

MCLL SCOREBOARD INSTRUCTIONS

Before the Game

Get a roster for both teams.

Getting the Scoreboard Ready

Turn on the machine (right side). If the previous game's scorekeepers left their score on the board, just turn off the machine and then turn it back on. Now you'll be asked a few questions (on the small screen on the machine).

Do you want to start where you left off? NO

What's your model number? ____ The model number that it asks for is on the top/center of the machine.

Do you want to change to BRIGHT? YES

Starting off the first inning

1. Press INNING button, then press 1
2. Press GUEST SCORE and 0 and you're ready to start the top of the inning.
3. Enter the player that's AT BAT first. Press the AT BAT button and then the player's number. So if #4 is batting, you'll press AT BAT 4.
4. Track the balls and strikes for each player. Count 1 at a time. *See Tracking Balls & Strikes Section below.*
5. Track the outs for the team. Count 1 at a time. *See Tracking Outs Section below.*
6. Press the RESET button to clear Strikes, Balls, and At Bats before inputting the next batter.
7. Each time they score a run, you'll press GUEST SCORE and the total number of runs for that inning. At the end of the GUEST Team's at bat (after they get 3 outs), their score should show up on the top line of the 1st inning column (on the scoreboard). See Keeping Score section on next page.
8. Now press HOME SCORE and 0 and you're ready to begin the 2nd half of the inning. Each time they score a run, you'll press HOME SCORE and the total number of runs for that inning. At the end of the HOME Team's at bat (after they get 3 outs), their score should show up on the bottom line of the 1st inning column (on the scoreboard).
9. At the end of the 1st inning, both teams' scores should show for that inning – total carries over to the far right of the scoreboard. If nobody scored in the inning, then you should have entered 0 for each team. After the Visiting and Home team have batted and the inning is over, you need to tell the system that it's now the 2nd inning.
10. 2nd Inning - Press INNING 2. This tells the system that it's now the 2nd inning. **Now follow steps 2-9 for each inning.**

Remember, each inning you'll need to select INNING and the #.

Who's Batting?

Press AT BAT and then the player number. Example: AT BAT 4. **ALWAYS determine who is at bat by the jersey number** coming to the plate NOT based on line-up card. NEVER 'correct' who's at bat or announce or otherwise inquire. Batting out of Order rule is the specific and sole responsibility of coaches to both manage and recognize when there is an error.

Keeping Score?

Press GUEST SCORE or HOME SCORE and the number of total runs for each inning. When a player scores a run, you'll press either GUEST SCORE or HOME SCORE and enter the number of runs for each inning. So for example let's say the GUEST team scores 1 run, you'd press GUEST SCORE 1. And then let's say they score another 3 runs in the same inning - you'd press GUEST SCORE 4 (the first run + the additional 3). On the scoreboard, it should show how many runs they score per inning and then the total adds up automatically.

Tracking Strikes & Balls?

Press the STRIKE or BALL button, followed by 1 each time. So on the 2nd strike (for example), you'll press Strike 1 (remember, the machine adds each ball and strike 1 at a time). Don't ever press STRIKE/BALL followed by any other number than 1.

Tracking Outs?

Press OUT, followed by 1 each time (just like Strikes/Balls, the machine adds each OUT 1 at a time). When you get to the 3rd out, you'll press Out 1 and the scoreboard will clear automatically.

What if I make a mistake on a batter?

Press RESET – this clears the At Bat, Balls, Strikes. Or if you are off with Balls/Strikes, you can just wait until the count catches up to where you are.

Tracking Innings?

At the top of each inning you'll need to select INNING, followed by the number. Inning 2; Inning 3, etc...

See other side for announcing tips

ANNOUNCING AT MCLL GAMES

Getting Started

Make sure the PA system is powered on (the black box to the left of the counter). Do not move the volume knob past the marked line. Do not play music over the PA system. Use common sense in announcing games, remembering that there are folks that live nearby that will hear everything that is broadcast.

Get a roster from both teams. **Ask one of parents how to pronounce each player's name (jot down the phonetic spelling).** The kids like hearing their name announced and love it when the announcer pronounces it right! Ideally you'll have 2 people up in the announcer booth so that you can announce and the other person can keep score on the scoreboard.

Get umpire names from one of the announcers and answer any questions on pronunciation.

Announcements

Welcome everyone to Freedom Field and remind them that no seeds are allowed and to clean up around the bleachers afterwards. Acknowledge the two team's names and their Manager and Coaches present for the game. At the very minimum, please welcome everyone to **"today's game between _____ and _____."** Announce today's game umpires at the plate and in the field. Thank ALL VOLUNTEERS mentioned or otherwise for their commitment to Mill Creek Little League. Announce the player and his/her # for each at bat. **DO NOT ANNOUNCE BASED ON A LINE-UP CARD.** Announce based on a visual confirmation as the batter walks to the box. If you want to do more, you can announce the pitcher and catcher for each team and then announce pitching changes throughout the game.

Other Tips and Information

Avoid any scorekeeping and any negative commentary. Never mention 'an error by the third baseman' or a 'weak pop fly'. Never inadvertently coach – IE: "Last two times #7 has slapped that outside pitch right over to left field."

From time to time you might be asked to make announcements for the Snack Shack. Those announcing for the last game of the day will let everyone know when the Snack Shack is near closing time.

If you are the last game of the day/night, please make sure all the windows are shut and locked, all heaters are off and unplugged, the PA system is off and the scoreboard switch is turned off. Also please clean up the counter and toss any of the rosters or garbage that's still up there. Basically, you want to have it clean and ready for the next day or next game.

A Suggested Script to Start the Game :) Have some fun!

*Welcome to Mill Creek Sport Park and Freedom Field. (Today's) (this evening's) game will be between (TEAM B) the visitor and the home team (TEAM A). The (TEAM B) are managed by MANAGER B assisted by COACH B1 and COACH B2. The (TEAM A) are managed by MANAGER A assisted by COACH A1 and COACH A2. Officiating today's game is (PLATE UMPIRE) behind the plate and (FIELD UMPIRES) in the Field. Mill Creek Little League thanks **ALL** volunteers who make little league possible.*

Please remember that no smoking, seeds, chewing gum, peanut shells or civil war reenactments are allowed at Mill Creek Sports Park and unless you brought your mother to clean up for you, please clean up around you as you leave. Mill Creek Little League runs the snack shack directly behind our announcer's booth where you can find delicious fan food and we encourage you to visit in every inning that ends with an out.

Add your personality to the announcing and if you've heard the above jokes before or feel uncomfortable with them think of something new.

See other side for score board tips