



BAYSHORE LITTLE LEAGUE LOCAL RULES

*Updated November 2020
Approved the Bayshore Board of Directors on November 17, 2020*

I. League Administration - Board of Directors

- A. Subject to the provision of the League's Constitution, the Board of Directors shall be responsible for the management of the League's operations.
- B. Board members who do not attend at least 2/3 of the regularly held and specially noticed Board meetings shall be subject to dismissal from the Board by majority vote of Board members.
- C. The President of the League shall have the unilateral discretion and power to convene a "fast track" committee of Board members to handle any issues which the President considers to need immediate action rendering a meeting of the full Board impractical.
- D. No Board Member shall contact or attempt to contact any Little League Official at the District, Regional or National level on behalf of the League regarding any League issues or business without first obtaining the consent and authority of the President or a simple majority of the Board.
- E. The President and the Treasurer shall both have individual authority to sign checks on behalf of the League. Checks written for less than \$500 can be signed with authorization by either President or Treasurer. Checks written for amounts greater than \$500 require dual authorization by both Treasurer and the President in the form of an email confirmation. The confirmation email will be filed with the invoice as part of the books and records of the League.
- F. Refund Policy: Bayshore Little League (BSLL) recognizes that sometimes plans change after registering a child which will not allow your child to play baseball or softball. Our refund policy is as follows:
 - a. If you notify BSLL (registration@bsll.org) prior to the draft or before being assigned to a team, you will be refunded your registration in full, less a \$20 processing fee.
 - b. If you notify BSLL (registration@bsll.org) after the draft or after being assigned to a team and before the first game is played BSLL will issue a 50% refund.
 - c. If you notify BSLL (registration@bsll.org) after the first game is played, BSLL will not issue a refund.
 - d. All requests for refunds must be submitted for consideration to the BSLL Board of Directors by email to registrar@bsll.org. If you have requested a refund, please note that it may take up to 10 business days to process the refund.
- G. Recognizing that the matters, topics and issues discussed at Board meetings are sometimes of a sensitive and personal nature, all matters discussed at Board meetings shall be held confidential unless disclosure is otherwise agreed upon by the Board.



II. League Administration – Safety & Compliance

- A. Facilities Usage Agreement (FUA)
 - a. The Facilities Usage Agreement requires Bayshore Little League to maintain fields inside the fences, batting cages, and bullpens as well as along with the concession stand in the building at the Majors field house. The City of Tampa will continue to provide general and timely maintenance to the common areas of the park and playground complex, including servicing restrooms at the permanent building by the Minors field.
 - b. As the Organization designated by the City of Tampa with responsibility to manage and regulate the safe usage of the park/facility on Davis Islands and Hyde Park, Bayshore Little League must meet the standards set by the City of Tampa Parks & Recreation department and its Facility Usage Agreement. In addition to general maintenance and upkeep required, the FUA requires that the facility be secured both for safety and to the limit of liability of both the City of Tampa and Bayshore Little League.
 - c. Compliance with the Facilities Usage Agreement with the City of Tampa for operations resides with the roles of the VP's of Baseball & Softball, respectively, with ultimate approval and oversight by the President.
- B. Approved Volunteers
 - a. All approved volunteers are required to complete confidential Federal and State background checks in addition to completing CPR & Concussion training, and attending our PCA workshop, a volunteer meets the requirements set by the Bayshore Board of Directors.
 - b. The administration of all background checks and confirmation of approved volunteers resides with the Safety Officer and will be presented to the VP's of Baseball and Softball, respectively, at the beginning of each season for review and approval.
 - c. All Approved Volunteers and access to Bayshore Little League facilities will be for a one-year (calendar year) term. Any exception must be presented to the VP's of Baseball and Softball, respectively, along with the President for approval.
 - d. The VP's of Baseball and Softball, respectively, are responsible for reviewing and approving/permitting usage or access to fields, cages and bullpens by any non-in season little league team, player, coach or person.

III. League Administration - Managers/Coaches Selection and Retention

- A. In accordance with Little League Rules and Regulations, the Little League Operating Manual and the League's Constitution and these Local Rules, the Board shall be responsible for creating and administrating selection procedures for managers and coaches at all levels of baseball and softball.
- B. The President shall appoint committees to evaluate and recommend manager and coach candidates for appointment by the President as set forth in Little League Regulation 1.
- C. Ideally, the committees appointed to evaluate manager and coach candidates should be comprised of the Divisional Vice



President, Commissioner, and Player Agent. The President is an ex-officio member of all selection committees.

- D. The selection committees shall have the power, if they deem necessary, to conduct interviews of manager and coach candidates at all levels.
- E. Manager and coach candidates must meet all requirements set forth in Little League Rules and Regulations, including passing the Little League mandated background check.
- F. The Board of Directors, upon recommendation of Vice Presidents, Player Agents, Commissioners or Coaching Coordinators, may require that all or some manager and coach candidates attend a coaching clinic sponsored by the League as a condition of approval to manage or coach at any level.
- G. In accordance with the proscriptions set forth in Little League Rules and Regulations and the Little League Operating Manual, the Board can remove a manager or coach for violation of the Manager's/Coach's Code of Ethics. Moreover, the Board, by a vote of 2/3 of all its members, can remove a manager or coach for egregious conduct detrimental to the League or its members, provided however that such a vote can only be taken upon initial approval of any such motion by the President.

IV. League Administration - Player Selection and Draft Procedures

- A. In accordance with Little League Rules and Regulations, the Little League Operating Manual and the League Constitution and these Local Rules, the Board shall be responsible for creating and administrating selection procedures for players at all levels of baseball and softball.
- B. For baseball, minor, farm and pee wee division teams shall be dissolved and re-selected annually. In the Little League (“Major”) division, once selected by a team, a player shall remain on that team unless traded or released.
- C. For softball, teams in all divisions shall be selected annually, although the Vice President, Commissioner and Player Agent may agree to retain team rosters depending on the number of players in that division in a given year.
- D. The VP’s of baseball and softball, respectively, are consulted and ultimately reviews and approves the composition and total number of players and teams in each division as put forth and recommended by each division player agent.
- E. It is the preference of the Board to maintain the following age allocations in the referenced divisions, subject to the exceptions and policy considerations:

a. **Baseball**

<u>Division</u>	<u>Ages</u>
Pee Wee (Tee Ball & Farm)	League Ages 4, 5, 6
Minor C	League Ages 6, 7, 8
Minor B	League Ages 7, 8, 9
Minor A	League Ages 9, 10, 11
Majors	League Ages 10, 11, 12
Intermediate (50/70)	League Ages 13



Exceptions and Policy Considerations

- The Board recognizes that certain individual players will exhibit skill sets which may be more advanced than comparably aged players in a division's preferred age bracket. Thus, in instances when an advanced player's age falls below the bracketed age preference for a higher division, and upon recommendation and motion of that division's Player Agent, Commissioner and Vice President, the President may approve a recommendation to allow a player to play "up" in a higher division. By way of example, such approval would be necessary to allow a 7 year old to play Minor B, or an 8 year old to play Minor A, or a 9 year old to play Majors. Any such exception must be within the approved age for the subject division as set forth in Little League Rules and Regulations. The President shall give great weight to the advice and recommendation of the relevant league officials in these situations.

10 Year Olds in Majors

- After player tryouts each season, the baseball Vice President, major Commissioner and major Player Agent will evaluate 10 year olds and provide a recommended list to the President as to those 10 year olds who should be considered eligible for the Major draft. Each major team will be allowed to select the same number of players from that list, for instance, if there are 8 approved 10 year olds and 4 major teams, each team shall select 2 players from the list. The Player Agent or Commissioner shall provide the managers with the list prior to the draft. In the event that there are an uneven number of 10 year olds on the list in a given year, the Player Agent, Commissioner, and Vice President shall determine the method for allocating the extra players, allowing the coaches input into that selection process.

b. Softball

<u>Division</u>	<u>Ages</u>
Pee Wee (Tee Ball & Farm)	League Ages 4, 5, 6
Minor C	League Ages 6, 7, 8
Minor B	League Ages 7, 8, 9
Minor A	League Ages 9, 10, 11
Majors	League Ages 10, 11, 12
Juniors	League Ages 13

Exceptions and Policy Considerations

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in a higher division. By way of example, such approval would be necessary to allow a 7 year old to play Minor B, or an 8 year old to play Minor A, or a 9 year old to play Majors. Any such exception must be within the approved age for the subject division as set forth in Little League Rules and Regulations. The President shall give great weight to the advice and recommendation of the relevant league officials in these situations.

- In evaluating whether players outside of a preferred age bracket will **play** down a division, the Player Agent, Commissioner and Vice-President shall consider the preference of the player and his or her parents, and whether that player can be considered a safety risk in a higher division.
- In conducting the draft, any efforts to allocate players or the draft process in a manner not otherwise addressed by Little League Rules and Regulations must be the result of unanimous agreement by the managers, Player Agent, Commissioner and Vice President. By way of example, if managers want to "slot" the sons/daughters of their prospective coaches in the major division so that those coaches can assist in the draft, there must be unanimous agreement on the proposed slot of the player as well as allowing the parent to sit in the draft. Approval by Southern Region on the method may be needed.
- If a Major team loses a player during the season, the manager must follow the process for obtaining a replacement player as set forth in Little League Regulation III (d). Replacement players shall be chosen from the pool of players who were otherwise eligible for selection in that season's Major draft.
- No replacement players shall be brought up from the Minor League program to the Major Division during the last two weeks of the regular season, which shall include intra-league playoffs.
- If a parent requests that his/her child not be eligible for the Major draft, the League will take all reasonable steps to ensure that the request is met, however, the President retains the right to deny such a request. In the event that a player of the appropriate age is ineligible for the Major draft by request, he or she will be unable to be moved up to Majors for the remainder of that season.

V. League Administration - Tournament Team Selection Procedures

- A. Tournament teams shall be selected using one of the approved processes set forth in the Little League Operating Manual. The Board shall memorialize the League's tournament team selection process in these Local Rules and update any changes annually. The Player Agent, VP Baseball and division Commissioner shall be responsible for conducting tournament team selection.
- B. Selection to All-stars is based on eligibility, availability, playing ability, and character.
- C. All players selected to All Stars must confirm with the Player Agent within 24 hours of the official announcement whether they intend to participate or not. Failure to notify the player Agent within 24 hours could result in a forfeit of that player's place on the All Star team to the next player on the list. Any player that drops out of All Stars after confirming they will play with the Player Agent, must still pay for the whole cost uniform if the uniform has already been ordered and cannot be cancelled, unless that uniform can be worn by the alternate player on the All Star list.



- D. Any player on a previous Bayshore LL All Star team that left the team early due to conflict or eligibility may forfeit their eligibility in future All Star years.
- E. Little League Division tournament teams shall be selected by allowing the players to vote by ballot for the first 7 players on the tournament team. Players shall not be allowed to vote for themselves or players on their regular season team. Ballots shall only include players who are eligible for play on the Little League division tournament team, based on their completion of the tournament team eligibility form completed during the regular season.
- F. The division managers shall select the remaining players on the tournament team, by vote or by unanimous agreement. If a vote is taken, the Selection Committee shall have the discretion to conduct it by blind ballot.
- G. The 10-11 division tournament team shall be selected by manager vote of Little League division managers, and, if there are roster spots remaining for Minor A Division players, the Minor A managers.
- H. The 9-10 division tournament team shall be selected by manager vote of the Minor A managers
- I. 11 year-old players shall be allowed to elect the tournament teams for which they wish to be eligible on the tournament team eligibility form completed during the regular season. For example, an 11 year old may elect to be eligible for the 10-11 division team and/or the Little League division team.
- J. The President shall appoint tournament team managers and coaches. The President shall form committees to evaluate and recommend tournament team manager and coach candidates for appointment. Little League division tournament team manager and coaches must have managed or coached a Little League team in regular season. 9-10 and 10-11 division tournament team managers and coaches must have managed or coached a Little League or Minor A team in the regular season.
- K. Tournament team rosters shall not exceed 13 players and shall include less than 13 players only upon recommendation of the Selection Committee and approval of the Board by 2/3rds vote.

VI. League Administration - Intra-League Competition

- A. Rules of Play
 - a. The VP's of Baseball and Softball, respectively, are consulted and reviews and approves rules of play for each division as put forth and recommended by each division commissioner.
- B. Regular Season Format
 - a. The VP's of Baseball and Softball, respectively, with oversight of the President, are consulted and reviews and approves scheduling of each division and each field as recommended by the League Scheduler.
 - b. Subject to the exceptions set forth below, with respect to regular season games played in the Major Baseball League Division, no new inning will be allowed to commence after two (2) hours has elapsed since the time the umpire officially begins the game (the "Two Hour Time Limit"). The team with the most runs at the end of the last complete inning will be the winner of the game. The exceptions to this rule are as follows:
 - i. Four Inning Minimum. At least four (4) innings must have been completed unless the home team is still



ahead at the conclusion of the visiting team's half of the third inning.

- ii. 10:00 P.M. Curfew. As per Little League Official Rules, no inning may commence after 10:00 P.M.
- iii. No Game Following. If there is no game (including games in other divisions) scheduled to commence on the same field immediately following the conclusion of the game in question, and the game is tied at the end of the Two Hour Time Limit, then the game shall thereafter continue until a winner is determined. If the game is still tied at the 10:00 P.M. curfew, it shall be suspended.
- iv. Game Following. If there is a game scheduled to commence on the same field following the conclusion of the game in question, and the game is tied at the end of the Two Hour Time Limit, then the teams shall play one additional inning. The team leading after the conclusion of that inning shall be the winner. If the game is still tied at the conclusion of the extra inning the game shall be suspended.
- v. Suspended Game. A suspended game shall be rescheduled to commence immediately before the next scheduled game between the two teams. The game shall be resumed from the exact point that play was halted. A pitcher can pitch in both games on the same day, subject to the six-inning per week limitation. The lineup and batting order of both teams shall be the same as the lineup and batting order at the moment the first game was halted, subject to the rules governing substitution. Any player may be replaced by a player who was not in the game prior to halting the original game.
 1. A player who was removed before the original game was halted may not be returned to the lineup unless covered by Rule 3.03.

C. Pitch Counts

- a. With respect to Little League Regulation VI (pitchers), the procedures are covered in the "Bayshore Little League Pitch Count Regulation Management" attached that will be updated annually with changes in Little League Rules.

D. Ground Rules

- a. For baseball teams playing On the Marina field, any ball hit into the net along the fence line is a ground rule double. Balls must clear the net to be home runs.
- b. Balls hit into the net on the Minor B/C field are home runs for all divisions from Minor B down.
- c. Balls hit into the net on the Major field are home runs.

E. Playoff Format

- a. In each division from Minor C and up, there shall be a playoff at the end of the regular season to determine the League champion in that division.
- b. The League champions in Minor A and Major division shall represent the League in the District 6 Tapi Rodriguez Memorial Tournament of Champions.
- c. Selection of players for Special Games played in the Minor B tournament outside of Bayshore Little League shall be determined by the President, Commissioner of Minor B, Player Agent and VP of Baseball.
- d. League playoffs shall be conducted according to regular season rules, unless otherwise proscribed by District 6.



- e. In all divisions seeding, except Majors, shall be based on a blind draw. In Majors, teams shall be seeded based on the last half of the regular season records. All teams make the playoffs.
- f. The Vice President and Commissioner shall be responsible for scheduling bracket play, and shall use bracket formats suggested in the Little League Operating Manual.

VII. Facilities Usage

- A. Approved Volunteers
 - a. All volunteers are required to complete confidential Federal and State background checks in addition to completing CPR & Concussion training, and attending our PCA workshop, a volunteer meets the requirements set by the Bayshore Board of Directors.
- B. Facility Access – Batting Cages & Field Access
 - a. As the Organization designated by the City of Tampa with responsibility to manage and regulate the safe usage of the park/facility on Davis Islands, Bayshore Little League must meet the standards set by the City of Tampa Parks & Recreation department and its facility Usage Agreement. The Agreement requires that we secure the facility both for safety and to the limit of liability of both the City of Tampa and Bayshore Little League. Bayshore Little League has secured our batting cage areas in an effort to avoid potential injuries caused by non-approved volunteers having access these areas and to continue to protect our resources for the Little League and its youth softball and baseball participants.
 - b. All approved volunteers must comply with the rules and regulations for batting cage and field usage.
 - c. Allowing unauthorized persons or teams to use or access the cages or fields without proper written authorization from the President and an approved and validated release of liability will result in revocation of access.
 - d. Children under the age of 18 years old **are never** allowed to throw batting practice.
- C. Batting cage and field use shall be governed by the League schedule as set forth at the beginning of the season. Any conflicts will be reconciled with the Scheduling Coordinator first, and if not resolved, the President.
- D. Open cage times and field times shall be distributed equitably amongst the teams, based on seniority of division. By way of example, Major teams shall have the right of first refusal before open field or cage time is allocated to a Minor team.
- E. Within a division open cage and field times will be distributed equally amongst the teams. By way of example, before one team reserves multiple open cage or field slots, they will be offered to other teams within that division, so as to prevent a team from monopolizing open field time.
- F. The batting cages and fields are maintained and leased by the League and are not a "public park" subject to public usage. It shall be the duty of all managers, coaches, officers and directors to act accordingly when observing field use for non-league activities.
- G. With respect to the batting cages, the League has invested significant monies to build and maintain a premier facility. Use of the batting cages is subject to the "Batting Cage and Pitching Mound Policies and Reservation Procedures". The Board



shall maintain a list of approved instructors on an annual basis.

- H. All league personnel shall be required to lock facilities and turn off all lighting unless otherwise in use. This includes bathrooms, cages, and lights on all fields.
- I. League personnel shall endeavor at all times to maintain the clean and professional appearance of the park. All managers, coaches, officers and directors should discourage League members and players from littering and abusing park facilities. This includes such practices as throwing or hitting into fences, leaving park equipment unsecured, not returning equipment to its storage place, and leaving lights on and buildings unlocked.
- J. All approved Managers and coaches may have access to the Master Lock Vault System as well as issued facility key to access lights and field equipment. Each key is numbered and recorded for tracking purposes. At the end of each Spring and Fall season, the league may ask for the key to be returned. Managers and coaches are not permitted to lend their key to any other person wanting access to our facilities.

VIII. Miscellaneous

- A. During tournament or interlock play with other leagues, all League personnel shall conduct themselves in a manner representative of the League and the high standards expected of our leadership.
- B. When hosting tournament play, League personnel shall be available within reason as volunteers to staff tournament games as scorekeepers, announcers, grounds keeping and concessions staff.
- C. The League's official colors are Scarlet Red, Navy Blue and Grey.
- D. Parents at the League shall conduct themselves properly during practices and games, and refrain from inappropriate language, profanity, insulting players, or other cheering or conduct which is outside the boundaries of the behavior expected around young children. The League reserves the right to eject anyone from the park who does not comply with these rules.
- E. Other than voting exceptions provided within specific rules, a Local Rule can only be changed by the Board upon 75% vote of Board members.
- F. All Local Rules shall be interpreted consistent with the Little League Rules and Operating Manual.

Any disagreement over interpretation of these Local Rules shall be resolved by the President.