

# Penns Valley Little League Baseball Local Rules

**Revision Date: January 11, 2017**

Penns Valley Little League (PVLL) Baseball follows Little League International's rules as outlined in the Little League Baseball® Official Regulations, Playing Rules and Policies. These "local rules" or by laws are in addition to or to further clarify Little League's rules.

## **Registration**

The Board shall set the dates for Player Registration. They are typically held in mid-January. All players (old and new) must register each year. All players must show proof of age and residency at time of registration.

The Player Registration Fee structure is as follows:

- Tee Ball Division - \$30.00
- All Other Divisions - \$55.00
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Child or More From a Family - \$35.00

The Player Registration Fees are used to cover the following annual costs:

- Official Charter with Little League International
- Purchase of Insurance for Players and Coaches
- Other costs associated with operating the League (Field Maintenance, Umpires, etc.)

No player shall ever be turned away due to the inability to pay for the Registration Fee. If a player or family member wishes to request the registration fee be waived due to financial hardship, the request must be made in writing to the Board. Players applying for late registration will be accepted based on the discretion of the Board. No refund of registration fees will be granted after uniforms are ordered for the players.

## **Divisions**

The number of teams in each Division varies each year based on the number of players. PVLL organizes teams into these Divisions based on the following general age guidelines:

- **Tee Ball** (5-6 year olds)
- **Rookie or Coach Pitch** (6-8 year olds)
- **Minor** (7-11 year olds)
- **Major League** (9-12 year olds)

Little League recently (2015) changed the League Age determinations. We encourage parents to check out the information on Little League's website regarding League Age at:

<http://www.littleleague.org/media/lnewsarchive/2016/January-April/check-league-age.htm>

## **Regular Season Managers and Coaches**

Anyone interested in being a regular season Manager or Coach is encouraged to note that on their child's registration paperwork or to contact a PVLL Board member. As stated in Little League Baseball Official Regulations, Playing Rules and Policies, the President appoints all Managers and Coaches and submits them to the Board for approval. Each team will have one Manager and a maximum of two Assistant Coaches. PVLL will provide uniforms for the Manager and two Assistants and requires that these three are the only coaches permitted in and around the dugout and on the field prior to and during a game. PVLL encourages Managers to request additional volunteers to help during practices. All Managers, Assistant Coaches and on field practice helpers must have up to date clearances.

## **Drafting Players into the Major Division**

PVLL uses Plan A, as outlined in Little League's Operating Manual, for drafting players into the Majors. **Plan A** states that existing Major Division teams from the previous season remain intact with the selection of new Major Division players being completed in a round-table format: the last-place Major Division team from the preceding season gets the first choice in every round of the draft, the next to last place team gets the second selection, etc. All league-age 12-year-old players must be drafted onto a Major Division team. Exceptions to this can occur only if the District Administrator, Board of Directors and parent agree in writing (on a specific form provided by Little League International) that the player should be placed in the Minor Division. In the case of a team expansion, the newly formed team will draft players until that team's number of players (including coaches' sons and daughters) equals the number of players from the returning team with the least number of players. When these teams are equal in number, the expansion team will draft first then the other team will select until all teams are equal in number. The drafting will continue with the expansion team having the first pick followed by the teams with worst to best records from the previous season. In the case of a team reduction year, when there are not enough players to support the number of teams from the previous season, the remaining players from the eliminated team will be drafted first by the remaining teams following the same procedure as described above.

## **Regular Season Games**

When preparing for and conducting games, the following guidelines should be followed:

- The Home team is responsible for the preparation of the playing field by ensuring that the field is dragged, baselines are marked, and the playing surface is free of debris.
- In the event of a rainout, it is the responsibility of the Home Team Manager to:
  - Notify the Visiting Team Manager of the rainout
  - Notify the Umpires of the rainout
  - Work with the Visiting Team Manager to re-schedule the game
  - Notify the Umpire Coordinator that the game was rained out and determine how the re-scheduling of umpires will be handled

## **Major Division Regular Season Rules**

PVLL's Major Division will adhere to the Little League Baseball Official Regulations, Playing Rules and Policies. During the regular season, when two PVLL Major teams are playing against each other, those

teams will both use a continuous batting order (all players on each team will bat each time through the batting order) and they will also use the 2-2-2 pitching rule (a pitcher can only pitch a maximum of 2 innings per game). Little League's pitching rules and days of rest are still in effect.

### **Minor Division Regular Season Rules**

PVLL's Minor Division will adhere to the Little League Baseball Official Regulations, Playing Rules and Policies.

### **Rookie (Coach Pitch) Division Regular Season Rules**

PVLL's Rookie (Coach Pitch) Division will adhere to the Little League Baseball Official Regulations, Playing Rules and Policies.

- Ten players should be placed on the field defensively. Four outfielders and six infielders.
- A team can play with as few as 8 players in the lineup without being assessed an automatic out.
- An inning ends once 3 outs are recorded or 5 runs have scored.
- Players should be rotated in defensively as the Manager sees fit while trying to keep equitable defensive playing time for each player.
- All players on the team shall be put into a continuous batting order.
- A batter is out after 8 pitches or 3 swinging strikes.  
**Note:** If a batter fouls off the 8<sup>th</sup> pitch or the 3<sup>rd</sup> swinging strike, the batter should get one more pitch.
- If a situation arises where one or more batters may not be able to bat twice before the last out of the game, the Manager of that team may decide at the beginning of the 4<sup>th</sup> inning, to continue to bat players after the last out of the inning has been recorded in order to assure that all batter(s) get their 2<sup>nd</sup> at bat. The Manager shall inform the Manager of the opposing team of this decision prior to the start of the inning.
- If a batted ball reaches the outfield, all runners may advance until the ball has been returned to the infield and an infielder has control of it. Keep in mind that if a runner is advancing to the next base when the ball reaches the infield, a play may be made on that runner.
- A runner may advance on an overthrow with a maximum of one base per overthrow. A runner may advance to home base on an overthrow.
- When two Penns Valley Rookie teams are playing against each other, the League encourages the Managers to work together to allow their players to pitch.

### **Tee Ball Division Regular Season Rules**

- Distance between the bases can be anywhere between 45 and 50 feet.
- The length of the game should be 3 innings or 2 hours, whichever comes first.
- Ten fielders should be placed in the field on defense.  
**Note:** Managers are allowed to put more than ten players, within reason, on the field at one time as long as the safety of these players is not in jeopardy.

- It is recommended that coaches pitch to the batters using an overhand pitching technique.
- If the batter does not hit the ball after 5 pitches, the tee should be used.
- All players bat in every inning.
- All runners forced or put out shall return to the bench.

### **All Stars**

Post season All Star teams can be formed at the Rookie (Coach Pitch), Minor and Major League levels in accordance with Little League's rules and regulations. There are two distinct categories of post season teams. There are District All Star Teams and Tournament All Star Teams. This can be confusing because Little League uses the term "Tournament Team" in their rules and regulations to refer to what PVLL calls "District Teams". The main distinction between District and Tournament teams is that the District Teams could potentially make it all the way to the Little League World Series in Williamsport, PA. District teams can be formed in the following age groups; 9-10, 10-11 and 11-12. Each League is permitted to have one District Team per age group. Based on the number of players in each age group, the Board will decide how many District Teams PVLL will have each year. Typically, PVLL has fielded one District 11-12 team and one District 9-10 team. Depending on the number of players and coaches interested in being a part of an All Star team, the Board will decide how many Tournament Teams PVLL will have each year. Any player who makes an All Star team (District Team or Tournament Team) will be required to submit a fee to PVLL to help cover some of the costs of new uniforms, tournament entry fees and Little League post season registration and insurance fees.

The All Star fees are:

- 7-8 year old - \$40.00
- 9-10 year old - \$40.00
- 10-11 year old - \$50.00
- 11-12 year old- \$50.00

As with the regular season registration fee, no player shall ever be turned away due to the inability to pay for the All Star Fee. If a player or family member wishes to request the All Star fee be waived due to financial hardship, the request must be made in writing to the Board. In addition, All Star teams can and should pursue financial sponsorship.

### **Selection of All Star Coaches**

The Managers and Assistant Coaches will select the Managers for each All Star Team. All Managers and Assistant Coaches selected must be approved by the Board. There will be one Manager and two Assistant Coaches for each All Star team. The regular season Major Division Managers and Assistant Coaches will select the Managers of all of the 10-11 and 11-12 All Star teams. The Managers of the 10-11 and 11-12 All Star teams will select their Assistant Coaches. The regular season Major and Minor Division Managers and Assistant Coaches will select the Managers of all of the 9-10 All Star teams. The Managers of the 9-10 All Star teams will select their Assistant Coaches. The regular season Rookie Division Managers and Assistant Coaches will select the Managers of all of the 7-8 All Star teams. The Managers of the 7-8 All Star teams will select their Assistant Coaches. The All Star Managers and Assistant Coaches who are selected must be approved by the Board.

**Selection of All Star Players**

All eligible players will be invited to try out for All Stars. The All Star Managers and Assistant Coaches at each age division will work with the Player Agent to set up and conduct the All Star tryout. The All Star tryout is only one piece of information that the Coaches will use to select an All Star team. Regular season statistics, attitude and player/parent commitment will all be factored in when selecting an All Star team. The regular season players may also have the opportunity to vote on who they think should be on an All Star team. The All Star Coaches may choose to use the players' votes as well when creating the All Star teams.