are required to be declared prior to any other Options.
- 2) Mandatory Major Division Players-  
Any player(s) that the Player Agent has designated a “mandatory Major Division player”  
These players must be taken during the Major Division Draft (see Major Division Evaluation above).
- 3) Parent Declared Minor Division Players- If a player’s parents/guardians will not allow the player, after discussion with the Player Agent, Major Division Managers, and the VP of Baseball, to move to the Major Division, the player may remain in the AAA Division **as long as the player is not an injury risk to the other players in the Minor Division.** (see Major Division Evaluation above)
- 4) New Manager Option-  
A newly appointed Manager will be granted the right to select their son/daughter in the draft via a “VRLI New Manager Option”, if the player is made available for the draft by the Player Agent. This option is designed to allow a new Manager, that would not have a qualified for an option under the “Operating Manual”, to select his or her son/daughter in the draft. The Manager’s son/daughter must go

through the evaluation process. Based on the player's playing history and the evaluation, the Player Agent (with input from the Major Division Managers) will determine the latest round that the player can be selected by the Manager via the "VRLN New Manager Option". The Player Agent cannot declare that the player must be taken in the 1st round, nor can the Player Agent declare a round later than the round provided for in the Operating Manual. As with any other Option, the Manager must declare prior to the draft whether the Option will be exercised. (note- if the New Manager would have qualified for a coaches option(both a & b as described in the Operating Manual) - he/she may use the coaches option for his son/daughter.

**\*\*\* Note previously approved by ERH. Must submit for their review after the merger\*\*\***

## REPLACEMENTS

- 1) Players openings after June 1<sup>st</sup> due to injury, moving, or any other circumstance do not need to be filled.
- 2) Permanent player openings prior to the June 1<sup>st</sup> must be filled with a player from the AAA Division. Managers should give strong consideration to 11 year old players, however the ultimate decision belongs to the manager and his coaches. (Note – the team that selects the replacement player must be draft the player in the following season draft- via a Replacement Player Option by the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> round. – Note the player that caused the opening will stay with the team the following season if the player has any remaining eligibility. If the player takes a year off and the returns, the player must go back through evaluations and the draft.
- 3) **Temporary replacements** – The pool of players that was made eligible for the Major Division Draft, will be used to fill openings caused by a temporary absence of a Major Division Players. Any player that play 1 or more games as a temporary replacement is guaranteed to be draft to the Major Division, barring a significant injury of any nature that would prevent the player from safely playing in the Major Division. The Player Agent must assign the players on a rotational basis. Any player moving up from the AAA Division to play on a temporary basis is prohibited from pitching.  
**\*\*\* Note this has been briefly discussed with ERH. Must submit for their review after the merger. It is possible a waiver will be granted to allow this process\*\*\***

## AA & AAA DIVISION EVALUATION & TEAM FORMATION

Evaluation;

The evaluation process of the AA & AAA Division is similar to the Major Division process. Players will be evaluated in 5 skills;

- 1 Throwing (1-5 - 5 being the highest)
- 2 Hitting (1-5 - 5 being the highest)
- 3 Fly Balls (1-5 - 5 being the highest)
- 4 Ground balls(1-5 - 5 being the highest)
- 5 Running (2-4 - 4 being the highest) (2 below average, 3 average, 4 above average)

Skills 1 through 4 are graded on a 5 point scale. The 5 points on the scale are;

(1 Needs Development, 2 A Division, 3 Borderline, 4 AA Division-Borderline AAA, 5 AAA Player)

**Note:** Depending on the availability of gym time, certain evaluations might be held in a facility without the pitching machine. If this is the case, a batting tee will be used for hitting evaluations. Any 6 (Single A), 7 (AA) or 8 (AAA) yr olds that could potential move up should be evaluated against the pitching machine prior to being moved to the higher Division.

The purpose of the AA Division evaluation is to balance the teams and to identify 8 & 9 yr olds that are capable of playing in the AAA Division. All 9 yr olds capable of playing in the AAA Division, based on the Player Agent Evaluation will automatically be move to AAA, unless the parent's request that the player remain in the AA Division. The Player Agent, VP-Baseball, and the AAA Division Director will discuss the number of openings for 8 year olds in the AAA Division and will determine based on the evaluation which player's to offer the opportunity to move up. The Player Agent, VP-Baseball, or the AAADD will call the parent/guardian in order of evaluation results and offer an AAA Division spot to the 8 year old player. The parent/guardian may accept or decline the offer. The calls will continue until either all spots are taken or all eligible candidates have been called. The names of the AAA eligible 9yr olds and the 8 yr olds whose parent/guardian accepted the offer will be add to the list of 10-12 old players that were not selected for the Major Division. This group will form the AAA Division(see AAA Division Team Formation below).

### AAA DIVISION-Competitive TEAM FORMATION

The Player Agent, AAA Division Director (AAADD), and AAA Division- Managers will form teams based on the evaluation scores provided by the Player Agent(PA) for all players not selected to the Major Division plus the eligible 8 and 9 year olds. The Player Agent & AAADD will ensure team balance and that players are ultimately assigned to the proper level at the Minor Division. The Managers will participate in the process to ensure each team has a few potential pitchers and catchers. Also the players that make up the "Major Division replacement pool" should be spread equally amongst the teams. All teams should have either 11 or 12 players.

Once the PA has approved the breakdown of teams, the AAADD will provide each Manger with a list of; players, player's parent/guardian phone numbers. Each Manager will contact the parents of each player.

This process will be completed during the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> week of March.

## AA DIVISION- Developmental Player/Coach Pitch TEAM FORMATION

The AA Division Director (AADD) will form teams based on the evaluation scores provided by the Player Agent(PA) for all players not assigned to the AAA Division, and the eligible 7 yr olds (see Instructional Evaluation process below). The AADD will balance the teams and try to provide each team with a few potential pitchers and catchers. All teams should have either 11 or 12 players. The MDD will try to accommodate parent or Manager/Coach requests for players to be placed on the same team. However, the balance of players and coaches between teams is a higher priority at this level.

Once the AADD has created a proposal of teams, he/she will forward the lists to the PA. The PA will review the teams to check to see if the teams appear balanced.

Once the PA has approved the breakdown of teams, the AADD will provide each Manger with a list of; players, player's parents, parent's phone numbers. Each Manager will contact the parents of each player.

This process will be completed during the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> week of March.

## A DIVISION- Developmental Machine/Coach Pitch TEAM FORMATION

The A Division Director (ADD) will form teams based on the evaluation scores provided by the Player Agent(PA) for all players age 7 and all 8 year olds not moved to the AA or AAA Division, and the eligible 6 yr olds (see Tee Ball process below). All teams should have either 9 or 10 players, but no more than 12. The ADD will try to accommodate parent or Manager/Coach requests for players to be placed on the same team. However, the balance of players and coaches between teams has an equal priority at this level.

Once the ADD has created a draft proposal of teams, he/she will forward the lists to the PA. The PA will review the teams to check to see if the teams appear balanced.

Once the PA has approved the breakdown of teams, the ADD will provide each Manger with a list of; players, player's parents, parent's phone numbers. Each Manager will contact the parents of each player.

This process will be completed during the 4<sup>th</sup> week of March or the 1<sup>st</sup> week of April.

## TEE BALL DIVISION EVALUATION & TEAM FORMATION

Evaluation;

The evaluation process of the Tee Ball Division is significantly different from the A process. Players will be evaluated in 3 or 4skills;

- 1 Throwing (1-5 - 5 being the highest)
- 2 Fly Balls (1-5 - 5 being the highest)
- 3 Ground balls(1-5 - 5 being the highest)
- 4 Hitting (Y/N) some 6 yr olds, see below

Skills 1 through 3 are graded on a 5 point scale. The 5 points on the scale are;

(1 Needs Development, 2 Tee Ball Division, 3 Borderline, 4 A Division, 5 Dominate Player)

The purpose of the Tee Ball Division evaluation is to get the players comfortable with leaving their parents and practicing and taking direction from Managers and Coaches. The scores are used to try to balance the teams. Also, 6 year olds that have played 1 year of Tee Ball and score well on the evaluation are given the opportunity to bat(4 above) against the pitching machine. Player's that do well while in the batting cage could be offered an

opportunity to play in the A Division. While the player is in the batting cage, the Player Agent is focused on whether or not the player is paying attention and takes directions from the coaches. A player does not have to hit the ball to be considered for the A Division. Conversely a player that hits the ball may not be considered if the player did not follow directions or would pose a safety risk to themselves or the catchers in the A Division. Only 6 year olds, with 1 year Tee Ball experience, are eligible to move to the A Division.

The Player Agent(PA), VP-Baseball, and the Tee Ball Division Director(TBDD) will discuss the number of openings for 6 year olds in the A Division and will determine based on the evaluation which player's to offer the opportunity to move up. The PA, VP-Baseball, or the TBDD will call the parent's in order of evaluation results and offer an A Division spot to the 6 year old player. The parent's may accept or decline the offer. The calls will continue until either all spots are taken or all eligible candidates have been called. The names of the 6 yr olds whose parents accepted the offer will be add to the list of 7 year old players and the 8 year old players that were not selected for the AA Division. This group will form the A Division(see Instructional Division Team Formation above).

#### Team Formation;

The Tee Ball Division Director TBDD will form teams based on the evaluation scores provided by the Player Agent(PA) for all players age 4, 5 and all 6 year olds not moved to the A Division. All teams should have either 6, 7 or 8 players. The TBDD will accommodate parent or Manager/Coach requests for players to be placed on the same team. However, the league reserves the right to split up players if too large (4 or more) a number request to be on the same team..

Once the TBDD has created a draft proposal of teams, he/she will forward the lists to the PA. The PA will review the teams to check to see if the teams appear balanced.

Once the PA has approved the breakdown of teams, the TBDD will provide each Manger with a list of; players, player's parents, parent's phone numbers. Each Manager will contact the parents of each player.

This process will be completed during the 4<sup>th</sup> week of March or 1<sup>st</sup> week of April.

## Attachment A – under review

Vernon Rockville Little League Baseball									
Major Division - min/Max 12 yr olds per team									
Draft Nov. 2015									
2014 Player Ct.	Total 12 Yr Olds	5 Teams		6 Teams		7 Teams		8 Teams	
		Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max
	60	11	13	9	11	8	10	7	9
	59	11	13	9	11	7	9	6	8
7 yo	58	11	13	9	11	7	9	6	8
	57	10	12	9	11	7	9	6	8
	56	10	12	8	10	7	9	6	8
	55	10	12	8	10	7	9	6	8
	54	10	12	8	10	7	9	6	8
	53	10	12	8	10	7	9	6	8
	52	9	11	8	10	6	8	6	8
	51	9	11	8	10	6	8	5	7
	50	9	11	7	9	6	8	5	7
	49	9	11	7	9	6	8	5	7
	48	9	11	7	9	6	8	5	7
	47	8	10	7	9	6	8	5	7
	46	8	10	7	9	6	8	5	7
	45	8	10	7	9	5	7	5	7
	44	8	10	6	8	5	7	5	7
9 & 10 yo	43	8	10	6	8	5	7	4	6
	42	7	9	6	8	5	7	4	6
11 yo	41	7	9	6	8	5	7	4	6
6 & 8 yo	40	7	9	6	8	5	7	4	6
	39	7	9	6	8	5	7	4	6
	38	7	9	5	7	4	6	4	6
12 yo	37	6	8	5	7	4	6	4	6
	36	6	8	5	7	4	6	4	6
	35	6	8	5	7	4	6	3	5
	34	6	8	5	7	4	6	3	5
	33	6	8	5	7	4	6	3	5
	32	5	7	4	6	4	6	3	5
	31	5	7	4	6	3	5	3	5
	30	5	7	4	6	3	5	3	5
	29	5	7	4	6	3	5	3	5
	28	5	7	4	6	3	5	3	5
	27	4	6	4	6	3	5	2	4
	26	4	6	3	5	3	5	2	4
	25	4	6	3	5	3	5	2	4
	24	4	6	3	5	2	4	2	4
	23	4	6	3	5	2	4	2	4
	22	3	5	3	5	2	4	2	4
	21	3	5	3	5	2	4	2	4
	20	3	5	2	4	2	4	2	4
	19	3	5	2	4	2	4	1	3
	18	3	5	2	4	2	4	1	3
	17	2	4	2	4	1	3	1	3
	16	2	4	2	4	1	3	1	3
	15	2	4	2	4	1	3	1	3
League should be looking at Expansion (upper portion) or Contraction (lower portion) if the league projects 3 or more years in the gray ranges.									
Per Little League regulations - 8 is the maximum number of 12 yr olds per team. If there is an issue for 1 season, roster sizes can be increase by up to 2 players, and a waiver request to play with more than 8 - 12 year olds.									

## Tournament Team Manager Selection

The potential levels of play are, Little League(11/12), 10/11 and 9/10 year old teams. The same person may not manage more than one team.

A. The manager of the current year's regular season champion team has first choice of teams to manage.

B. The manager of the current regular season runner-up team, has the second option.

C. The manager of the 3<sup>rd</sup> place team has the 3<sup>rd</sup> option.

D. If any of the above decline, then priority will be given to managers in order of regular season standings (4th place, 5th place etc.).

E. If a team remains without a manager after all Major League managers have been offered the position, the assistant coaches from Major Division teams are eligible in the same order as A to D above.

E. The Tournament Team Manager may select as his assistants any active manager or coach of the Vernon-Rockville Little League from the following Divisions;

1) 11/12 Team - Major Division (T-3)

2) 10/11 and 9/10 Team - Major, AAA, AA, or A Divisions (T-3)

note- there should be consideration of all managers and coaches to fill the available coaching slots, with a strong consideration of the individuals that have strongest instructional abilities.

H. If no Major League manager or coach expresses an interest in managing the 9&10 year old team, any Minor League manager can submit their name to the AAA Director for approval of the Board of Directors.

G. The Board of Director will establish the priority of player selection during the May Board of Directors meeting. Depending on the potential strength of the teams, the Board will prioritize the following;

1) Selection of 11 year old players - either the 10/11 team or the 11/12 team.

2) Selection of 10 year old players - either the 9/10 team or the 10/11 team.

3) Whether there is enough interest and manager/coaches for a 2nd 9/10 team.

### VII. 11 and 12 Year Old Tournament Team Player Selection (4/4/4 Process).

A. Only 11 and 12 year old players are eligible. Up to 14 players, but not less than 12 players.

B. Attachment B will be provided to the parents/guardians of all players age 9-12. Parents must return the bottom of the attachment to the regular season Manager by the last Saturday in May.

C. The Player Agent, Player Development Director and VP-Baseball will distribute ballots to each Major Division team after a game during the final week of the season. The ballot will contain the names of all players made available by their parents/guardians in step B. Each team's ballot will contain the ***names of players from the other Major Division teams***. Players and managers ***will not*** be able to vote for players from their own team.

D. All Major Division Players and Managers will vote as follows-

- 1) Players will vote for 1-12 players. Each player vote is worth 1 pt.
- 2) Managers must vote for 9 players (no more/no less). Each manager vote is worth 12 pts.

E. Voting shall be by secret ballot and will be tallied by the Player Agent, VP Baseball and Player Development Director.

- 1) the **4 players** receiving the highest vote total will be on the team.
- 2) in the case of a tie, the player that received more Player Votes will make the team.
- 3) in the case of a tie, with both players receiving the same number of Player Votes, the Manager of the Tournament team will break the tie, however strong consideration should be given to placing both player on the team.

F. A meeting will be held to select the remainder of the team. The meeting will be attended by all regular season Major Division Managers, the Tournament Team manager, Tournament Team coaches if known, the President, Player Agent, VP baseball, and Player Development Director.

1) **Regular Season managers vote to select up to 4 players**

*(Normally 4, but reduced if additional players with a tie in votes are placed on the team in E3 above).*

- a) Tournament Team manager will discuss the players currently on the team and the additional players, positions he needs filled to have a chance to be successful.
- b) Each Regular Season manager can briefly discuss players, including players from his/her team, that the manager believes should be considered.
- c) Each manager will submit a list of names equal to the number of spots to be filled in this section of the selection process - ie. 4 for the 1st round.
- d) Player Agent, VP Baseball and Player Development Director will tally the votes.
  - 1) 1st rd - Any player on all ballots will make the team.
  - 2) 2nd rd - Any player on all but 1 ballot will make the team
  - 3) continue to reduce required votes each round.
- e) Any player not receiving a vote will be ineligible for consideration for the remainder of this portion of the process.
- f) Player Agent will tell the managers the names of all players that were put on to the team based on the prior vote.
- g) If all spots (normally 4) to be filled in this section have been selected move to F.2.
- g) Player Agent will tell the managers which players received at least 1 vote and are still eligible for selection in the next round.
- h) Tournament Team Manager can halt the process at this point if he/she wants, and has roster spots, for all players still eligible. Go to F.2.
- i) repeat F.1.a-h - until all spots (normally 4) have been filled.

2) **Tournament Team Manager fills the remaining (normally 4 to get to 12 players) final roster spots**, minimum of 12 and a maximum of 14 players in total.

VII. 10 and 11 Year Old Tournament Team Player Selection. (4/4/4 Process).

A. Only 10 and 11 year old players are eligible. Up to 14 players, but not less than 12 players.

B. Attachment B will be provided to the parents/guardians of all players age 9-12. Parents must return the bottom of the attachment to the regular season Manager by the last Saturday in May.

C. The Player Agent, Player Development Director and VP-Baseball will distribute ballots to each Major Division manager with the names of all eligible players.

D. All Major Division and Managers will vote for 8 players, each vote is worth 1 pt. Managers may vote for players from their team.

E. Voting shall be by secret ballot and will be tallied by the Player Agent, VP Baseball and Player Development Director.

1) All unanimous selections will be on the team.

2) The **4 players receiving the highest** vote total, or up to 8 if unanimous, will be on the team.

F. A meeting will be held to select the remainder of the team. The meeting will be attended by all regular season Major Division Managers, the Tournament Team manager, Tournament Team coaches if known, the President, Player Agent, VP baseball, and Player Development Director.

1) Regular Season managers vote to fill the roster with 8 total players.

a) Tournament Team manager will discuss the players currently on the team and the additional players, positions he needs filled to have a chance to be successful.

b) Each Regular Season manager can briefly discuss players, including players from his/her team, that the manager believes should be considered.

c) Each manager will submit a list of names equal to the number of spots to be filled in this section of the selection process - 8 less the players selected in E above.

d) Player Agent, VP Baseball and Player Development Director will tally the votes.

1) 1st rd - Any player on all ballots will make the team.

2) 2nd rd - Any player on all but 1 ballot will make the team

3) continue to reduce required votes each round.

e) Any player not receiving a vote will be ineligible for consideration for the remainder of this portion of the process.

f) Player Agent will tell the managers the names of all players that were put on to the team based on the last vote.

g) If all spots to be filled in this section have been selected move to F.2.

g) Player Agent will tell the managers which players received at least 1 vote and are still eligible for selection in the next round.

h) Tournament Team Manager can halt the process at this point if he/she wants, and has roster spots, for all players still eligible. Go to F.2.

i) repeat F.1.a-h - until 8 total spots have been filled.

2) **Tournament Team Manager fills the remaining (normally 4 to get to 12 players) final roster spots**, minimum of 12 and a maximum of 14 players in total.

VII. 9 and 10 Year Old Tournament Team(s) Player Selection. (Feedback and tryout)

- A. Only 9 and 10 year old players are eligible. Up to 14 players, but not less than 12 players.
- B. Attachment B will be provided to the parents/guardians of all players age 9-12. Parents must return the bottom of the attachment to the regular season Manager by the last Saturday in May.
- C. The Player Agent, Player Development Director and VP-Baseball will distribute a list of players that are eligible for the 9/10 team(s) to each Major and AAA Division manager.
- D. All Major and AAA Division Managers will provide feedback on the players they believe should be considered for the team.
- E. The Player Agent, Player Development Director and VP-Baseball will review the feedback with the Tournament Team manager and coaches.
- F. A Tryout will be held to review all of the interested players. The Tournament Team manager, Player Agent and a designee of the President will conduct the tryout and select the team based on;
  - 1) the feedback of the managers , and
  - 2) the results of the tryout.
- G. If the Board of Directors votes to have 2 teams at this age level, prior to the tryout the parents must be made aware that there will be a primary and a secondary team. Normally, but not always, the secondary team will be made up of a larger number of 9 year olds. Other towns have done this and the secondary team tends to struggle in games. However, the additional practices and Tournament experience is extremely beneficial to the players and provides a benefit to the players and the league in future years.

note - the process will be overseen by the VP Baseball.

**Attachment B**  
**Vernon-Rockville Little League**  
**Process Notification for 2015 Tournament Teams**

Dear Little League Parent,

This note is intended for parents/guardians of players who are Little League age 9-12. The purpose is to inform you of the Tournament Team selection process and the commitment expected of players. The team(s) will be selected and announced about June 15<sup>th</sup>, based on the processes described below.

**Selection** – Players are selected on three main criteria as described by Little League: Eligibility, Availability and Ability.

**Eligibility** – Players in good standing who live in the boundaries of Vernon-Rockville Little League, or who are covered by a valid waiver, and are League Age 9-12 are eligible to play for either the 9-10, 10-11, or 11-12 year old Tournament Team. Players can only be selected to one team per year. They must have played in at least 60% of their team’s regularly scheduled games(only exception is for school baseball games).(Rule Book - T5)

**Availability – (Commitment to the Team)**

Generally speaking, a player must be available from the end of the regular season through the Tournament. Practices or games may be scheduled daily from June 15<sup>th</sup> through the month of July, or until the team is eliminated. The actual Tournament will start in late June and may run through the month of July. A minimum commitment of June 15<sup>th</sup> through July 8<sup>th</sup> is required. **If your son/daughter is interested in playing but will be unavailable for some portion of the dates listed above please discuss the issue with the Player Agent and the Vice President.** The following is the policy on attendance:

If a Player misses (or plans on missing) three or more practices, or one game, then that player shall become ineligible from further play. Exceptions will be for player injury, severe illness, or death in the family. Unforeseen issues that come up will require a decision from the President to continue the player's eligibility.

**Ability** – Players are selected based on input from the Players (11/12 only), Managers, VP-Baseball, Player Agent and a designee of the League President. The player’s ability during games, practices, and clinics will be taken into account during the selection process. In addition, all Minor and Major League Managers will be asked for recommendations of players from their own team and the other teams in the League. The Tournament Team Manager will look at specific positions he/she may need to fill when selecting the 12-14 players. All evaluations and manager recommendations are completely confidential and are never released.

Minimum Play – Tournament rules are different than regular season rules, and depending on the number of players on the team, each player may get as little as one at bat per game **Parents and players must understand this rule**, and make their decision as to participate or not with the knowledge that up to 3 players out of 12 (or 5 out of 140) could play the minimum each game. Based on many factors, it could be the same players playing the minimum each game.

Tournament play is free and provides the players with a tremendous learning opportunity. We certainly hope that all players’ will be available for selection. However, if your son/daughter cannot meet the commitment outlined above, it is better to let the League know prior to the completion of the selection process. Please fill out the bottom portion of this letter and get it to either your manager or the Player Agent immediately. All forms must be returned by the last Saturday in May. If you have questions, please contact your player’s manager, the **League Vice-President – Jeremy Albert(860-xxx-xxxx), or the Player Agent- AAAA BBBBB (xxx-xxxx)**. **Also, please see the Tournament Team section of our Bylaws on the league website.**

<http://league website>

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*We want to avoid a situation where a player is selected to the Tournament Team and then must withdraw.*

	The player named below <b><i>will be</i></b> available for Tournament Team selection	The player named below <b><i>will not be</i></b> available for Tournament Team selection
Place X in 1 Column Only		

Player’s Name \_\_\_\_\_ Team \_\_\_\_\_

Parent’s Signature - \_\_\_\_\_ Date - \_\_\_\_\_

Please return the bottom portion to your player’s manager by Saturday May xxth.

# Vernon Rockville Little League

## LOCAL BASEBALL PLAYING RULES – 2015

The following guidance is provided to all VRLLE Umpires, Managers and Coaches. ***“Little League Baseball Official Regulations and Playing Rules”*** as published by Little League Baseball, Incorporated, Williamsport, PA shall be binding on this league. In addition, the following Local Rules are adopted for play:

Reference to the 2015 Baseball rule book is indicated by **underline, bold, italic** text.

### ALL DIVISIONS

1. Two adult base coaches are allowed, however there must be at least one adult in the dugout at all times. ***Any player that coaches either first or third base must wear a helmet with faceguard.***
2. Home team will occupy the 3<sup>rd</sup> base dugout. At Legion Park- Home team maintains the scoreboard, puts out and takes in the bases. The Home team on Art St Louis Field also is responsible for the Snack Shack.
3. **Mercy rule is still under discussion.**

### MAJOR DIVISION BASEBALL

1. The Home Team shall provide 3 new game balls for each game. There will be a supply of “Umpire Baseballs” in the Snack Shack incase additional balls are need because of weather conditions.
2. For the 2015 season pitch count and pitchers rest will be determined by regulation **VI(c) and VI(d).**
3. **Substitution:**
  - a) All players will play a minimum of 3 innings per game (unless shorten due to weather or mercy rule)
  - b) Any players playing less than 3 innings because of weather or mercy rule will start the next game.
  - c) Any player on the bench at the beginning of a game will start the next game.
  - d) All players on the team will sit a minimum of 6 innings per season (innings missed due to absence, illness, Middle School games do not count against the minimum.)
  - e) All players will play a minimum of 3 full games per season (the Manager can request the 3 game minimum be reduced due to player absences. As soon as an issue arises the Manager should coordinate a meeting with the player’s parents/guardians and the VP Baseball, Player Agent, and Player Development Director. After consultation with the President, the VP Baseball, Player Agent, and Player Development Director will notify the manager and parents/guardians of the decision.

# MINOR DIVISIONS

## -Competitive BASEBALL

### AAA Division

The Home Team shall provide a minimum of 2 new game balls for each game. One adult must remain in the dugout at all times 4.05(2). **Any player that coaches either first or third base must wear a helmet with faceguard.**

#### I. Game Preliminaries

1. **All games played are limited to 2 and ½ hours. No new at bat shall begin after 2 and ¼ hours.** (Game shall be considered complete if three and a half innings have been completed and the home team is ahead.)
2. There shall be no forfeits. A team will normally field 9 defensive players. If a team is unable to field 9 players, the other team will “loan” defensive players for each inning. Players from other AAA Minor league teams may also be used. Any “loaned” or other AAA player will only play the outfield. Eight players on defense are allowed, however, at no time will any team play with less than eight defensive players.

#### II. Batters

1. Continuous batting order - all players on a team for a given game will bat in an established order regardless if they are playing the field or not. Players arriving late will be added to the end of the order. Players leaving early will be removed from the line-up without penalty. Because of the continuous batting order players can be substituted each inning.
2. No more than 5 runs may be scored per half inning in the first 5 innings. This rule is suspended for the 6th inning, when a team may bat until either; 3 outs are made, all batters have batted 1 time, or the home team takes the lead. 5.07
3. If the Home team is behind by 10 or more runs at the end of the 5th inning, they will bat first in the 6th inning. The visiting team will only bat (bottom of the 6th) if the Home team ties or takes the lead in the top of the 6th.

#### III. Pitchers

1. A pitcher once removed may not return as a pitcher. 3.03(3)
2. **Managers must follow the latest pitch count rules issued by Little League.**
3. Pitchers may not pitch more than 4 innings per game.
4. A 12 yr old may not pitch VI-(j)
5. 8 warm up pitches are allowed at the start of a game and when a new pitcher is brought into the game. 5 warm up pitches are allowed on subsequent innings
6. Coaches may go to the mound to council pitchers. (No team meetings)
7. No balks will be called. 8.05 - it is an illegal pitch - except for 8.05 (l) and (m).

#### IV. Base Running

1. Stealing is allowed on **3 pitches per inning**.
  - a) moving up a base on a wild pitch or passed ball is considered a steal for this rule.
  - b) a double steal is allowed.
  - c) a steal of home, including wild pitch or passed ball is allowed.
2. A player must slide **or avoid contact** at all bases when a play is being made on that runner. Only feet first slides are allowed, unless returning to a base. **7.08(a)(3) and 7.08(a)(4)**
3. Limit of 1 base on each overthrow.

#### V. Minimum Play

1. All players will play at least 3 of the first 4 innings\*. When all 12 players are at the game, each will have to sit out 1 inning of the first 4. \*(Except for a starting pitcher that pitches the 1st 4 innings - in this case the player will sit in the 5th inning).
2. During the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> innings, each player will play at least 1 inning in the field. Except a player that sat out 2 of the first 4 innings(only will happen if the starting pitcher pitches 4 innings), in which case this player must be in the field for both the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> inning.

## MINOR DIVISION

### -Developmental BASEBALL

#### AA Division (Player Pitch)

The Home Team shall provide a minimum of 2 new game balls for each game. One adult must remain in the dugout at all times. *Any player that coaches either first or third base must wear a helmet with faceguard.*

#### VI. Game Preliminaries

- 1) *All games played are limited to 2 and ½ hours. No new at bat shall begin after 2 and ¼ hours.* (Game shall be considered complete if three and a half innings have been completed and the home team is ahead.
3.
  - 2) There shall be no forfeits. A team will normally field **9** defensive players. If a team is unable to field 9 players, the other team will “loan” defensive players for each inning. Players from other AA Minor league teams may also be used. Eight players on defense are allowed, however, at no time will any team play with less than eight defensive players. Any “loaned” or other AA player will only play the outfield. Eight players on defense are allowed, however, at no time will any team play with less than eight defensive players.

Coach Pitch is allowed the first two weeks of play. (*up to 4 games*)

Defensive field coach is permitted the first two weeks of play. (*up to 4 games*)

## VII. Batters

1. Continuous batting order - all players on a team for a given game will bat in an established order regardless if they are playing the field or not. Players arriving late will be added to the end of the order. Players leaving early will be removed from the line-up without penalty. Because of the continuous batting order players can be substituted each inning.
2. No more than 5 runs may be scored per half inning (Little League rule), except for 6<sup>th</sup> inning when the limit is 3 outs or all batters batting one time or the home team takes the lead in the bottom of the 6<sup>th</sup>.
3. If the Home team is behind by 10 or more runs at the end of the 5<sup>th</sup> inning, they will bat first in the 6<sup>th</sup> inning.

## VIII. Pitchers

1. For the 2015 season pitchers rest will be determined by regulation VI(d).
2. A pitcher once removed may not return as a pitcher.
3. No pitcher may pitch more than three innings per game, 6 innings per week. **It is highly recommended that pitchers not throw more the 60 pitches per game.**
4. **Managers must follow the latest pitch count rules issued by Little League.**
5. A 12 yr old may not pitch
6. A team is allowed a maximum of **Four walks (including HBP)** per inning- total. Any following batters who are thrown 4 balls will not be awarded first base. A coach from the team at bat will pitch to their player and finish the inning (to help keep pace of the game). \*\* The coach should throw hard enough to challenge the hitters\*\*. The player will either put the ball in play or strike out.
7. Any batter that is hit with a pitch by the opposing teams' pitcher will be awarded first base.
8. 8 warm up pitches are allowed at the start of a game and when a new pitcher is brought into the game. 5 warm up pitches are allowed on subsequent innings
9. Coaches may go to the mound to council pitchers. (No team meetings)
10. No balks will be called.

## IX. Base Running

1. Stealing is allowed on **2 pitches per inning.**
  - a) moving up a base on a wild pitch or passed ball is considered a steal for this rule.
  - b) a double steal is allowed.
  - c) **There is no stealing of home**, including wild pitch or passed ball is allowed.
  - d) A runner may not advance home because of a bad throw or catch. On a steal play.
2. A player must slide **or avoid contact** at all bases when a play is being made on that runner. Only feet first slides are allowed, unless returning to a base.
3. Limit of 1 base on each overthrow.

## X. \*\*\*LL Minimum Play

1. All players will play at least 3 of the first 4 innings. When all 12 players are at the game, each will have to sit out 1 inning of the first 4.
2. During the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> innings, each player will play at least 1 inning in the field.

## A Division Baseball (Coach/Machine Pitch)

**Smaller Rosters 9/10 max per team – all kids play on defense & hit each inning. Try to play 4 inning games through the week. Play up to time limit on weekends.**

The Home Team shall provide a minimum of 5 game balls for each game, but not necessarily new ones. One adult must remain in the dugout at all times.**4.05(2). Any player that coaches either first or third base must wear a helmet with faceguard.**

### XI. Game Preliminaries

1. **All games played are limited to 2 and ½ hours. No new at bat shall begin after 2 and ¼ hours.** (Game shall be considered complete if three and a half innings have been completed and the home team is ahead.)
2. There shall be no forfeits. Teams will play with a maximum of **10 players** in the field. If a team is unable to field **9 players**, the other team will “loan” defensive players for each inning. Any “loaned” player will play the outfield only. Eight players on defense are allowed, however, at no time will any team play with less than eight defensive players.
3. All players shall bat every inning; **in order in the first and third innings, and in reverse order in the second and fourth innings.** If one team has fewer players than the other team, either players may be "loaned" or the team with fewer players will "bat around" to get the same number of at-bats each inning.
4. Games are conducted with managers or coaches acting as umpires. This league is intended to be a learning environment. The pitching machine will be operated by an adult, who may advise the defense on positioning and defensive strategy. The defensive team may have a player next to the adult. If the machine is not working, an adult will pitch but will not field any live ball.
5. Coaches may also be stationed in the outfield and near the catcher, for safety reasons, to ensure they are positioned properly and are ready for the ball being pitched by the machine. **One adult must remain in the dugout at all times, if any players are on the bench.**
6. There are no strikeouts or walks. Each player will be given 5 pitches to put the ball in play. The catcher will give each missed pitch to an adult to hold until the ball is put into play either off the machine or the Tee. After the fifth pitch the ball shall be hit off the Tee. **\*\* Coach pitch games will also be five pitches. If this limit does not work, it may be increase.\*\***
7. When three outs are made, any base runners are cleared and the inning continues. Future base runners may score runs.
8. The two **newest** game balls should be given out to players, one per team, at the end of each game

### XII. Batters

1. The maximum number of bases on a hit should be based on the number of bases the batter would get at the next level up without errors or overthrows - AA.
  - i. Balls in the infield are a maximum of 1 base.
  - ii. Most balls in the outfield will also be 1 base.
  - iii. A ball driven to the gap or down the lines could be a double- 2 bases.
  - iv. Triples at this level are extremely rare, player should not take 3 bases based on bad relay throws, errors, etc. .
  - v. Home runs are limited to balls over the outfield fence.

2. The maximum number of bases off the batting tee is 1.
3. When the final batter comes to the plate, the offensive team must notify the defensive team that this is the final batter. At that point, there are automatically two outs. If a force play is made on the batter at first base, or any forced runner at any other base, the inning ends with no other runners scoring. The play will stop after the batter advances the maximum number of bases based on XIIa – i-iv.

\*\*\* The intent of this rule is to hold batters and runners to a normal amount of bases on the last at bat of the inning, and to discourage wildly running the bases because it is the 10<sup>th</sup> batter. \*\*\*

### XIII. Pitchers

- a. Player may be stationed next to the manager/coach operating the pitching machine. The manager/coach must at all times be aware of the players locations related to the pitching machine and protect the player incase a ball is hit near the pitching machine.

### XIV. Base Running

1. Base Stealing is not allowed. Runners may only advance when the ball is hit. Do not take extra bases on overthrows.
2. Base runners are limited to the same number of bases as the batter, see XII a – i-iv.