



## GENERAL LOCAL LEAGUE RULES

### I. LEAGUES

A. Each league administrator shall be the League Commissioner who shall be approved by the Board of Directors.

B. The alignment of the league ages shall be as follows: 1) Baseball: Wee Ball = 4-year-olds, Tee Ball = 5&6-year-olds, Coach Pitch = 7&8-year-olds, Minor League = 9-10 year-olds, Major League = 10-12 year-olds, Senior League = 13-16-year-olds; 2) Softball: Tee Ball = 5&6-year-olds, Coach Pitch = 7&8-year-olds, Major & Minor Leagues = 9-12-year-olds, Senior League = 13-16-year-olds.

C. The number of teams in any league shall be approved by the Board of Directors.

D. Fundraising for individual leagues or teams is not allowed.

E. The Protest Committee shall consist of the League Commissioner, the applicable Vice-President of Baseball or Softball, the League's umpire-in chief and the President. If any member of the Protest Committee is involved as a parent, manager or coach within the league or team to be governed, a replacement member shall be named by the remaining Protest Committee members.

### II. TEAMS

A. The Board of Directors shall determine the number of players per team per league.

B. The league officially recognizes one manager and one coach per team for draft protection purposes. Exception: Tee Ball may protect two coaches per team.

### III. TEAM MANAGERS

A. Each team shall have one manager.

B. The manager:

1. shall be approved by the Board of Directors
2. shall be responsible for the team's conduct, observance of rules, and deference to the umpire
3. may appoint a substitute manager in his/her absence.
4. shall abide by and enforce the Dress Code
5. shall abide by and enforce the Code of Conduct

### IV. CONCUSSION & CARDIAC ARREST TRAINING

Each manager and coach (including ALL assistant coaches) shall be required to fulfill all requirements under the Tennessee Sports Concussion & Cardiac Arrest Law before coaching at any practice or game.

## **V. PLAYERS**

A. All players at Maryville Little League:

1. must register each season
2. must qualify for the League Age requirement for their assigned league (birth certificate if requested)
3. must meet Proof-Of-Residency requirements of Little League Baseball and Maryville Little League
4. shall abide by the Draft Rules in the leagues that have the draft system
5. shall abide by the Dress Code
6. shall abide by the Code of Conduct
7. must return league furnished equipment as requested

B. DRESS CODE: League furnished uniforms (including caps) must be worn during games. Exception in all divisions of softball Rule 1.11(a)(1): *The wearing of caps or visors is optional for each player while on defense.* Shirts must be tucked in at all times and caps (if worn) must be worn in proper position at all times. Each team, at a cost to be borne by the manager, will be permitted to attach to each uniform shirt each player's name and/or an American Flag, and each team also will be permitted to attach to each cap that player's name and/or uniform number. No other additions to the league issued uniform will be permitted. Shorts, pants and shorts are not provided by the league and the cost shall be borne by the manager. It is important to note that all players on a team must wear uniforms identical in trim and style (playing Rule 1.11). All players on a team must all wear shorts or all wear pants.

## **VI. GAME SCHEDULES**

A. Game schedules for regular season games shall be approved by the Vice Presidents and President.

B. All game schedules are subject to the Board of Director's approval.

C. Game schedules shall be fair and equitable with special emphasis placed on home-vs-visitor games for each team.

D. Any rescheduled game or games shall be approved by the Vice Presidents or President. Complete or incomplete games postponed for any reason shall be rescheduled at the earliest available date. The earliest available date shall be established for each league and listed within each league's rules. The earliest available date shall include Sundays, Wednesdays, holidays and any other day that the needed field is available with the exception of Easter & Mother's Day. Managers and Commissioners shall not make exception to this rule without the permission of the Protest Committee. Exception: No Tee Ball, Coach Pitch, and Minor League team shall play two complete games in one day. No Little, Junior, and Senior League team: 1) shall not play more than two complete games in one day, and 2) shall not play more than three complete games in one calendar week unless the manager approves.

## **VII. GAMES**

A. All leagues have mandatory play rules that must be followed. Managers and Coaches who fail to follow the mandatory play rules shall be subject to the penalty as outlined in each league's playing rules. The Protest Committee may waive the penalty on the manager if the game is shortened for any reason, but there is no exception on the penalty for the player even if the game is a shortened game.

B. Starting times and time limits shall be established for each league by the Vice Presidents and approved by the Board of Directors. In Tee Ball, Coach Pitch and Minor League, time limits shall be established for all games. In Little League, Junior League, Senior League & Big League, a time limit may not be imposed on games that have no immediately scheduled game following, nor may a time limit be imposed on any game that is the last game of the day. Curfew governs the end time for the last game of the day.

C. Delayed game: If the start of a game or if a game in progress is delayed for any reason (weather, injury, failure to field players or umpires, failure to provide scorekeepers, failure to prepare the field, failure to complete warm-ups, etc.), the established ending time shall remain the same and shall be enforced. If there is insufficient time to continue a game until it becomes a regulation game, the game should be suspended and rescheduled at the Commissioner's discretion. For the first game of a set, the scheduled time is the starting time. For all games that are not the first game of a set, the starting time shall be established by the umpire who reports the start time to the official scorekeeper. Curfews shall be enforced under all circumstances.

D. Rain outs or other unplayable conditions: The managers of both teams shall agree, no earlier than 15 minutes prior to the game, on the fitness of the playing field before the game starts. In the event that the two managers cannot agree, the president, a duly delegated representative or the umpire-in chief of the scheduled game shall make the determination. An "unplayable game" shall be declared by the umpire if in his or her judgment the conditions become unplayable during the game. An "unplayable game" shall be rescheduled by the League Commissioner at the earliest available date.

E. Safety: Any member of the Board of Directors or Safety Committee (not involved in a game in progress as a Manager or Coach) shall have the power to temporarily close (and possibly reopen) the park due to weather or other safety concerns. When the park is closed, all games in progress must stop. If Field #4 is cleared because of lightning, all other fields must also be immediately cleared.

F. Pick up players: Tee Ball teams do not have to pick up and may play with any number. However, Tee Ball teams may pick up from the opposing team if both coaches agree. In all other leagues if a game cannot be played because of the inability of either team to place the required number of players on the field before the game begins or during a game in progress, it shall not be grounds for automatic forfeiture. The game shall be played or completed at the scheduled time by "picking up" a player or players. The following guidelines shall be followed when "picking up" players.

1. A player or players shall only be "picked up" from within the same league. The same league means Tee Ball League, Coach Pitch League, Minor League, Little League, Junior League and Senior League except for the following: Exceptions: Senior League Baseball may "pick up" a 14-year-old player or players from Junior League. Little League may "pick up" any player from Minor League, may pick up any 11 or 12-year-old from Little League.

2. "Picked up" players for:

- a. Baseball and Softball Coach Pitch League shall be league age 7

- b. Baseball Minor League shall be league age 9.

- c. Baseball Little League shall be league age 11.

- d. Softball Minor & Major: Minor league shall be league age 9. Major league shall be age 9 or 10 or a minor league player age 9-11.

- e. Junior League shall be league age 13.

- f. Senior League Softball or Senior League Baseball may be any league age except the oldest age fielded in the league. If the Senior League Baseball fields 16-years-old

players, then picked up players from Junior League Baseball for Senior League Baseball shall be league age 14. If the Senior League Baseball does not field 16-years-old players, then picked up players from Junior League Baseball for Senior League Baseball may be league age 13.

3. The "picked up" player or players must be play defense starting first in right field, secondly in left field and thirdly in center (Minor League softball - right center) field. The "picked up" players must bat starting last, then second from last and then third from last in the batting order. Exception: If a game is in progress when a player is "picked up", the "picked up" player shall bat in the order for the player he or she replaces. The maximum number of "pick up" players shall be three.
4. If a team cannot or will not "pick up" players to play at the scheduled time to play or to complete a game, the decision to forfeit or reschedule the game shall be made by the Protest Committee.
5. The manager must notify the official scorer and the opposing Team Manager as to any "picked up" players prior to the start of the game. Penalty: The Team Manager shall be subject to possible suspension by the Protest Committee.
6. Any player arriving late to a game, if inserted, shall replace any "picked up" player in the game. **However, the "picked up" player must play nine consecutive outs and bat once before being replaced.**

G. Team duties at games:

1. Visiting team shall put out bases, scorebook and the scoreboard console from the proper storage places and then both teams shall prepare the field for play. Any team who fails to return the scoreboard console which results in theft or damage will be responsible for the cost of replacing.
2. Home team shall occupy the first base dugout and provide scoreboard operator.
3. Visiting team shall occupy the third base dugout and provide the scorekeeper.
4. Home team shall remove all bases, scorebook, scoreboard console and all field readiness equipment (rakes, shovels, mound covers, wheelbarrows, etc.) back to the proper storage facilities at the conclusion of the last game of the day. If appropriate, the home team shall also cover the mounds and batters' boxes.
5. Both teams shall clean the dugout area after every game.

H. The batting cages are to be utilized as follows: The batting cage outside of center field on Field#1 is reserved for the games on Field#1. The batting cage next to Field#4 is reserved for games on Field#4. The batting cage next to Field#5 is reserved for games on Field#5. The batting cage next to Field#3 is reserved first for Baseball Minor League and Softball Minor League. If Baseball Minor League and Softball Minor League play on the same night on Field#2 and Field#3, respectively, the batting cage next to Field#3 is utilized on a first come basis. If neither Baseball Minor League and Softball Minor League are scheduled to play, the batting cage next to Field#3 is utilized on a first come basis. For scheduled Minor League, Major League, Junior League and Senior League games, each batting cage is reserved for the home team starting at 45 minutes prior to the scheduled game.

I. Game balls that leave the playing field are not souvenirs and shall be returned to the plate umpire.

J. The use of tobacco products or vaping by anyone is prohibited everywhere on the premises of

Maryville Little League.

## **VIII. UMPIRES**

A. Each umpire is an official representative of the Maryville Little League and is authorized and required to enforce the Official Rules and Regulations and these locally adopted rules of Maryville Little League. Each umpire has the authority to order a player, coach, or manager to do (or refrain from doing) anything which affects the administering of these rules and to enforce the prescribed penalties. Umpires may order both teams into their dugouts and suspend play until such time as League Officials deal with unruly spectators. Failure of League Officials to adequately handle an unruly spectator can result in the game remaining suspended until a later date.

B. The following are rules umpires shall expressly enforce:

1. No manager, coach, player or spectator shall use language which will, in any manner, reflect discredit upon an opposing manager, coach, player, team, spectator or umpire.
2. When the occupants of a team's bench show inappropriate behavior, the umpire shall give warning that such behavior shall cease.
3. Each umpire scheduled by Maryville Little League has the authority to disqualify and/or eject any player, coach, manager or spectator for objecting to decisions or for unsportsmanlike conduct or language. Such an ejection may be spontaneous, but it would normally follow a verbal warning.
4. Any manager, coach, "acting manager", "acting coach" or player who is ejected during a game (including immediately before or after), shall immediately leave the park property. Failure of the ejected person to leave the grounds for suspending the game and referring it to the Protest Committee for possible forfeiture.
5. Any manager, coach, "acting manager", "acting coach", or player if ejected, shall also serve an additional one game suspension at his or her team's next physically played game. He or she may not participate as a manager, coach, scorekeeper nor any other role in the next game and may not be in attendance at the game site from which they are suspended. The Commissioner of the league or the Protest Committee may impose a stricter penalty if it is deemed appropriate.
6. The umpire shall report to the League President, within twenty-four hours after the end of the game, all violations of rules and other incidents worthy of comment. Note - "Acting manager" or "acting coach" is defined as any person participating in the dugout or in the coach's box in the absence of any coach or manager.

## **IX. SCOREKEEPER**

A. The official scorekeeper shall be furnished by the visiting team.

B. The scoreboard operator shall be furnished by the home team.

C. The duties of the scorekeeper shall be:

1. document an accurate and orderly account of the game in the Official Scorebook, note clearly the final score and winner and, when applicable, record the number of innings each player pitches in softball or record the number of pitches for each pitcher in baseball. (One pitch constitutes an inning in softball.)
2. sign the scorebook
3. remain neutral and nonpartisan throughout the duration of the game.

4. In Minor League, Little League, Junior League & Senior League the scorekeeper shall not bring any batting out of order occurrence to anyone's attention. In 4-8-year-olds, the scorekeeper shall help keep the batters in order.

D. The scorekeeper shall occupy the score's box.

## **X. SAFETY**

A. Maryville Little League endorses and shall enforce the "Safety Code for Little League" as listed on the last page of each Official Rule Book.

## **XI. EQUIPMENT**

A. Maryville Little League's equipment manager or managers shall supervise the purchase, control and care of all league owned equipment.

B. The equipment manager or managers shall issue appropriate equipment to each team manager whose responsibility it becomes to care for and protect such equipment.

C. Intentional destruction of league owned equipment may result in permanent barring of guilty persons from Maryville Little League.

D. Team managers may arrange for exchange and/or replacement of team equipment with the equipment manager or managers.

E. Team managers must return all equipment in good condition, normal seasonal wear considered, at the conclusion of the playing season.

## **XII. AWARDS**

A. With the exception of the Tee Ball leagues, Maryville Little League will award a First Place league standing awards to the honored team(s) in each league's regular season and tournament (if applicable). Tie breakers for championships shall not be used. Multiple league champions will be awarded among tied teams.

B. All awards shall be made by Maryville Little League and SHALL NOT be made by individuals or organizations.

C. No ballplayer shall be singled out for an award on the basis of superior skills or accomplishments other than selection to Tournament Teams in the leagues that select Tournament Teams.