

Little League Baseball Incorporated
Benicia Little League
2012 Minor B 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 Minor B 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 coach shall not be appointed or approved until the completion of the Minor A Division Draft to avoid “red shirting” of players through a selective coach appointment. This only applies to potential coach candidates with a player League age 9 or 10. The League will only appoint one (1) coach per team prior to the draft but, after the completion of the Minor A Draft.
- C. After the Minor B draft is completed the manager must submit a request to the League President to name his/her new coaches. Maximum of two (2) coaches per team are recognized for volunteer hours. Coaches are appointed by the President and approved by the Board of Directors on a year-to-year basis. Only appointed coaches are allowed on the field or dugouts during games.
- D. Only appointed managers and coaches are authorized to be on the field or in dugouts during games.
- E. The Board of Directors will consider the following factors when selecting managers and coaches:
- 1) Coached or managed during the past 2 Spring or Fall seasons
 - 2) Coached or managed at the Senior, Junior, Major, Minor A, B or Farms Division level.
 - 3) Attended all required League clinics.
 - 4) Participated in the operations of League’s daily activities.
 - 5) Assured team participation in League fundraisers and assisted with the operation of the event (i.e. hit-a-thon, etc.)
 - 6) Set up and maintain fields before and after games.
 - 7) Attendance at the Benicia Little League monthly meetings.
 - 8) Results of previous year’s coach evaluations.
 - 9) Result of Little League Child Protection Program background check.
 - 10) Receipt of a Manager/Coach Application and the timing of receipt.

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- F. The appointed manager and coaches will be responsible for the actions of their team (players and fans).
- G. Only appointed managers and coaches are authorized to be on the field or in the dugout during games.
- H. Managers/Coaches are encouraged to submit their Manager/Coach Application by **October 31**, as this is a consideration in the selection process.
- I. Each team will have one (1) manager and a maximum of two (2) coaches.

2. TRYOUTS

- A. 2 tryouts will be held on two Saturday's in January at the Community Park: 12 and 11 year olds – 9:00 a.m. -10:00 a.m.; 10 year olds - 10:00 a.m.-11 p.m.; 9 year olds 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. A make-up if needed, will be conducted the Saturday after the last scheduled try-out.
- B. Format is:
 - 3 fly balls to left field, throw to 2nd base
 - 3 ground balls to short stop, throw to 1st base
 - 5 pitches (max) or 3 hits from pitching machine
 - Batter runs from home to 1st (depending on field conditions)
- C. Players are announced by player name, # and age only. “Walk-ons” announced by name and age.
- D. Managers are responsible for rating players.
- E. Managers’ children are exempt from tryout requirements, including the All-Star requirement.
- F. No managers or coaches are allowed on field, in the dugouts, or in the score booth during tryouts.

3. DRAFT RULES

- A. Division is open to all registered players age 9, and 10 who are not drafted to the Minor A Division.
- B. Players age 8 may be made eligible for the Minor B Division draft only upon written request by a parent of the player in question. This written request must be received by the President or Little League Player Agent before the start of the Minor B division draft. No player age 8 shall be drafted without prior notification.
- C. Players age 11 & 12 are not eligible for the Minor B Division without special approval by the Board of Directors, therefore must be drafted into Minor A Division. The League will specify the total of number players by age per team after the Minor A Division Draft is completed.
 - TBD – players age 10 / Team
 - TBD – players age 9 / Team
 - TBD – players age 8 / Team

After each round the League will review the draft results to ensure compliance with player age distribution as outlined above is followed. Each Minor B Division

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team shall have a maximum of 12 players per team upon the completion of the draft.

- D. Brother / Sister Option (mangers or coach option only)
- 1) If you plan to draft brother/sister of a coach or manager's child who is going to be on your team's roster, you must submit this request in writing to the Player Agent two (2) weeks prior to the draft. The player must be selected in rounds 1, 2, or 3, or he/she is no longer protected by this option.
 - 2) If you draft a player and then want to exercise the "Brother/ Sister" option, this option must be exercised in the **next round** or your option is lost and the player is open to be drafted by other teams. If your team does not have a pick in the next round the option is lost.
- E. Manager's and Coach's children are drafted in specific rounds as follows depending on their age:
- 10 year old = round 3
 - 9 year old = round 4
 - 8 year old = round 5
- Where 2 players are of the same age (brother/sister of manager or coach), one player moves up one round. Example: a manager has two (2) sons both age 10. They would be drafted in the 3rd and 2nd rounds, not 3rd and 4th rounds.
- F. Trades for draft picks are forbidden.
- G. The results of the draft are confidential. For obvious reasons, the draft selection process (i.e. what round a player was selected, trades, etc.) should not be communicated to anyone after the draft is complete.
- H. Maximum of two (2) people per team are allowed at the draft (only the manager and one approved coach).
- I. Managers shall be issued a complete draft list of eligible players by age for this division before draft night.
- J. The Minor B Division draft will be held on a date, time and location to be determined.
- K. Draft order will be drawn out of a hat on draft night and the format is a serpentine style.
- L. Each team is allowed 1 minute per draft selection.
- M. Team rosters will be distributed the night of the draft. Do not contact players until you are issued a final team roster from the League.
- N. Cell phones and other communication devices are not permitted during the draft.

4. TRADES

- A. All trades must be made through the Player Agent on draft night, subject to approval of the Board of Directors. No exceptions. Direct contact with the players in question, or their parents, is strictly forbidden unless authorized by the Player Agent.

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5. PLAYER CALL UP PROCEDURE

- A. Players may be called up from the Minor B Division to replace players from the Minor A Division due to family moves, injury, etc.
- B. Players lost after Memorial Day may not be called up unless the affected team has 10 players or less on the active roster.
- C. Generally, only players age 11 or 10 are eligible to be called up to the Minor A Division. Call-ups of other age groups is at the discretion of the Board of Directors and will be based on other Division factors.
- D. Players called up from the Minor B Division shall not be replaced by calling up players from the Farms Division, but players aged 8, 9 or 10 can be assigned from the Player Agents waiting list.
- E. Managers must notify the Player Agent of a player who needs to be or may need to be replaced immediately after learning of such.
- F. Injured players must be replaced if they are unable to play in an official League baseball game for 28 consecutive days or longer. The 28-day clock begins on the date of the first missed League game following the injury. The player call-up process will begin on the 18th day following the injury, and will be completed (if necessary) on the 29th day. If an injured player is medically released to play after the 28 days have elapsed, the Board of Directors will determine what options are available for the player's return.
- G. Player Agent must authorize manager to search for "call-up" candidates.
- H. The Minor A Division call up process shall be as follows: Manager of a Minor A team shall present a written list of three (3) candidates in priority order to the Player Agent within ten (10) days. Player Agent notifies affected manager of 1st players' decision. If 1st player elects not to go up, the cycle is repeated for the 2nd and then the 3rd. If after the 3rd cycle no player is chosen, manager will be asked to submit an additional three (3) names in priority order and the process continues. The Board of Directors reserves the right to select a player and assign the player to the team roster.
- I. Refusal of a player to accept a call up from Minor B shall result in the forfeiture of eligibility to the Minor A Division for the remainder of the season.
- J. Managers who interfere with this process, such as advising players not to go up are subject to disciplinary action from the Board of Directors, up to and including suspension for the remaining season. Only the Player Agent shall conduct discussions with the players and families.

6. SEASON SCHEDULE & PLAYOFF FORMAT

- A. Regular season schedule consists of approximately 15 to 18 games. Each team shall play every team at least one time. No scores or standings shall be maintained during the first half of the season. If during the first half of the season a game is rained out, called for time, darkness or canceled by the League, it will not be rescheduled.
- B. After completion of the first round of play with all teams playing each other, the Division will begin keeping score and tracking standings.

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- C. Upon completion of the second half of the season, the teams will be seeded according to their record in an end-of-season tournament. The Tournament seeding shall be single elimination with a consolation game if time permits.
- D. Decision to cancel a game due to weather, lack of players or any other reason can only be made by the League President and/or League Vice President (of that Division).
- E. Games canceled due to weather should be made up as soon as possible. Only the League President and/or League Vice President (of that appropriate League) can reschedule games.
- F. Incomplete games will be continued from the point in which games were called and must be completed before the same two teams meet for their next scheduled game. It is the responsibility of the home team to pick up the incomplete game score sheet from the location of the incomplete game and present it to the umpire and scorekeeper prior to the game. If teams do not play again, the League President and League Vice President will decide if and when the game will be completed.
- G. Only the League President and League Vice President can reschedule a game and/or evaluate a request for a game to be rescheduled.

7. UMPIRING

- A. The Minor B Division shall self-umpire their own games. *THE LEAGUE SHALL PROVIDE NO UMPIRES FOR THIS DIVISION. EACH MINOR B TEAM MUST DESIGNATE ONE PERSON TO BE THEIR TEAM UMPIRE.* This person must attend the league umpire training. The volunteer hours for the team umpire will be fulfilled as a result of their participation in the league umpire training and umpiring the games during the season. Managers shall not be allowed to umpire the game in which they are managing. The League may elect to assign an umpire in-training with an adult certified League umpire for training and development purposes.
- B. Each team shall provide one umpire per game. One umpire shall call balls and strikes from behind the plate (if properly equipped) or from behind the pitching mound. The other umpire shall be the base umpire (staying behind the bases on the edge of the grass outfield).
- C. The two umpires shall switch positions after completion of the 3rd inning.
- D. Before the game begins, managers, coaches and umpires shall have a pre-game meeting at the plate and review the safety considerations, expectations and procedures as outlined in section 8.

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 player's parents.

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- 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 after each game.
- I. Players, coaches and managers may not leave the field of play once the game has begun without the umpire's approval.
- J. No food is allowed in the dugout or on the field of play. ONLY Liquids are allowed.
- K. Only rostered players and approved coaches and managers can be 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 expected to assist League officials and umpires with disruptive fans when required.
- M. Managers and coaches are responsible for the conduct of all players and fans at all times during games and practices, including their conduct following an ejection.
- N. Ejected managers or coaches will retreat out of site and sound (at umpires discretion) and cannot participate in the remainder of that game, including post-game activities on the field.
- O. An ejection of a player, coach, or manager shall result in a mandatory one (1) to three (3) game suspension following the ejection. The duration of the suspension will depend on the reason for the ejection and the player's/coach's/manager's conduct following the ejection. **The Board of Directory Disciplinary Committee will review the ejection and establish the suspension duration.**
- P. Ejection of a manager, coach or player for a second time in one season shall result in forfeiture of manager/coach's appointment and removal of the player for the remainder of season.
- Q. A manager who allows a player to exceed the pitch count rules outlined by Little League 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.
- R. Police the dugout and fields before and after each game and practice.
- S. Managers and coaches are responsible for field set-up and cleanup prior to and after each game. Each team is required to arrive at least 45 to 60 minutes early

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to set-up the field. Each team is also required to fill-in any low spots (batter's box, pitching mound, etc.) 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.

- T. 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.
- U. The Home team is responsible for the scorebook and the visiting team is responsible for the pitch count and scoreboard. Both teams are responsible for ensuring that the scorebook and scoreboard controller are picked up from office prior to the game and returned when the game has ended.
- V. Review ground rules and exchange lineups with Umpire during plate meeting prior to game beginning.
- W. A new inning may not begin after one hour and forty-five (1:45) minutes have elapsed from when the umpire officially started the game. A game should not be stopped in the middle of an inning if the home team is behind. Umpires shall call the game based on darkness and/or safety concerns.
- X. The Minor B Division shall use a continuous batting order. All players on the roster must bat in the same order throughout the game.
- Y. After the fourth ball is thrown to a batter, the batter's manager or coach takes the mound and throws the remaining number of strikes in the count. Only one of the leagues' recognized manager or coach may pitch. **Each pitch the manager/coach throws will be deemed a strike unless the batter hits the ball.**
- Z. The only way a batter receives a base on balls is if he/she is hit by a pitch thrown by the opposing team's pitcher.
- AA. The batter's manager/coach shall pitch the ball from the pitching rubber in a normal manner similar to the speed the opposing team's pitcher had just been throwing. The batter's manager/coach shall make every attempt to stay out of the way if the ball is hit into fair territory. If the batted ball hits the batting teams' manager/coach after the manager/coach pitches, the ball is considered a foul.
- BB. When the batter's manager/coach takes the mound to finish pitching to the batter, the opposing team's pitcher shall stay in contact with the pitching mound until the ball is hit.
- CC. When the batter's manager/coach is pitching, there shall be no stealing allowed. Last game on Saturday and Weeknights the home team manager/coaches are responsible for assisting closing the fields and walking the canteen coordinator to their car.

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- DD. Maximum of five (5) runs per inning allowed regardless of when the out scoring the fifth run is made. The five (5) run maximum rule does not apply to the last inning of the game, which is the 6th inning or when announced by the umpire that this shall be the last inning due to darkness, weather, time limit or other circumstances. If the game should be shorten for any reason the umpire needs to announce when the last inning is before the start of that inning or during play of the top half of that inning.
- EE. The Minor B Division shall also have free defensive substitution. This will allow a team to substitute a player from the bench defensively during any inning. The minimum play time and starter/substitution rule shall not be a requirement in this division as outlined in the Rulebook. This does not apply to the Pitcher's position. Once a pitcher is removed he/she cannot return to the pitching position. Each player shall play a minimum of two to three innings at a defensive position. For example, if the game lasts four or five innings, each player shall play a minimum of two innings on defense. If the game lasts six innings, each player shall play a minimum of three innings on defense. All players must play a minimum of one (1) defensive inning in the infield during a game.
- FF. Head first sliding is NOT allowed.
- GG. **No pitcher may throw more than 75 pitches during any game. Reference pitching rule VI in the Rulebook.**

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- HH. A manager who's has a player exceed the pitch count rules outlined by Little League 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 results in suspension for the remainder of the year.
- II. Maximum of eight (8) warm up pitches or one (1) minute between innings
- JJ. Maximum of five (5) runs per inning allowed regardless of when the out scoring the fifth run is made. The five (5) run maximum rule does not apply after the completion of the third (3rd) inning.
- KK. Team may only bat through the order one time per inning, regardless of what the number of outs at the time or if it is an "open" or closed inning.
- LL. No stealing of home is allowed.
- MM. Last game on Saturday and Weeknights the home team manager/coaches are responsible for assisting closing the fields and walking the canteen coordinator to their car.

9. ALL STAR SELECTION PROCESS / DIVISION IN HOUSE TEAMS

- A. All players from the Minor B Division team rosters will vote for a preset number of all-stars from their team, excluding themselves. The vote will be a written ballot administered by the League. If there is a tie, the Player Agent and the team Manager will work to break the tie.
- B. After the Minor B draft, the Player Agent and the Board of Directors shall establish the number of player to be selected per team.
- C. The players selected as outlined in Section 9A, will be placed on the Division In-House All Star team.
- D. All Stars from each Division (American / National) will play an All Star game on closing day.

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10. AGREEMENT TO LOCAL LEAGUE PROCEDURES AND LITTLE LEAGUE RULES

As a manager of a Minor B Division team, I have received a copy of this document, reviewed it with the President, League Vice President, and 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 these documents at anytime during the season, we shall forfeit our appointments.

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Chuck J. Gray

President, Benicia Little League, 2012