

Kern River Valley Little League Local Rules 2019

(These are in addition to any rules contained within the official Little League Rule Book)



Divisions

T-Ball

Minor CO-ED

Minor Baseball

Minor Softball

Major Softball

Major Baseball

Junior Interleague Baseball

Junior Interleague Softball

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All managers and coaches must be familiar with all rules of play and attend the mandatory rules meeting with the League President prior to the start of the season. Failure to attend the meeting will result in removal as Manager/Coach.

Practices and Regular Season

All Managers/Coaches must have a volunteer application on file at www.krvll.com, a completed background check, and approval by the KRVLL Board prior to participation in player evaluations, practices and /or games in the KRVLL. **NO EXCEPTIONS!**

Junior Baseball and Softball, Major Baseball and Softball: Practice will be no more than five times a week during pre-season. No more than three times a week during the regular season. Practices will not last longer than 2 hours. Practices must have an ending time of 7:30pm on school nights and 8:00pm on non-school nights. All practices and field usage are to be arranged through the Player Agent and/or Coaching Coordinator.

-There must be at a minimum of at least one practice per week, even if there are games that week.

T-Ball: Practices are limited to twice a week prior to games beginning, upon games beginning practices will drop down to NO MORE THAN one a week. Practices will be limited to 1 ½ hours.

Minor CO-ED:

Practices are limited to three times a week prior to games beginning, upon games beginning practices will drop down to NO MORE THAN twice a week, but will be required to have at least one practice. Practices will be limited to 1 ½ hours.

Fields:

-Parking at the Wallace field will be ONLY on the dirt. NO ONE is allowed to park on the cement parking area which is the Pre-School. All managers are responsible for informing their parents and spectators of this.

-Personal batting cages are not to be used unless insured by the league prior to charter being mailed in. If you are not covered under Little League insurance you are prohibited to use it for team practices.

-Junior Baseball will play at Kern Valley High JV Baseball Field.

-Major Baseball will play all games at Mt. Mesa field, excluding make-up games, which will be scheduled with the President and may also be played at Wallace Field.

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-**Minor CO-ED** will be played at Wallace, Kissack, and Mt. Mesa Fields.

T-Ball will play at the Wallace field.

-**Junior Softball** will play at Kern Valley High Varsity Softball Field.

-**Major Softball** and **Minor Softball** will play at Randall (Kernville) field.

-South Fork field will be used as needed for make-up games and must be approved by the Vice-President. Make-up games may also be held at Kern Valley High School per approval of the President.

No games are to be changed or cancelled without the consent of the President. **This includes Tee Ball games that want to end prior to completion of the game.** It will be considered a forfeit by the canceling team if a game is not played without prior approval.

Make-up games: All cancelled games must be rescheduled with the President within TWO days. The cancelled T-Ball, Minor CO-ED and all softball games will be try to played within 7 days. Minor and Major baseball will be scheduled additionally to the end of the season to take in consideration of pitch count.

Division Champions

In T-Ball there is no score kept, no champion declared.

In Minor-Major divisions, the team with the best overall record will be declared the division champion. If a tie exists at the end of regular season play, a single game playoff will be played to determine the division champion. If a tie exists between more than two teams at the end of regular season play, a double-elimination tournament will be played to determine the division champion.

Managers must inform the Player Agent if a player misses more than 2 consecutive games for any reason, or if there is a player that has missed 3 practices. The manager must provide proper documentation on the player before any corrective action can be taken.

A manager has a maximum of 7 days to replace a player with the Player Agent.

Field Set up/Maintenance: The home team is required to prep and chalk the field; therefore a home team representative must arrive a minimum of 45 minutes prior to start time of their scheduled games. The home team manager is responsible for all bases, chalkers, umpire equipment (as well as scheduling an umpire for the game) at the start of the game.

-The visiting/away team is responsible for field clean up/putting equipment away.

-It is mandatory for each team to clean up their respective dugouts at the end of each game. The home team for each game will empty the trash cans prior to leaving the field after their games.

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Pets of any kind are not allowed on the Wallace, Kernville, South Fork, or Randall fields, in the dugouts, or in the stands where Little League games and practices are taking place. All managers are responsible for informing their parents of this prior to the beginning of the season. Anyone who brings a pet will be asked to leave. Pets of any kind are not allowed on the Mt Mesa field or the dugouts where Little League games and practices are taking place.

There will be no protests allowed in Minor Division, challenges must be resolved by the Umpire prior to the next pitch.

INJURIES/ACCIDENTS: must be reported to the Safety Officer within 6 hours of the accident.

The Preliminary Injury Report form must be filled out immediately and turned into the Safety Officer, Player Agent, Vice-President or President if Safety Officer is unavailable within 1 day of injury/accident.

UNIFORMS: Uniforms consist of Baseball/Softball pants/shorts, hat/visor, socks (if visible), and jersey. The League provides to the player a jersey, hat/visor, belt and socks. All players will wear the entire complete uniform.

-Pants: Coaches can choose any color pants, but **THE ENTIRE TEAM MUST MATCH**. Softball may wear shorts in lieu of pants, but **THE ENTIRE TEAM MUST MATCH** (catchers excluded). Softball may wear sweatpants that match uniform colors under their shorts during cold weather.

-Hair and Nails: Hair shall be worn back, so that it cannot fall in the player's eyes, either by wind or movement. This shall be done with things that are not metal. Nails should be cut down to a length that they are no longer than the players fingers. This applies to fake nails as well as natural, no metal shall be on the nails.

No smoking is allowed during any games or practice.

Game Day Start: Prior to every game, each team is to line up on the base line for pre-game ceremonies. This includes the Pledge of Allegiance as well as the Little League pledge.

-Home Team is responsible for the official score book as well as setting up an umpire for the game.

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Division Specific Rules

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Tee Ball

Each team will bat through their lineup. Runs and outs count theoretically (players who are out are to return to the dugout), however teams will not change offense/defense positions until the batting lineup has completely been up to bat. After each team has had TWO complete at bats or reached the time limit of 1-1/2 hours, the game is over. No new inning may start after 1hr and 15 min. Continuous batting order is mandatory. Scorebooks are not maintained in this division.

The ball is considered dead when the ball is thrown towards the pitcher and the pitcher is standing in the pitcher's circle. At this point the ball is considered a "Dead Ball" and all runners that are not more than halfway to the next base must return to the previous base.

The runner is entitled to one base on an overthrow, not including an attempt toward the pitcher. A fly ball that clears the outfield grass line, in flight, will be considered a home run. A side is considered retired when they have batted the entire lineup, regardless of how many outs are made.

There is a maximum of THREE coaches/volunteers allowed out in the field for the defensive and offensive. TWO base coaches and ONE coach at the plate assisting the batter (Offense) THREE base coaches (Defense (with an exception of a fourth for a player who needs special attention)). Each team must enlist a volunteer at each dugout bench for supervision. Coaches are responsible for umpiring their games. Spectators will stand/sit a minimum of 10 feet away from the base line, if they are not sitting in the bleachers.

Minor Co-Ed

-Pitching Machine: The machine will be operated by the Umpire at a speed of 35mph, and a distance of 46 ft.

-The batter will receive 5 pitches, if a hit is not made off one of these pitches the batter is out. The batter cannot be called out on a foul ball and will continue to receive pitches until the ball is hit, swung at and missed, or if the batter lets the pitch pass. The umpire is the only one who can grant an additional pitch to the batter in an unusual circumstance; (high winds, or machine error).

-No adjustments are to be made to the machine until the end of an inning, except for safety purposes, players must adjust in the batters box if needed.

-*The umpire must be sure to always push the ball into the machine the same way each pitch in order to keep the machine and pitches consistent.

-*Live Pitch will be implemented in after the first half of the season, and a meeting with all coaches.

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-Change of Inning: The half inning is over when the defensive side makes three outs OR the offensive side scores FIVE runs, whichever comes first. If a batter hits in runs that exceed FIVE, only FIVE runs may be scored in the official book.

-Batting Order/Play Time: Continuous batting order is mandatory. No more than 10 players (9 positions and 1 rover) are allowed in the field at one time. Each player must play at least 6 defensive outs.

-Team numbers: If a team has 8 players they can play short, and does not need to have a player from the other team. If they have less than 8 players, they must forfeit the game. They can play a scrimmage game, but it will not count as an official game, they must take the loss.

-Stop Play (Dead Ball): If any fielder makes a **clear** attempt to throw the ball back to the pitcher after a defensive play, the play is dead, (umpire discretion) and base runners may NOT advance to the next base. (An attempt to the pitcher does not include the pitcher standing at any other position than his own, ex: an attempt cannot be called if the pitcher is standing at shortstop, HE/SHE must be in his position).

- If the base runner has left the base before a clear attempt to the pitcher is made, he/she is a live runner and can continue to the next base. "Clear attempt" is a throw from within the infield, and is up to the umpires discretion.

-If a batted ball hits the pitching machine, or comes to a stop under the machine, the ball is considered dead and the batter then is awarded first base. Force runners advance to the next base. If first base is unoccupied, but runners are on second and/or third, the runners may NOT advance. If a batted ball passes through the pitching machine without contact, it is considered a live ball.

-If the machine, or umpire, are hit the ball is dead.

-Catchers: Catchers must wear all required equipment, except for a catchers glove, they can use their own personal glove while catching.

-Coaches: No coaches on the field during play except for base coaches.

The game will last no longer than 1 hour and 30 minutes. No new inning may start after 1 hour and 20 minutes.

The current inning may be completed if started before the time limit is up. The time of the game starts when the umpire starts the game and gives the time to the official scorekeeper.

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MINOR SOFTBALL

-Pitching Machine: The machine will be used 100% for the first half of the season and 50% for the second half, the other 50% will be live pitch. The batter will receive 5 pitches (when the machine is being utilized), if a hit is not made off one of these pitches the batter is out. The batter cannot be called out on a foul ball.

-Softball: will play with 11" Little League approved softballs. Continuous batting order is mandatory.

-Change of Inning: There will be a maximum of 5 runs scored OR 3 outs per inning, whichever comes first. The coaches will decide, together, if there will be an open inning for the last inning, if both do not agree, then there will not be an open inning.

-Coaches: No coaches on the field during play, except for base coaches.

-Batter: The batter will receive 5 pitches. If a hit is not made on one of these 5 pitches, the batter is out. If the batter swings and misses at 3 pitches, it is a strikeout. The batter cannot be called out on a foul ball, and will continue to receive pitches until the ball is hit, swung at and missed, or if the batter lets the pitch pass.

-Stop Play (Dead Ball): If any fielder makes a **clear** attempt to throw the ball back to the pitcher after a defensive play, the play is dead, and base runners may NOT advance to the next base. (An attempt to the pitcher does not include the pitcher standing at any other position than her own, ex: an attempt cannot be called if the pitcher is standing at shortstop, SHE must be in her position) Also if the catcher throws the ball back to the pitcher after a pitch, and the pitcher misses the ball, the play is dead, and base runners may NOT advance to the next base.

MAJOR SOFTBALL

-Batting: Continuous batting order is in effect for this division. Teams will bat through the entire roster, regardless of substitutions.

-Game Time: NO NEW INNING WILL BEGIN AFTER 2 HOURS 15 MIN from official game start time. Once that time has been reached, the inning in progress will be completed and the game will be over. If daylight runs out before a game is officially complete, and the game has not reached 4 innings, then the remaining innings will be played at a time and date that is approved by the President. Games ending in a tie are to be considered an official game, provided the

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minimum of 4 innings has been reached. Games will ONLY be played out at a later date if it affects the final overall standings.

-If time runs out in the middle of an inning, the game score is reverted back to last inning, as long as it has reached the minimum of 4 innings.

-Change of Inning: There will be a maximum of 5 runs scored OR 3 outs per inning, whichever comes first. The final inning will be an “open inning” declared by the umpire at the start of that inning.

MAJOR BASEBALL

-Batting: Continuous batting order is in effect for this division.

-Game Time: NO NEW INNING WILL BEGIN AFTER 2 HOURS 15 MIN from official game start time. Once that time has been reached, the inning in progress will be completed and the game will be over. If daylight runs out before a game is officially complete, and the game has not reached 4 innings, then the remaining innings will be played at a time and date that is approved by the President. Games ending in a tie are to be considered an official game, provided the minimum of 4 innings has been reached. Games will ONLY be played out at a later date if it affects the final overall standings.

-If time runs out in the middle of an inning, the game score is reverted back to last inning, as long as it has reached the minimum of 4 innings.

-Change of Inning: There will be a maximum of 5 runs scored OR 3 outs per inning, whichever comes first. The final inning will be an “open inning” declared by the umpire at the start of that inning.

JUNIOR BASEBALL / SOFTBALL

There are no specific league rules to these divisions, besides what is set for the league as a whole at the beginning of this document. Please refer to the Little League Rule Book for division specific rules.

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Code of Conduct

The purposes of Little League are “to assist youth in developing qualities of citizenship, discipline, teamwork and physical well-being, with proper guidance and exemplary leadership.”

Kern River Little League (“KRVLL”) has instituted this Code of Conduct to ensure that the behavior and conduct of all participants in KRVLL activities are consistent with and further these purposes.

Players, managers, coaches, parents, league officials, umpires, scorekeepers, announcers and spectators all share in the responsibility to display proper behavior at all times.

Unsportsmanlike conduct or disrespect for the game, league officials, opposing coaches and teams, the umpires and game officials, the scorekeepers and the spectators will not be tolerated in KRVLL during any of its activities, including registration events, tryouts, drafts, fundraising events, practice, games, tournaments, etc.

The President of KRVLL or the Board of Directors may take disciplinary action against any participant in the league, including players, coaches, parents, umpires, league officials, and spectators, whose conduct is detrimental to the operation and purpose of KRVLL. While this Code of Conduct enumerates certain conduct that would result in automatic disciplinary action, it is not exhaustive and other conduct not specifically identified in this Code of Conduct could also result in disciplinary action.

Disciplinary action includes reprimands, game ejections, suspensions, expulsion from KRVLL and its activities, and permanent ban from KRVLL.

Player Code of Conduct

The following is the Code of Conduct players are obligated to follow in KRVLL, or at any KRVLL activities (such as tournaments or games played in other Little Leagues). Violation of any rule may result in ejection, reprimand, suspension and/or expulsion from KRVLL.

The use of tobacco, alcohol or illegal drugs anywhere on or in the vicinity of the playing fields is strictly prohibited. Violation of this rule will result in immediate expulsion from KRVLL.

The following behavior will result in immediate ejection from the game or KRVLL activity, a mandatory one-game suspension from the player’s next regularly scheduled game, and such other action as KRVLL deems appropriate:

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- arguing with umpires or other game officials;
- engaging in offensive behavior;
- trash-talking to opponents;
- unsportsmanlike conduct;
- abusive, harmful or unwarranted disruptions to the game;
- throwing bats, helmets, gloves, or other equipment in anger;
- using profane, obscene or vulgar language; or
- verbal disrespect directed towards an umpire, game official, league official, another player, manager, coach or spectator.

There shall be no fighting whatsoever at any KRVLL activity. Any player who either suggests or threatens to fight, or initiates and/or participates in a fight before or during a game, or touches or threatens to touch anyone else in a violent or offensive manner, shall be immediately ejected from the game and suspended from the next three games. If the incident occurs after the completion of a game or at any other KRVLL activity, that player(s) shall be suspended from the next four games.

It shall be mandatory for all players at the completion of their game to participate in a post-game cheer and handshake ceremony on the field of play. In addition, all players must thank the umpiring crew and any other game officials present. Any player not participating (with the exception of injury) shall be suspended from the following game and will be subject to further suspension at the discretion of the President of KRVLL or KRVLL's Board of Directors.

Players who are ejected from a game twice in any season shall be subject to a mandatory suspension for the remainder of the season. The player will automatically lose their eligibility to participate in any post-season tournaments. In addition, the player shall be subject to a permanent ban from KRVLL at the discretion KRVLL.

A player ejected from a game may be allowed to remain in the dugout or asked to leave the proximity of the playing field at the discretion of the umpire.

Any disciplinary action will begin immediately upon notification to the offending party by the President of KRVLL and take effect before the next scheduled game of the offending player.

Manager, Coach and Adult Volunteer (Including Board of Directors) Code of Conduct

The following is the Code of Conduct all managers, coaches and other adult volunteers are obligated to follow in KRVLL, or at any KRVLL activity (such as tournament, games played in other Little Leagues, Family Fun Day, Hit-a-Thon, etc.). Violation of any rule may result in ejection, reprimand, suspension and/or expulsion.

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Revised 04.01.2019

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The use of alcohol or illegal drugs anywhere on or in the vicinity of the playing fields is strictly prohibited. Violation of this rule will result in immediate expulsion from the league.

The following behavior will result in immediate ejection from the game or KRVLL -approved activity, a mandatory two-game suspension from the next regularly scheduled games, and such other action as KRVLL deems appropriate:

- arguing with umpires or other game officials;
- engaging in offensive behavior;
- trash-talking to opponents;
- unsportsmanlike conduct;
- abusive, harmful or unwarranted disruptions to the game;
- throwing bats, helmets, gloves, or other equipment in anger;
- using profane, obscene or vulgar language; or
- verbal disrespect directed towards an umpire, game official, league official, player, manager, coach or spectator.

Managers and coaches shall never threaten to or physically harm or abuse any player, umpire, game official, league official or spectator at any time for any reason. This type of behavior will result in immediate dismissal from KRVLL for the remainder of the season and subject that individual to a permanent ban from KRVLL.

It shall be mandatory for all managers and coaches at the completion of their game to participate in a post-game cheer and handshake ceremony with the opposing team on the field of play. In addition, all managers and coaches must thank the umpiring crew and any other game officials present. Any manager or coach not participating shall be suspended for the following two regularly scheduled games and be subject to further suspension at the discretion of the President or Board of Directors of KRVLL.

Any manager or coach who deliberately circumvents any of KRVLL rules or regulations, especially the mandatory playing rules, is subject to suspension or expulsion from KRVLL. This includes the playing of ineligible pitchers/players. The President or Board of Directors of KRVLL has the right and discretion to suspend any manager, coach, or player for any part of or for the entire season for any conduct violation, which results in an ejection or is deemed by the Board of Directors to be detrimental to the operation and purpose of KRVLL.

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Managers and coaches who are ejected from a game twice in any season are subject to a mandatory suspension for the remainder of the season. This individual will automatically lose their eligibility to participate in any post-season tournaments. In addition, the manager and/or coach shall be subject to a permanent expulsion from KRVLL at the discretions of the Board of Directors.

A manager or coach ejected from a game will not be allowed to remain in the dugout or the spectator area and must immediately vacate the proximity of the baseball field. Failure to do so in a timely manner without further argument or delay may result in forfeiture of the game. Any disciplinary action will begin immediately upon notification to the offending party by the President of STLL and take effect before the next scheduled game of the offending party.

Spectator Code of Conduct

The following is the Code of Conduct all spectators, including parents, are obligated to follow in KRVLL, or at any KRVLL activity (such as tournaments or games played in other Little Leagues). Violation of any rule may result in disciplinary action.

Spectators shall not incite or participate in any form of unsportsmanlike conduct in KRVLL or at any KRVLL activity.

Spectators shall not use abusive or profane language or gestures at any time at any game or other KRVLL activity.

Spectators shall not criticize, belittle, antagonize, berate or otherwise incite any players, managers, coaches, adult volunteers, umpires, league officials or other spectators by word of mouth or by gesture.

Spectators shall accept all decisions of the umpires and game officials as being fair and judged to the best of their ability.

Any spectator exhibiting unsportsmanlike conduct, disruptive, profane, rude and/or abusive behavior towards any player, manager, coach, umpire, game official, league official or other spectator shall be subject to removal from the spectator area and the immediate vicinity of the game by a league official. Any spectator who fails to comply with this request in a timely manner, without further argument or delay, may subject the team to which they are affiliated to forfeiture of the game and must be reported to the Board of Directors.

The President or Board of Directors of KRVLL shall be empowered to suspend any spectator from attending any KRVLL games or other KRVLL approved events for engaging in conduct

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detrimental to the operation and purpose of KRVLL. Two or more violations by any spectator in any one season will result in immediate dismissal from KRVLL for the remainder of the season and subject that individual to a permanent ban from KRVLL at the discretion of the President or Board of Directors of KRVLL.