

## Major Baseball Local and Highlighted Rules

(Local rules supercede Little League rules, when local rules don't apply then consult little league for further rules) Rev 2/08

- 1- All games consist of six innings, with no new inning starting 2 hours after the schedule start time. All teams should conduct their warm-ups and game within the 2 hour time limit. **\*If time prohibits the continuation of a game, you will revert back to the last complete inning. If the game has not completed at least 4 innings), then the game will continue on a rescheduled date from where it left off; if the league has room to reschedule. No manager is to exceed the 2 hour scheduled time or allow it to continue into their game time unless there are no teams following their game.**
- 2- Each team will supply 1 new game ball for every game.
- 3- Each team will field nine positions. If unable to field nine then the game will be called a forfeit (15 mins. After schedule start), however the time for the field should be used with the team having the extra players provide defensive help or possibly playing on the other team. Once a forfeit is called by the umpire (after the 15 mins from scheduled start time.) it is not reversible.
- 4- Each team must field nine players to start the game. A team may drop to eight players after the start; however they may not drop less than eight. The managers are responsible to utilize the field time and play a scrimmage game. **Pitches will count toward a players chart.** Managers should use this opportunity to have others throw that normally would not be given the opportunity.
- 5- For the sake of getting a game played; a manager can utilize a player from the opposing team and he can play with them or the opposing team can supply defensive help only. Any borrowed player should bat last and play the outfield. If a player from the majors is available to fill in; that player may be utilized to play. This player shall not pitch; must play outfield and bat at the end of the line up. This game will be officially a loss to the team not able to field nine players at the start. All players must be of that division.
- 6- The Board reserves the right on all final decisions. At game time the plate umpire has the final say if no board member is on duty.
- 7- The entire roster bats throughout the game, 13 players-13 batters, if a player is unable to fulfill their at bat (sickness, injury or leave early) then you skip over their spot and go to the next batter. If the batter wants, they may be reinserted into their original spot. A player coming late to the game will be inserted at the end of the batting order. Only the players that are present may be listed in the batting order.
- 8- There is no stealing home if the offensive team is leading by 10 runs. If the defense should attempt a play on the runner then that restriction is lifted until the end of the play. When the last inning is declared by the plate umpire (time or darkness) the stealing restriction is lifted. However if the inning is unable to be completed then the score reverts back to the last completed inning for an official game. A 10 run mercy rule is in effect. (3 ½ innings if the home team is ahead or 4 innings if the visitors are ahead. The home team gets to bat!)
- 9- The ball becomes dead when time is granted by the umpire or when the ball is returned to the pitcher on the mound and the catcher is in position to receive the ball. Any runner on base shall immediately return or advance to the next base, any hesitation and the runner shall be called out. Once the runner returns to the base and the pitcher is on the mound with the ball (in position to pitch) and the catcher is in position to receive the ball, the runner may not leave the base to take a lead until the ball reaches the batter. Contact with the base must be maintained. If a runner leaves early then the runner is out. This is a delayed call. Umpires may confer with each other prior to making the call official. If more than one runner leaves early then the runner closest to home is called out, not both! The remaining runner(s) shall return to the previous base. This is a local rule.
- 10- The manager is responsible for tracking and keeping record of every player that pitches and the number of pitches thrown. The pitch count shall be the number that is tracked by the field umpire. The field umpire shall announce at the change of each inning the number of pitches thrown by the pitcher and after each pitching change. The manager shall fill in all information and get signatures of the plate umpire and opposing manager. If no field umpire is present then the managers may seek someone out

to assist (authorized person) or designate a coach to do so. Any questions concerning pitching eligibility will be determined by the plate umpire. There will be no arguments or protests. If a team uses an ineligible pitcher a forfeit will be given to the offending team. The manager issued a warning by the board and subsequent offenses may be subject to suspension.

- 11- Once a pitcher is removed from the mound the player may not return as a pitcher.
- 12- Protests will not be accepted by Warwick little league Board of Directors.
- 13- There is no on-deck position. Players must not swing or hold the bat in an unsafe manner. Managers are responsible for the player's behavior at the playing field and at the batting facilities. **(Local Rule)**
- 14- Players shall remain in the dugout at all times, unless fielding a position or batting. Dugouts shall remain clean at all times. Subsequent teams shall not enter the dugout until the previous team has left. Incoming managers shall leave their equipment outside the dugout until the other team leaves. Only authorized personnel **with an ID Badge**, will be allowed in the dugout, (manager, two coaches or they can be replaced by designated parent helper who has application on file). One authorized adult must be in the dugout at all times. **Sitting outside the dugout does not count.**
- 15- Players leaving the dugout will only do so with the manager or coach's permission.
- 16- Clay areas will be raked after each game or practice by an adult, not the players. **Both teams!**
- 17- It is the responsibility of both managers to mark the field prior to the start of the game and to close the field at the end. Arrive early to do this. If the manager is not available then send a coach in his place.
- 18- The equipment shed is the responsibility of both managers prior to leaving the field. The equipment shall be put away and locked. **Any equipment missing shall be reported to the league immediately**
- 19- No manager or coach is allowed to warm-up the pitcher prior to and during the game. The manager shall designate a player to warm up the pitcher using the little league approved helmet with throat guard. Any pitcher warming up near the park area must be under supervision of an adult (authorized). A player arriving to the park early and not in uniform can be warmed up by a parent as long as it is not within game time. If you assign this parent; that parent must be authorized. **(Local Rule)**
- 20- The catcher must wear a catcher's mitt, not any other glove or first baseman's mitt.
- 21- The official pitching distance is 46ft.
- 22- There is no head first sliding (**automatically out**) when advancing to the next base.
- 23- **No player may hinder a runner by blocking a base or baseline unless they have the ball in their possession. Being in the act of fielding a thrown ball does not apply.(see Obstruction 9.01 f)**
- 24- Each umpire has the authority to disqualify any player, manager or coach or substitute for objecting to decisions or for unsportsmanlike like conduct or language and to eject such disqualified person from the field. (Rule9.01). If for some reason there is a problem with an unruly spectator then the field will be cleared with players going to their own dugouts and a league official(board member, commissioner, manager or coach) shall deal with the spectator. If this can't be resolved then the game will be officially suspended until a later date.
- 25- There will be no discussion or approaching the Plate umpire unless permission is given by that umpire. Student umpires shall not be approached by any Manager or coach and their calls are final. A student umpire can request to consult with the plate umpire. Student field umpires may not eject anyone from the game. This shall be handled by the plate umpire. The plate umpire may consult with board member on duty prior to making it official. A player or manager/coach may be removed without officially being ejected by the board member on duty or plate umpire. This may be changed to an ejection upon review of the board.
- 26- **In situations where fans are getting unruly or effecting the play of the game; an on duty supervisor, board member or plate umpire may penalizing the offending team by reducing the coaching staff and assigning that coach to the stands for the remainder of the game to maintain decorum. The offending team will finish the game without the aide of that coach. The team will remain short staffed. If this does not relieve the situation; then the game will be officially suspended.**
- 27- Local rules shall preside over little league rules. Where local rules do not cover then little league rules shall apply.

- 28- All managers, coaches and designated parent helpers are a reflection of this league and shall conduct themselves in such a manner. Umpire decisions are judgment calls and shall be treated with respect. We are all to conduct ourselves in a manner in compliance to Little League standards.
- 29- All roster players in attendance must participate in a minimum of **three** (Local rule) full defensive innings. Additionally, every roster player must bat. If a player is unable to fulfill their obligation due to a shortened game then they must start the following game. They shall remain until minimal play for that game and the innings owed from the previous game is fulfilled. **LL Rule IV (i)**
- 30- All managers are required to umpire any games where the league could not schedule one. The home team is responsible for the next game on that field. The manager may elect to use a coach or designated parent helper. The Managers will be notified if they are needed. In the event no umpire is present; the managers shall split the game or designate one of their staff to officiate. **Under no circumstances should a manager use a student umpire behind the plate.**
- 31- Managers are not to cancel any games. They should call their respective commissioners. Managers are to call the rainout number for any cancellations; if this number does not provide the information then they shall report to the field as scheduled. The umpire will wait the allotted 30 mins to declare the game. You may also consult with the web site.
- 32- Field supplies should be used wisely. This is one of our most costly expenses. Quick Dri should be used on playing areas only and applied after areas have been swept or water removed. This is not to be used in the dugouts if possible. **Field supervisor on duty or board member; shall determine if extraordinary use of supplies are necessary.**
- 33- With 2 outs a runner who is the catcher in the upcoming inning may be replaced by a pinch runner. This runner must be the last batted out from the current inning.
- 34- Players once removed from the mound may not return as pitcher. A pitcher who delivers one pitch in a game cannot play the catcher position for the remainder of the day. **LL Rule VI "Pitchers"**
- 35- There is a restriction of 85 pitches per day for 11/12yrs; however any league age 10yrs are restricted to 75 pitches.
- 36- If a player pitches 40 or less pitches; days rest only applies; however if 41 or more is thrown; then a games rest and days rest must be adhered to. 20 or less pitches requires no rest. **See rule VI Pitching (d)**
- 37- **See clarification of Rule 7.08A (1) "Running out of baseline"**
- 38- **See Rule 7.15 use of double first base**
- 39- **See Rule 6.02 called strike on batter without pitch thrown.**
- 40- This is a list of some highlighted rules. All managers and coaches are responsible to be aware of these rules listed and the Little League rule book that is issued at the start of the season. You are all responsible for teaching these rules to all the players and hopefully make parents aware as well. Please direct them to the website should they want to inquire further.

**SPECIAL NOTE:**

The board expects to see every team develop 1<sup>st</sup> year and 2<sup>nd</sup> year players for pitching. If we see a team not abiding by our goal of pitching development; the board reserves the right to implement a local rule to see that these goals are met.