

Section 8 - Guidelines for Tournament Play

Responsibility and Chain of Command – It should be clearly understood by Tournament Directors and league presidents that operation of the annual tournaments in Little League come under a different authority and jurisdiction from that normally observed during the playing season. It is, in fact, a whole new ball game. Once the tournament season starts, authority is vested solely in the Tournament Committee at Williamsport. There will be no waivers or resorting to local rules or other variation unless granted explicitly from Williamsport. To administer the tournament properly and scale down thousands of teams to two finalists in the limited time afforded by the tournament season is an undertaking requiring considerable disciplines. Once the tournament starts, it must proceed without interruption. If protests or disputes occur which cannot be settled by the umpires or Tournament Director through immediate and concise application of the rules, an appeal must be made through proper channels promptly to prevent a major blockage or loss of momentum.

Revocation of tournament privileges or forfeiture of a tournament game may be decided only by the Tournament Committee at Williamsport. Should a problem arise that cannot be resolved while a game is in progress, the game must be suspended by the umpire-in-chief and the problem referred immediately to the Tournament Director. If not resolved, it must be referred to the Regional Director. If still unresolved, it will be referred to the Tournament Committee in Williamsport. If the Tournament Committee deems any player to be ineligible, by league age, residency, participation in other programs, or participation in less than sixty (60) percent the regular season games, it may result in forfeiture of tournament game(s), and/or suspension or removal of personnel from tournament play, and/or suspension or removal of personnel or teams from further Little League activities, and/or suspension or revocation of the local league's charter. These actions can only be taken by the Tournament Committee in Williamsport.

The Tournament Committee and the individual Regional Directors may appoint agents to act on their behalf, and any person so appointed shall have the authority to act as, and exercise the duties of, the Tournament Committee or the individual Regional Directors.

The Tournament Committee also reserves the right to impose any of the above penalties if, in its judgment, any player, manager or coach displays unsportsmanlike conduct during the game, at the game site, or at any event related to the International Tournament. The decision of the Tournament Committee is final and binding.

For all District tournaments the District Administrator (DA) is the Tournament Director. The DA may appoint Assistant Tournament Directors who will oversee the day-to-day operations of the various tournaments. The Assistant Tournament Directors have been authorized by the DA to resolve problems that may arise during a game. If the problem cannot be resolved then the Assistant Tournament Director will escalate the problem to the DA, or directly to the Western Region headquarters if the DA is unavailable.

General Tournament Information – The following applies for All Divisions.

1. **Team Arrival** - All teams are to report to the ball park in uniform and ready to play at least one hour prior to your game. The Home team will use the third base player's bench/dugout. There will be no batting practice on the tournament field(s). Should you wish batting practice earlier in the day on another field you are requested to contact the Assistant Tournament Director for use and location. Each participating team will get 10 minutes of infield practice on the tournament field just prior to your game.

2. **Home Team Designation** - Your tournament schedule was passed out to your representative/s at the Annual Tournament Meeting with this instruction and other informative data. The Home team will always be determined by a coin flip. For you first game this coin flip has usually taken place at the earlier District 2 Meeting or at the Annual Tournament Meeting. The coin flip will be conducted by the Tournament Director or in his absence by the Assistant Director. You will be notified as to the time and place for this action. Be prompt in being there for this item of business.

3. **Team Rosters** – Two different size roster lineup forms are required for each game. A large format (8-1/2 x 11) size is required for the score booth and your opponent. A smaller format typical multi-part game lineup sheet is required for the umpire.

At the Annual Tournament Meeting each participating league was given four copies of the large format player roster forms. This is sufficient to get your team through your first two games in the tournament. After your second game it will be your responsibility to contact the Tournament Director or the Assistant Director for the two forms needed for your next game. Have two COMPLETELY filled out for each game that your team participates in. Give both copies to the Tournament Director or the Assistant Director at least one half hour prior to your game. One of the copies will be given to your opponent for their record. MAKE SURE FORMS ARE COMPLETELY FILLED OUT! Help the public address announcer before the game with pronunciation of difficult names. This form is to list the players in their batting order.

The lineup form given to the umpire just prior to the game must list the players in the same order as on the large format form noted above. If changes were made between the time the large format form was delivered and when the lineup is handed to the umpire, be sure to note that with the umpire at the pre-game meeting. The umpire will then notify the scorer of the changes. It is the team manager's responsibility to also provide the umpire-in-chief with any changes prior to and during the game.

4. **Participation Pins** - A bag of Tournament Participation Pins will be presented to your players, manager and coach(es) at the beginning of your first game. These are to be passed out following your game. No player, manager or coach will wear the pin or any other pin(s) on their uniform, cap or clothing during the game. The final winning team will receive the District 2 Championship Pennant and enter the Washington State Tournament to represent their League, their community and District 2.

5. **Dress Code** - Players shall wear their uniforms in neat and respectful fashion. During the game jerseys are to be tucked in; pants will be pulled up (no saggy drawers); caps will be worn with the bill to the front and not askew.

The tournament team manager and coach(es) must present a neat and clean appearance. Slacks and polo shirt are preferable. Walking shorts no shorter than 3 inches above the knee are acceptable. The only logo permitted on the shirts is the Little League logo or the league's own logo. No advertising or slogan type shirts are permitted. Tank tops, tee shirts, halter tops, bike shorts, cut-off shorts, etc. are not permitted.

Caps for the manager and coach(es) are preferred and, if worn, must match the rest of the team. For softball divisions, caps or visors may be worn as long as the color and logo design match that of the players.

For Junior, Senior, and Big League divisions the manager and coach(es) are permitted and encouraged to wear a team uniform.

Points to Remember – Play will be conducted in accordance with the Official Regulations and Playing Rules for All Divisions of Little League Baseball and Softball, 2015 Editions.

1. As noted above there will be NO batting practice on the field(s). There are other fields nearby that you can be directed to by the host league.
2. Each team will have a scheduled infield and outfield ten minute practice on the tournament field prior to the start of the game. Only the authorized tournament manager and coach(es) shall be on the field during the practice.
3. No one except the rostered players (up to 14 for Junior and younger; up to 16 for Senior; up to 17 for Big League), one manager and two coaches shall occupy the players' bench or dugout during a game. Only the manager and rostered coach(es) are permitted on the field prior to or during the game. Only the above mentioned will receive tournament participation pins.
4. All male players must wear athletic supporters. Catchers (male) must wear the metal, fiber or plastic type cup. Catchers must wear **long** model chest protectors with neck collar, throat guard, shin guards and a catcher's helmet, all of which must meet Little League specifications and standards. NOTE: For Junior, Senior and Big League baseball and all divisions of softball the catcher may use a long or short model chest protector. Catchers **MUST WEAR** a mask, throat protector and catcher's helmet **DURING PRACTICE, PITCHER WARM-UP** and games.
5. The manager, coach or any other adult may not warm-up their pitcher prior to or during the game. This also includes the bullpen.
6. Any player warming-up a pitcher **MUST** wear the approved catcher's helmet, mask and throat guard on the field or in the bullpen. Appropriate protective supporter and cup should also be in place for male players.
7. Players shall not wear **PINS, WATCHES, JEWELRY, and EARRINGS OR OTHER METALLIC ITEMS** on themselves or attached to caps, uniforms or other clothing during the team's participation **IN A GAME**. Safety is of prime importance. Adults must apply good safety habits at their level of concern for their own safety. Pins of any type will not be on an adult's cap, jacket, uniform, etc.
8. If dugouts are available; all equipment must be kept off the top of the dugouts. All equipment must be kept inside the dugout or players' enclosure. Keep bats, batting helmets, catching gear, etc., orderly and racked up at all times **FOR SAFETY**. Bat boy/girl must retrieve bats after batter has completed time at bat **AND ALL PLAY HAS STOPPED**. He/she must be alert and do this promptly to avoid delays in the game. Bat boy/girl must be one of your authorized players. Manager or coaches **ARE NOT** to retrieve bats and we do not desire to have the umpire remind your team to pick up the bat. We need your help.
9. All tournament teams **MUST** carry six (seven for Juniors Seniors and Big League) Little League Headquarters approved protective batting helmets.
10. All protests must be presented immediately to the umpire-in-chief. Protests must be resolved **BEFORE THE NEXT PITCH OR PLAY**. Protests will not be considered after the game is concluded except for an ineligible player.

11. Home-run balls to players or parents are not authorized and will not be presented. They will also not be sold to the parent or anyone else. This is an individual award and all players cannot hit home-runs, but in their own way are very valuable to the team's performance.
12. Should a player on your team hit a home-run, all players on your bench are to remain in the dugout/enclosure and extend their congratulations when the home-run hitter arrives back in your dugout.
13. In the event of an injury or accident on the playing field, NO ONE shall come onto the field until all play has stopped and the umpire has called TIME OUT. The umpires shall have control at this time and will act appropriately. Players will remain in their dugout in the charge OF THE COACHES and ONLY THE MANAGER will come onto the field to render aid to his/her player. Umpires will assist the manager as needed. All offensive and defensive players WILL REMAIN IN THEIR RESPECTIVE POSITIONS on the field until directed otherwise. Host tournament officials will also be ready to assist.
14. The applicable Official Little League Shoulder Patch must be affixed to the upper left sleeve of the uniform blouse. For sleeveless blouses, the patch is located over the left breast.
15. The jersey is the shirt worn under the uniform blouse. Rule 1.11(c) says (1) Sleeve lengths may vary for individual players, but the sleeves of each individual shall be approximately the same length. (2) No player shall wear ragged, frayed or slit sleeves. Rule 1.11(a) says (3) any part of the pitcher's undershirt exposed to view shall be a uniform solid color. Note; white long sleeve shirts are not permitted for baseball pitchers.
16. Accident insurance forms are your league's responsibility along with the Medical Release Approval Form. Have them with you at all times for easy availability in an emergency. They must be notarized as many doctors and hospitals will not accept the Release Form from the parents.
17. The Official Scorekeeper shall be in the press box and announce each batter.
18. Be sure to notify the plate umpire and the Official Scorer of any changes in your lineup. Your failure to do so will only delay the game as the Official Scorer must have this information. The umpires will hold up the game until we have changes correctly.
19. The scoreboard is for the convenience of the spectators and shall not be considered OFFICIAL. The plate umpire is OFFICIAL on balls, strikes and outs.
20. Base coaches are mandatory. Make sure that they are there before the inning begins so that unnecessary time is not spent to get them there. This can only delay the game progress.
21. Should your catcher be on a base or was the last one at bat at the end of your offensive half inning; you are asked to have one of your players, with approved mask, headgear and throat protector, warm-up the pitcher. Male players should have the authorized protective supporter and cup on that catcher is required to wear.
22. Ask questions should you have a need for clarification or more information. Have fun out there as you compete with others for the opportunity to move on to the next level of tournament play.

Tournament Conduct – Good sportsmanship is expected at all times. Keep the following points in mind during your participation.

1. Be patient and control your personal emotions. A wrong can be more easily debated to a satisfactory decision if emotions remain in check.
2. Your manner of coming out of the player's bench/dugout AFTER TIME OUT has been granted must be emotionally controlled. Come out calmly without arm waving, shouting, etc. The umpires will take the time to hear you out and explain the decision if this is what you are questioning. If it is a rule violation that you are questioning it will be your responsibility to point it out in your rule book. Umpire "judgment calls" are not debatable. They are final.
3. No smoking or any other tobacco use (including illegal drug use) by managers, coaches, players, umpires, etc. on the entire playing field, player's seating area or surrounding area will be tolerated. This is prior to the game, during the game and after the game when your players are with you. No leaving the field during the game for a smoke OR YOU WILL BECOME AN INSTANT OUTSIDER. This notice is your Only Warning!!! Don't carry your smokes/tobacco with you. Leave them in your car.
4. Have your players and yourself use the restroom prior to the start of the game. Managers and coaches are not to use the excuse of going to the restroom once the game begins and use this time for other purposes.
5. No beer, wine or liquor consumption prior to, during, or after the game in the vicinity of the field and your players. None should be taken prior to your game. You owe this to the youngsters on your tournament team. It is requested that you do not celebrate your win or drown your sorrows by consuming alcoholic beverages on the area surrounding the field.
6. ABSOLUTELY NOT ALLOWED!!! No one shall shout or call such words as "swing", "strike", etc. in an effort to distract the player at bat. Umpires will take immediate corrective action with defensive players and those on the player's bench or dugout. There will be no individual or combined defensive player/team chant, hum, etc. at the beginning of the pitchers preparation to pitch and during the release of the ball towards the batter. In other words do not attempt to use the practice to distract the attention of the batter. Umpires will take immediate corrective action. Should action continue after one warning the umpires can apply Playing Rule 9.01 (c) and (d). Play the game like true sportspersons. Proper conduct by all concerned imposes a great responsibility upon all of us and we will have more fun.
7. Should any of your fans get out of control and cause problems your League President, other officers from your Board of Directors, your tournament team manager or coach will be asked to make the first attempt to correct the disturbance. This will usually correct the problem before local law officers needs to be called.
8. All press photographers must be cleared through the Tournament/Assistant Director before being allowed on the playing field. When approved the plate umpire will be notified. The plate umpire will instruct the press photographer. They will be the only photographers on the field. Most modern photographers need not get on the field with their telephoto lens.

9. **Special Note to Umpires** - Please watch the crowd along outfield and side fences to keep the fans off the fences. The ball is playable along the fences and we do not desire spectator interference calls. We will assist you with announcements over the public address system.

From time to time as you can find the time we ask that you cast an eye towards the bull pens to make sure the catcher warming up a pitcher has a mask on. We do not want anyone hurt.

PLATE UMPIRE: Make sure that the catcher has his mask on when warming up the pitcher between innings.

Contacts – Tournament contacts are:

- **Tournament Director & District Administrator** – Pat Ryan, Pat.Ryan@WAD2LLB.org
H: (360) 779-1824 C: (360) 271-5193 F: (888) 300-6193

- **9-10 Baseball** – North Mason Little League
791 NE Sandhill Rd, Belfair, WA 98528
Assistant Tournament Director – Pat Medveckus, Pat.Medveckus@WAD2LLB.org
H: (253) 303-0277 C: (253) 426-2103
League Coordinator – Richard Knight, RRKnight@wavecable.com
C (360) 731-4035

- **10-11 Baseball** – North Mason Little League
791 NE Sandhill Rd, Belfair, WA 98528
Assistant Tournament Director – Ron Brentin, Ron.Brentin@WAD2LLB.org
H: (253) 851-8601 C: (253) 228-3905
League Coordinator – Richard Knight, RRKnight@wavecable.com
C (360) 731-4035

- **Major Baseball** – North Kitsap American & National Little Leagues
22898 Viking Way NW, Poulsbo, WA 98370 (360) 697-5449
League Coordinator – Scott Knutsen, President@NKLL.com
H: (360) 598-1851 C: (360) 620-6347

- **Intermediate Baseball** – South Kitsap Western Little League
701 Sroufe Street, Port Orchard, WA 98366 (360) 876-0586
League Coordinator – Bob Showers, ShowersBaseball@wavecable.com
H: (360) 895-0110 C: (360) 731-7226

- **Junior & Senior Baseball** – East Jefferson Little League
200 Elkins Rd Port Hadlock-Irondale, WA 98339
Assistant Tournament Director – Margot Rustad, Margot.Rustad@WAD2LLB.org
H: (360) 620-1439
League Coordinator – Kenny Yingling, KenWYingling@gmail.com
H (360) 643-1349

- **All Softball** – Bainbridge Island Little League
7566 High School Road NE, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110
Assistant Tournament Director – Marian Phillips, H: (360) 697-3847
League Coordinator – Paul Sullivan, Paul.Sullivan@BILittleLeague.org
C: (206) 617-9539

Game Time Schedules – In order to get the games completed in the allotted time we must stick to a tight time schedule.

Game Start Time	Coin Flip & Rosters to Tournament Director	Home Team Infield	Visiting Team Infield	Grounds Crew	Introduce Participants	Play Ball
9:00 am	8:00 am	8:25 am	8:35 am	8:45 am	8:50 am	9:00 am
9:30 am	8:30 am	8:55 am	9:05 am	9:15 am	9:20 am	9:30 am
10:00 am	9:00 am	9:25 am	9:35 am	9:45 am	9:50 am	10:00 am
10:30 am	9:30 am	9:55 am	10:05 am	10:15 am	10:20 am	10:30 am
11:00 am	10:00 am	10:25 am	10:35 am	10:45 am	10:50 am	11:00 am
11:30 am	10:30 am	10:55 am	11:05 am	11:15 am	11:20 am	11:30 am
12:00 pm	11:00 am	11:25 am	11:35 am	11:45 am	11:50 am	12:00 pm
12:30 pm	11:30 am	11:55 am	12:05 pm	12:15 pm	12:20 pm	12:30 pm
1:00 pm	12:00 pm	12:25 pm	12:35 pm	12:45 pm	12:50 pm	1:00 pm
1:30 pm	12:30 pm	12:55 pm	1:05 pm	1:15 pm	1:20 pm	1:30 pm
2:00 pm	1:00 pm	1:25 pm	1:35 pm	1:45 pm	1:50 pm	2:00 pm
2:30 pm	1:30 pm	1:55 pm	2:05 pm	2:15 pm	2:20 pm	2:30 pm
3:00 pm	2:00 pm	2:25 pm	2:35 pm	2:45 pm	2:50 pm	3:00 pm
3:30 pm	2:30 pm	2:55 pm	3:05 pm	3:15 pm	3:20 pm	3:30 pm
4:00 pm	3:00 pm	3:25 pm	3:35 pm	3:45 pm	3:50 pm	4:00 pm
4:30 pm	3:30 pm	3:55 pm	4:05 pm	4:15 pm	4:20 pm	4:30 pm
5:00 pm	4:00 pm	4:25 pm	4:35 pm	4:45 pm	4:50 pm	5:00 pm
5:30 pm	4:30 pm	4:55 pm	5:05 pm	5:15 pm	5:20 pm	5:30 pm
6:00 pm	5:00 pm	5:25 pm	5:35 pm	5:45 pm	5:50 pm	6:00 pm
6:30 pm	5:30 pm	5:55 pm	6:05 pm	6:15 pm	6:20 pm	6:30 pm
7:00 pm	6:00 pm	6:25 pm	6:35 pm	6:45 pm	6:50 pm	7:00 pm
7:30 pm	6:30 pm	6:55 pm	7:05 pm	7:15 pm	7:20 pm	7:30 pm
8:00 pm	7:00 pm	7:25 pm	7:35 pm	7:45 pm	7:50 pm	8:00 pm
8:30 pm	7:30 pm	7:55 pm	8:05 pm	8:15 pm	8:20 pm	8:30 pm