

Little League Baseball Incorporated
Benicia Little League
2012 Farm Division

The information outlined in this document, summarizes and complements the procedures detailed in the Official Regulations and Playing Rules Handbook of Little League Baseball Inc., and shall be implemented by Benicia Little League.

1. MANAGER / COACH SELECTION

- A. All manager and coach applicants must complete and submit a Manager/Coach Application to become a candidate for a Farms Division team. Managers are appointed by the League President and approved by the Board of Directors on a year-to-year basis.

Little League Child Protection Program:

All local little leagues are now required to conduct background checks on Managers, Coaches, Board of Directors members and any other persons, volunteers or hired workers, who provide regular service to the league and/or have repetitive access to or contact with, players or teams. Individuals are also required to complete and submit a Little League Volunteer Application to their local league.

- B. A manager may submit a request for two (2) coaches and one (1) team parent prior to the draft. Coaches and team parents are appointed by the President and approved by the Board of Directors on a year-to-year basis.
- C. Appointed managers and coaches will be responsible the actions of their team.
- D. Only appointed managers, coaches and team parents are authorized to be on the field or in the dugout during games.
- E. Managers/Coaches are encouraged to submit their Manager/Coach Application by **October 31**, as this is a consideration in the selection process.
- F. Each team will have one (1) manager, a maximum of two (2) coaches and one (1) team parent.

2. TRYOUTS

- A. No tryouts shall be conducted for this age group.

3. DRAFT RULES

- A. Division is open to all registered players age 6, 7 and 8.
- B. Players age 6, 7 & 8 are not eligible for the Tee Ball Division without special approval by the Board of Directors. They therefore must be drafted into the Farms Division. The League will specify the total number of players by age per team after the Minor B Division Draft is completed.
- C. Players will be pre-assigned to the team by the Leagues' computer "Auto-Draft". Siblings will be assigned to the same team. The League will administer this process to keep teams as balanced as possible.
- D. Children of the manager, coaches (2 max.), and one team parent will be pre-assigned to the team prior to the league "Auto-Draft" process.

2012 Farm Division

- E. The Farms Division Managers Meeting will be held at a date, time and location to be determined. This is a **MANDATORY** meeting for all managers and coaches.
- F. Team rosters will be distributed the night of the Managers Meeting. Do not contact players until you are issued a final team roster from the League.

4. TRADES

- A. There are NO TRADES allowed at the Farms Division level.

5. PLAYER CALL UP PROCEDURE

- A. Players in the Farms division **CANNOT** be called up to the Minor B Division to replace players due to family moves, injury, etc.
- B. Players lost from the Farms Division shall not be replaced by calling up a player from the Tee Ball Division but can be assigned a player age 7 or 8 from the Player Agent's waiting list.
- C. Managers must notify the Player Agent of a player who needs to be or may need to be replaced immediately after learning of such.

6. SEASON SCHEDULE & PLAYOFF FORMAT

- A. Regular season schedule consists of approximately 13 games. No scores or standings shall be maintained. If during the season, a game is rained out, called for time, called for darkness, or canceled by the League **that game may only be rescheduled by the League President and Vice President.**
- B. The decision to cancel a game due to weather, lack of players, or any other reason, can only be decided by the League President and/or, Vice President (of that League).

7. UMPIRING

- A. The Farms Division shall self-umpire its own games. The League shall provide no umpires for this division. The umpires should be the manager and coaches from the team playing defense. The manager or coach of the team on offense should operate the pitching machine. The manager and or coaches of the team on defense, along with umpires, can be on the outfield grass instructing defensive players. See section 8 for additional details of the game format.

2012 Farm Division

8. MANAGERS, COACHES EXPECTATIONS & GAME PROCEDURES

- A. Managers and coaches shall provide a safe environment for all players.
- B. Managers and coaches shall display good sportsmanship at all times.
- C. Managers and coaches shall demonstrate respect for the game, all players, and officials.
- D. Managers shall maintain open communications with his/her players' parents.
- E. Managers and coaches shall continue to develop their knowledge of the game and shall utilize positive techniques for communicating that knowledge to the players.
- F. No smoking or use of smokeless tobacco products is allowed during games, practices or other activities with the team. Violation will receive the following penalties: first infraction will result in a written warning from the Board of Directors, 2nd infraction will result in a one game suspension and 3rd infraction will result in suspension for the remainder of the year.
- G. Managers and coaches cannot leave the field or dugout during a game to smoke.
- H. All players, coaches and managers shall shake the umpires' hand(s) AND each of the opposing team players' hands of the after each game.
- I. Players, coaches and managers should not leave the field of play once the game has begun.
- J. No food is allowed in the dugout or on the field of play. ONLY Liquids are allowed.
- K. Only rostered players and approved managers, coaches and team parent are allowed in the dugout or on the field of play during a game (this also includes practice in the batting cage).
- L. Managers and coaches are responsible for the conduct of all players and fans at all times during games and practices.
- M. Police the dugout and fields before and after each game and practice.
- N. Managers and coaches are responsible for field set-up and cleanup prior to and after the game. Each team is required to arrive at least 45 to 60 minutes early to set-up the field. Each team is also required fill-in any low spots (such as the batter's box) following each game. If one team consistently is not represented or fails to participate in the set-up process, **the manager and coaches are subject to disciplinary actions, per the Board of Directors Disciplinary Committee, up to and including revocation of right to manage or coach in this and subsequent seasons.**
- O. Each home team will be required to provide one team volunteer to work in the canteen during their game. If the home team does not provide a volunteer, the manager or one of the coaches will be required to fill the canteen spot. If one team consistently is not represented or fails to participate in the volunteer process, the manager and coaching appointments may be revoked after review by the Board of Directors.
- P. All games will be a maximum of one hour and thirty minutes (1:30) long.
- Q. The Farms Division shall use continuous batting order. All players on the roster must bat in the same order throughout the game.

2012 Farm Division

- R. The inning shall end when the defensive team makes three (3) outs or the offensive team completes their batting order one time during that inning.
- S. Batters are allowed seven (7) pitches to hit a ball fair. A player gets additional pitches if and only if the 7th or subsequent pitches are hit foul. Once the ball is put in play or missed after the 7th pitch, the player is retired.
- T. Batted balls hitting the pitching machine shall be declared a foul ball.
- U. The Farms Division shall also have free defensive substitution. This will allow a team to substitute a player from the bench defensively during the game each inning. There are a maximum of nine (9) defensive players allowed on the field during any inning (if a team only has ten (10) players for a game, place the 10th player in the outfield).
- V. Each player shall not play the same defensive position or in the outfield for more than two (2) consecutive innings.
- W. There are a maximum of seven (7) runs allowed per inning, per team, regardless of when the 3rd out is made.
- X. Stealing is NOT allowed.
- Y. Head first sliding is NOT allowed.
- Z. Bunting is allowed only if the team on defense has a catcher.
- AA. There is no infield fly rule.
- BB. If a runner is less than half way to the next base when a reasonable attempt has been made to return the ball to the pitcher or the pitcher's mound area, the runner shall return to the prior base.
- CC. There is a maximum of one base on an overthrow to any base, including home. Players may advance at their own risk. The runner is allowed to take the base he/she is trying to attain and advance one base at his or her own risk. Encourage your players to be good base runners and don't abuse running by sending them at every opportunity (remember this is an instructional and development division, not a track meet).
- DD. The pitcher must stay in area designated by the machine operator until the ball is hit.
- EE. Players may not pitch to a batter at any time in the Farms Division.
- FF. Last game on Saturday and Weeknights the both team managers/coaches are responsible for assisting closing the fields and walking the canteen coordinator to their car.

2012 Farm Division

9. AGREEMENT TO LOCAL LEAGUE PROCEDURES AND LITTLE LEAGUE RULES

As a manager of a Farms Division team, I have received a copy of this document, reviewed it with the League President, League Vice President, and the Player Agent, and understand the content and intent of this document. My coaches and I agree to abide by the procedures and rules set forth in this document and the Little League Rule Book. If for any reason my coaches or I do not abide by this document at anytime during the season, we shall forfeit our appointments.

Name: _____
Signature: _____
Date: _____

Name: _____
Signature: _____
Date: _____

Name: _____
Signature: _____
Date: _____

Name: _____
Signature: _____
Date: _____

Name: _____
Signature: _____
Date: _____

Name: _____
Signature: _____
Date: _____

Name: _____
Signature: _____
Date: _____

Name: _____
Signature: _____
Date: _____

Name: _____
Signature: _____
Date: _____

Name: _____
Signature: _____
Date: _____

Name: _____
Signature: _____
Date: _____

Name: _____
Signature: _____
Date: _____

Chuck J. Gray
President Benicia Little League, 2012