

MORRISVILLE LITTLE LEAGUE

Spring 2017 Senior Baseball Division Plan Overview

Eligibility:

All players ages 15 and 16. Ages are as of April 30, 2017.

Purpose:

The senior baseball division is a competitive baseball league that plays on the large baseball field (the field with 90 foot base paths). This division will also provide a high level of instruction and development. Team managers will teach the skills that have been outlined by the "Skills by Division" committee. Team managers will teach the skills that have been outlined by the "Skills by Division" committee.

Basic Structure:

Players are placed on a team of other Morrisville Little League players via the annual draft – held in late February / early March.

Teams will play other teams from leagues with Little League District 21. These teams are typically from Bensalem, Bristol Boro, Bristol Township, Fairless Hills, Levittown International, Levittown Pacific and Neshaminy.

Teams will typically play two games per week on Wednesdays (6 p.m. start time) and Saturdays (various start times) from mid April through early June.

Teams will practice once or twice per week.

Games last 7 innings.

Equipment:

The league will provide each player with a hat, shirt, pants and socks.

The league will provide each team with bats, balls, catcher's gear, helmets, first aid kit and ice packs.

Each player needs to have his/her own glove.

Each player should wear metal cleats. Boys must wear a protective cup.

Location:

All home games are played on the Big Baseball field (the big field between the parking lot and the levee near the small concession stand) in Williamson Park on Delmorr Avenue in Morrisville. Away games are played at the fields of the various teams in the league.

Contact Information:

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Intermediate/Junior/Senior Baseball Coordinator

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Additional Details

Draft:

All 15 and 16 year old players are eligible to play in the Senior Baseball Division.

- Depending upon the number of players returning from the previous year, the Board of Directors will determine whether or not to keep returning players on the same team. Alternatively, the Board of Directors may direct that the teams be redrafted in full.
- If returning players will remain on the some team then teams will draft in reverse order of finish from the previous season. If teams have identical records a coin flip will determine the higher seeded team.
- If teams will be redrafted in full then the draft order is determined via drawing numbers out of a hat.
- Draft sequence will be a “down and back” sequence. For example in a three team draft, the draft sequence will be 1, 2, 3, 3, 2, 1, etc.
- If a team has four players or less on its existing roster the Team Manager will be given an additional pick at the end of the fourth round.
- The Team Manager is expected to take their child in the second round or risk losing their child to another team.
- If a sibling to an existing team player is in the draft they must be taken by the third round or risk losing them. If there are two siblings in the draft they must be taken in consecutive rounds.
- All other rules follow the Little League operations manual.

Pre season guidelines for Team Managers:

- Be organized; hand out a practice schedule that includes a time and location. If a player is unable to make a practice have them call you.
- The more practices the better.
- Please get your parents to help out on field clean up days. These work days are every Saturday 8 a.m. to 12 noon in March
- Have background check forms completed and turned in prior to any individual interacting with kids.
- Have medical release forms filled out and with you at all times. At this age many parents do not stay at practices, you are assuming responsibility.

Regular season:

- **Home team responsibilities:**
 - Occupies the third base dugout.
 - Sets up the field, installs bases, lines the field, checks for dangerous conditions and conducts the 50/50 raffle.
 - Uses the field first for warm-ups 60 to 30 minutes prior to game time.
 - At the end of the game, make sure doors are locked, smooth out the pitcher’s mound and around the bases and home plate. (Please follow the Field Care Tips that are posted inside the shed area behind home plate.)

- Makes sure the upstairs windows are closed. Checks on the concession stand workers. No one should be left alone.
- Sweeps the third base dugout and picks up trash.
- The winning team records the score in the District 21 website.
- **Visiting team responsibilities:**
 - Occupies the first base dugout.
 - Uses the batting net first for warm-ups 60 to 30 minutes prior to game time.
 - At the end of the game, sweeps the first base dugout and picks up trash.
 - The winning team records the score in the District 21 website.

Rainouts or cancellations:

- The home team is responsible for calling off a game due to weather conditions. The Home and Visiting Team Manager should communicate and work together. If the game is called off, please notify the Division Coordinator so he can communicate to the concession stand and umpire coordinators.
- Games that are cancelled must be made up within two weeks of the postponement. Contact the Division Coordinator for open times to reschedule.
- Sundays are available for make up games.

Umpires:

- The league will provide two umpires per game.
- The Umpire coordinator is responsible for scheduling umpires.
- Arguing with umpires is not permitted. If there is a question, only the Team Manager can approach the umpire to discuss a rule. Safe, out or other discretionary calls are not up for debate.

Substitution Rules:

- Each Team Manager can decide whether to list all of the players who attend the game in the starting line-up or to list nine players and follow the Little League substitution rules.
- Each player who is present at the start of the game must play a minimum of six consecutive defensive outs and bat at least once.
- You must communicate to the opposing Team Manager when substitutions are made.
- If there is an injury and a player is leaving the game the two Team Managers will discuss what changes are mutually agreed upon in front of the umpire. We will not force an injured player to continue to play.
- The only pinch runner rule that will be in force is the (7.14) special pinch runner rule as outlined in the Little League rule book. To keep the games moving along you should have a player who is not active during an inning suit up and be prepared to warm up the pitcher if your catcher is on base with two outs.

Pitching Rules:

- If you wish to walk a batter, the pitcher must deliver four pitches intentionally outside the strike zone that are not struck by the batter, and are called balls by the umpire. These are live balls and will count in the pitch count.
- We will follow Little League International's pitching rules.

1 – 30 pitches (0) days rest (pitch next day)
31 – 45 pitches (1) calendar day of rest (pitch in 2 days)
46 – 60 pitches (2) calendar days of rest (pitch in 3 days)
61 – 75 pitches (3) calendar days of rest (pitch in 4 days)
76 or more pitches (4) calendar days of rest (pitch in 5 days)
Maximum of 95 pitches in a game

Safety:

- Make sure you are familiar with and follow the safety rules that are outlined in the Morrisville Little League Safety Manual
- Only players with a catcher's helmet are permitted to warm-up pitchers in a game or catch for a pitcher during practices. Adults and players without a catcher's helmet are NOT permitted to catch for a pitcher under any circumstance.
- One on-deck batter is permitted.

Schedule:

- The schedule will be produced by the district. We anticipate playing 12 to 14 games during the regular season.
- We anticipate ending the season with a single- elimination playoff tournament.
- Any cancelled games need to be made up within two weeks of the scheduled game.
- The schedule will be available 2 weeks prior to Opening Day

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