

SOUTHINGTON SOUTH LL 2018 AA LOCAL RULES



The AA division is an instructional division. The primary purpose of AA is to teach baseball fundamentals to and improve the skills of players of AA age in a fun and safe atmosphere, thus preparing them for the next level. Players ages is 7, with some league approved 8 year olds as the exception.

Safety

- Managers/coaches are responsible for the safety of their players and for following SSYAA safety policies.
- Managers/coaches are responsible for ensuring fields are safe to practice and play on.
- Managers/coaches are responsible for following Little League Baseball's lightning safety guidelines.
- Managers/coaches should consider recommending that all players wear protective equipment such as athletic supporters and protective cups and mouthpieces/mouth guards. **Catchers shall not be allowed to catch without wearing a protective cup and proper chest, leg, head and throat protection.**
- **There is no On-Deck circle or practice swinging. No bats are allowed in bench area.**

Games and Practices

- Games will be played 1 night during the week and 1 game on Saturday.
- No score or standings are kept as this is an instructional division.
- Each team will practice a minimum of once per week, providing the weather is accommodating.
- All games will try to play 6 innings but should not exceed 2.00 hours.
- No inning will start after 1 hour 45 minutes unless there is no game following and the coaches agree to complete the game.
- The home team is responsible for preparing the field (i.e. raking and lining). Visitors are responsible for raking the field after the game.
- When players are pitching, a coach should be an umpire to call balls and strikes from behind the pitcher. The first and third base coaches will umpire the bases.

Pitching

- The AA division is a coach's pitch and player pitch league. The coach will pitch all innings of the first 2 games. Starting with game 3, the coach will pitch the first 3 innings and the players will pitch for the remainder of the game. Starting with game 8 the players will pitch the entire game.
- Emphasis should be placed on developing pitchers and catchers.
- For player safety, pitch counts will be used and each player will be limited to the lesser of 50 pitches per game or 1 inning of pitching.
- The proper days of rest must be followed as stated in the Little League Rule book after a player pitches in a game.
- For player safety, all child pitchers must pitch from a minimum of 42 feet from home plate.
- There will be no walks in the AA division, should a pitcher reach ball four, the coach calling balls and strikes will step in and pitch to the batter and the existing strike count will remain. The batter will either strike out swinging or hit the ball; there will be no called strikes when a coach is pitching.
- Any pitcher that hits 3 batters in a game must be removed from the mound and cannot return as pitcher in that game regardless of their pitch count.
- Once a pitcher is removed from the mound, they cannot return as a pitcher regardless of pitch count.

Base Running

- Runners are allowed to take as many bases as possible on an errorless hit with no throwing error.
- Runners can take one extra base on a throwing error.
- No stealing is allowed for the first 8 games. Stealing is allowed only from 1st to 2nd or 2nd to 3rd if the ball leaves the catcher's circle. No stealing of home is allowed.
- Slide or avoid must be used. No head first sliding except if going back into a base.

Batting

- A continuous batting order will be used until 3 outs are recorded or a maximum of 8 players have batted in that half of inning. The 8th batter is the last batter of the inning regardless of the outcome of the at bat.
- **No on deck batter is allowed and no bats are allowed in the bench area.**
- In an effort to encourage the batters to swing, the strike zone will be from the batters knees to just under their shoulders and approximately one baseball width on each side of home plate.
- When a coach is pitching, each batter puts the ball in play or gets 3 swinging strikes and no balls called. When a player is pitching, each batter puts the ball in play or gets 3 strikes called by a coach/umpire, there are no walks, should a batter reach ball four, the coach calling balls and strikes will step in and pitch to the batter and the existing count will remain. The batter will either strike out swinging or hit the ball; there will be no called strikes when a coach is pitching.
- Bunting is allowed. A player can not fake bunt and then swing. If a fake bunt is attempted, the player will automatically be called out.

Fielding

- The defense will be made up of 10 players maximum with 6 players on the infield to include a Pitcher, Catcher, First baseman, Second baseman, Third baseman and Short Stop. Four players will make up the outfield.
- A player will play the pitcher's position while the coach is pitching.