

Massapequa International Little League

BASEBALL RULES

The local rules are intended to reinforce sportsmanship and safety.

Massapequa International Little League code of conduct must be observed at all times.

Please remind your entire team's adult family members that there is absolutely no smoking or drinking at all fields and facilities.

Foul and/or abusive language is not acceptable.

Failure to comply with conduct rules will result in disciplinary action by the Board of Directors

The managers shall unlock the storage box/shed before the start of each game for access to the AED and locked at the conclusion of the game. All coaches and managers shall be aware where the AED is located.

All managers shall insure that only League-approved volunteers, who have completed the LL Volunteer Application, shall assist with the players on the field, in the dugout or on the bench. **Coaches' shirt/polo's are STRONGLY SUGGESTED so that approved volunteers can be identified and are the only volunteers on the field or in the dugout.**

All managers shall obtain LL MEDICAL RELEASE FORMS for all players, prior to participation, and have on-hand at all games, practices, etc.

Cracker Jack Division - 4/5 Year Old Tee Ball

If lightning occurs, the game is over. Clear the field immediately.

No catcher position in this division.

Do not have parents stop or block ball unless it is safety issue.

Batter and base runners must wear caged helmet.

There is NO on-deck batter. Player to bat next should have a helmet on and be ready to bat but **must not be holding a bat.**

Players in the field must stay in position until all opposing players cross the plate to end an inning.

Managers should inform each other when a good hitter is at bat, so they are prepared for a potentially hard-hit ball.

Only individuals who have passed the league background check are permitted to be on the field or in the dugout with players.

Minimally, play two innings or 1 hour. The structure of this division is 30 minutes of drills followed 1 to 2 innings totaling an hour.

Only go base to base even if it is a good hit.

No one is called out. Outs will be explained if they occur, but runners will stay on base.

Bat through the order each inning, rotating the batting order each inning.

Last batter hits a "home run" and inning will end when all base runners cross the plate.

Rotate fielding positions each inning,

Maximum of 5 infielders – 1B, 2B, SS, 3B, P.

Coach must stand with player at **pitcher's** position for safety reasons. As most throws go to **first base** in this division, player at that position may require similar protection as well.

Use safety bag at first base.

This division uses a safety baseball.

Requests are allowed in this division.

Doubleday Division - 5/6 Year Old Tee Ball

If lightning occurs, the game is over. Clear the field immediately.

No catcher position in this division.

Do not have parents stop or block ball unless it is safety issue.

Batter and base runners must wear caged helmet.

There is NO on-deck batting. Player to bat next should have a helmet on and be ready to bat but **must not be holding a bat.**

Players in the field must stay in position until all opposing players cross the plate to end an inning.

Managers should inform each other when a good hitter is at bat, so they are prepared for a potentially hard-hit ball.

Only individuals who have passed the league background check are permitted to be on the field or in the dugout with players.

Minimally, play three innings or 1 hour 15 minutes. The structure of this division is 30 minutes of drills followed by 3 innings totaling a 1 hour and 15 minutes. (Time can be increased to 1 hour and 30 minutes once transitioned to coach pitch mid-season)

Enforce base to base running but ONLY allow a double when a ball is hit strongly into the outfield. Stop the game afterwards and explain why the batter was allowed to go to second.

No one is called out. Outs will be explained if they occur, but runners will stay on base.

Bat through the order each inning, rotating the batting order each inning.

Last batter hits a "home run" and inning will end when all base runners cross the plate.

Rotate fielding positions each inning,

Maximum of 5 infielders – 1B, 2B, SS, 3B, P.

Coach must stand with player at **pitcher's** position for safety reasons. As most throws go to **first base** in this division, player at that position may require similar protection as well.

Use safety bag at first base.

This division will transition half way through the season to a coach pitch in order for the players to start getting use to hitting a pitched ball. If a player is not able to hit a pitch after five pitches the tee will be used.

This division uses a safety baseball.

Requests are allowed in this division.

After the season players ratings will be done for the next season which will help with team selections.

Sandlot Division – 6/7 Year Old Baseball

The game is at least 3 innings up to a maximum of 1 hour and a half time limit

Coaches will toss to their own team

Division is coach pitch for the entire season. No player should EVER pitch to another player.

Batter and base runners must wear caged helmet

Bat through the order each inning

Rotate batting order each game (last batter will bat first in the following game)

Coaches warn opposing team when a strong hitter comes up

Enforce base to base running but ONLY allow a double when a ball is hit strongly into the outfield.

Stop the game afterwards and explain why the batter was allowed to go to second.

No runner can score from first base.

The inning ends when a play is made or all runners advance safely after the last batter's hit.

Rotate field positions each inning, allowing each player to play all positions during the season.

Do not have player play the same position two innings in a row.

Batted outs are in effect and runners should be removed from the bases.

There is NO catcher position in this division.

Coach must stand with player at **pitcher's** position for safety reasons. As most throws go to **first base** in this division, player at that position may require similar protection as well.

There is no on-deck batting. The next player in the batting order should be ready to bat, but only the player actually **at bat** should be holding a bat.

ONLY League-approved volunteers shall assist with the players in the dugout / on the bench.

No sliding or running into defensive players.

Use safety bag at first base.

Obtain **player information** to determine if there are any issues that may exist.

NO food is permitted during the game.

At the first sign of lightning, the game must be called. All should leave the field immediately.

Rainouts will be called by the division VP or league agent, and/or a consensus between the two teams' managers.

Depending on the conditions, field closures may be posted on the website. Division VP will contact (phone or e-mail) if a game is cancelled.

Any game called off due to weather by the two coaches needs to be called into the division VP.

Games in this division do not have to be rescheduled, but an effort shall be made to reschedule.

This division uses a safety baseball however baseball used is a harder teeball.

Last division that requests are allowed.

After the season players ratings will be done for the next season which will help with team selections.

Rookies Division – 7/8 Year Old Coach Pitch Baseball/Introduction to Kid Pitch

Division starts off as a machine pitch division with players pitching halfway through the season.

Rotate batting order each inning. (Same player should not hit first, last, etc.)

Batter and base runners must wear caged helmet

For the first half of the season which is coach pitch/machine pitch the games are 90 minutes or 6 innings.

The second half of the season which is player pitch minimally, play 4 innings or 1 hour 45 minutes.

After 5 swings from a machine pitch the batter CAN strike-out.

Coach who is pitching using the machine shall protect the pitcher in the field, in case of a hard hit line drive.

Players will catch behind the plate wearing proper catching equipment (chest protector, catcher's helmet with throat guard and shin guards).

The catcher shall not throw each pitch back to the pitcher. A bucket shall be placed next to the catcher that is used to collect the balls. After each batter, balls will be returned to the coach pitcher.

There should be no more than 2 coaches (1 from each team) on the field at any time.

No on deck batter and no donuts are permitted in Little League Baseball. Only the player actually at bat shall be holding a bat.

League-approved volunteer shall assist with the players in the dugout / on the bench.

Total of a maximum of 10 players on the field every inning but only 5 infielders in their correct position.

All players shall rotate positions each inning.

Rotate players between infield and outfield positions, allowing each player to play all positions during the season.

Do not have child play the same position two innings in a row.

Force plays are in effect and runners should be removed from the bases.

Outs are recorded and after three outs sides are changed.

Hitters are allowed to hit singles, doubles, triples and homeruns however runners shall not run wild on the base paths and cannot advance on wild throws.

Outfielders must remain in the outfield position before the ball is hit. (Approximately 25' behind the baseline).

Last batter DOES NOT run around the bases.

There will be no score recorded however as a game innings are completed after one of two things occurs three outs or team bats around.

Plays can be made at all bases with the exception of Home Plate. NO plays at the plate are permitted.

Use safety bag at first base.

Hard teeball will be used for the first half of the season and at halfway mark hardball will be used.

A player must not run into defensive players and must give themselves up.

Fielders should not block bases or obstruct the runners.

Player pitch rules half way through the season (VP of division will notify team managers when to have player pitching:

Once player pitch begins a player cannot pitch more than 2 innings and consecutive games. Pitch count is maintained and is based on Little League rules.

Balls and Strikes are called by offensive team during machine/coach pitch and when players pitch the defensive team and coach must be on the mound with their pitcher.

Batters can strike-out

Walks are not allowed however if pitcher is having trouble throwing strikes the coach will finish the at bat by pitching to the batter.

NO food is permitted during the game.

Obtain player information to determine if there are allergy or custody issues.

At the first sign of lightning, the game must be called. All should leave the field immediately.

Rainouts will be called by the division VP or league agent, and/or a consensus between the two teams' coaches.

Depending on the conditions, field closures may be posted on the website. Division VP will contact the managers (by phone or e-mail) if a game is cancelled.

Any game called off due to weather by the two coaches needs to be called into the division VP.

Games in this division do not have to be rescheduled, but an effort shall be made to reschedule.

This division uses hard baseballs.

Requests are not allowed and teams are built based on player ratings in order to even out the teams.

Farms, Minors, Little League Majors, Intermediate, Juniors and Seniors Divisions Rules.

Little League Rule Book will be in effect for Farms Divisions and higher. Additional rules and Clarifications as follows:

Rule Book Options:

Regulation VII (h) – Time limits, if applicable, are defined under each division.

Rule 4.10(e) – Run rules, if applicable, are defined under each division.

4.04 – The league has adopted a policy of a continuous batting order that will include all players on the team roster, present for the game, batting in order. Any player arriving after line-ups have been exchanged shall be added to the end of the line-up. Due to the continuous batting order rule 7.14 is not applicable.

6.02(c) – After entering the batter's box, the batter must remain in the box with at least one foot throughout the at bat (see rule book for exceptions). Although our league will not impose a penalty, players will be subject to a penalty during the Williamsport Tournament.

Rule Book Changes Adopted By The League;

Regulation IV (i) – Mandatory Play: Every player must sit one inning (i.e. 3 defensive outs) before any player sits twice, excluding the starting pitcher and starting catcher unless they are removed from their respective positions. Once the starting pitcher or starting catcher is removed and all other players have sat once, they must be removed from the field and sit one inning before playing another position in that game. Each team shall inform their opponent of the players that are sitting every inning. Both teams should be aware of all substitutions at all times and any discrepancies must be corrected immediately, even if the inning has already started. A protest will not be considered unless a team refuses to sit a player.

4.16 & 4.17 – If a game cannot be played because of the inability of either team to place nine players on the field a team shall borrow up to 3 players from the opposing team to play the outfield. Borrowing fielders is not allowed in the playoffs and each team will be required to have at least 9 players.

If the field is in questionable condition, the decision to start a game will be made by the Division VP or the Umpire in Chief. In the absence of either of these two positions, both managers can agree to cancel the game.

Once a game has begun, all decisions are with the umpire.

2018 LITTLE LEAGUE® INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS AGENDA RESULTS Approved by the Little League International Board of Directors for 2018 Implementation which are not reflected in the 2018 Rulebook

- Regulation VI(d) - PITCHERS – All Divisions of Baseball and Challenger

NOTE: Under no circumstances shall a player pitch in three (3) consecutive days.

- Regulation VI NOTE 3 - PITCHERS and Rule 4.10(d) – All Divisions of Baseball, Softball, and Challenger
Regulation VI NOTE 3: 3. In suspended games resumed on another day, the pitchers of record at the time the game was halted may continue to pitch to the extent of their eligibility for that day, provided said pitcher has observed the required days of rest. In the event that the first inning is not completed, all records, including pitching records, batting records, etc., shall be retained.

4.10 (d) If a game is called before it has become a regulation game, it shall be resumed exactly where it left off. NOTE: In the event that the first inning is not completed, all records, including pitching, shall be counted.

- Rule 8.06(a) and (b) – Major Division and above of Baseball and Softball

8.06 - This rule, which applies to each pitcher who enters a game, governs the visits of the manager or coach to the pitcher at the mound. LittleLeague.org/Congress 2018 Little League® International – Congress Agenda Page 5 (a) A manager or coach may come out twice in one inning to visit with the pitcher, but the second time out, the player must be removed as a pitcher. Example: If a manager visits Pitcher A once in the first inning, then makes a pitching change in the same inning, Pitcher B would be allowed one visit in that inning before being removed on the second visit. (b) A manager or coach may

come out two times in one game to visit with the pitcher, but the third time out, the player must be removed as a pitcher. Example: If a manager visits Pitcher A twice in the first three innings, then makes a

pitching change in the fourth inning, Pitcher B would be allowed two visits in that game before being removed on the third visit, subject to the limits in (a) above.

Farms Division – 8/9 Year Old Baseball

A player must get drafted to play in this division and if not they play in the previous division.

Reg. VII (i) – Time Limit: No inning will begin after 2 hours

4.10(e) - Run Rule: A maximum of 5 runs can be scored in any offensive inning, (with the exception of the last inning and excluding playoffs)

4.11(e) – A regulation game that is tied and halted by the umpire shall end in a tie.

Speed Up Rule – is in effect, If your catcher is on base with two outs, you must put in a runner so the catcher can get prepared to take the field for the next defensive inning. The runner shall be the last batted out. (Excluding the pitcher)

Batter may wear caged batting helmet but not required however both batter and base runners must wear batting helmet.

Every player must play at least one inning in the infield.

Stealing is permitted with the exception of home. A runner on third base must be batted in.

Maximum of three steals per inning.

A runner cannot advance more than one base on a steal attempt.

Only one runner is permitted to attempt to steal per pitch.

Pitch counts must be agreed upon and recorded by a designated scorekeeper after every ½ inning (both teams, no exceptions).

Managers of the winning team shall e-mail scores and pitch counts to Division VP and copy the opposing manager after each game.

Minors Division – 12 Year Old & Under Baseball

A player must get drafted to play in this division and if not they play in the previous division.

A maximum of 5 runs can be scored in any offensive inning, (with the exception of the last inning and excluding playoffs)

Batter may wear caged batting helmet but not required however both batter and base runners must wear batting helmet.

Every player must play at least one inning in the infield.

Pitch counts must be agreed upon and recorded by a designated scorekeeper after every ½ inning (both teams, no exceptions).

12 yr old players may not pitch in the Minors Division.

No inning will begin after 2 hours

Speed Up Rule – is in effect, If your catcher is on base with two outs, you must put in a runner so the catcher can get prepared to take the field for the next defensive inning. The runner shall be the last batted out. (Excluding the pitcher)

Managers must e-mail scores and pitch counts to Division VP after the game

Majors Division – 12 Year Old & Under Baseball

A player must get drafted to play in this division and if not they play in the previous division.

Reg. VII (i) – There is no time limit.

4.10(e) - Run Rule: None

4.11(e) – A regulation game that is tied after four or more completed innings and halted by the umpire shall end in a tie.

There is no speed-up rule for the catcher.

Scores & Pitch Counts: Managers of the winning team shall e-mail scores and pitch counts to Division VP and copy the opposing manager after each game.

Intermediate Division – 12/13 Year Old Baseball

Time Limit: No inning will begin after 2 hour 30 minutes.

Run Rule: 15 runs after 3 innings and 10 runs after 4 innings as per rule 4.10(e) amended at the 2018 Little League International Congress

This division is open to all **12 and 13 year old players*** registered in MILL

Pitchers throw from 50' and bases are set at 70'

Players play for their own teams in the Majors and Juniors while participating in the Intermediate Division

Managers need to avoid using pitchers if they have or will be throwing for their Majors/Juniors team. Players participating will be assigned to teams each time there is a game. A Williamsport team will be selected from the players that have participated in enough games to be eligible.

***This is the player's age as defined by Little League International**

Junior Division – 13/14 Year Old Baseball

Any player on a junior division team can pitch.

Any pitcher removed from the mound and plays another position without being removed from the game can return to pitch but only once in a game (for the purpose of this rule All players are considered in the game and are eligible providing they have met the MILL mandatory sitting rule, even if they are on the bench!!)

Run Rule: 15 runs after 3 innings and 10 runs after 4 innings as per rule 4.10(e) amended at the 2018 Little League International Congress

A team may borrow players from the opposing team (max 3 per game) to play the outfield. It must be the last batters of the previous inning (excluding the pitcher and catcher).

Borrowing players is not allowed in the playoffs

Pitch counts must be discussed, agreed upon and recorded by a designated scorekeeper after every ½ inning (both teams, no exceptions).

No inning will begin after 2 hours 30 minutes

Scores & Pitch Counts: Managers must e-mail scores and pitch counts to Division VP after the game.

Senior Division – 16 Year Old & Under Baseball

No new inning shall start 2 hours 30 minutes after first pitch.

Burns park lights out at 11PM

Pitch counts must be discussed, agreed upon and recorded by a designated scorekeeper after every ½ inning (both teams, no exceptions).

Borrowing from the opposing team when "short" at game time to complete an outfield position is allowed.

Borrowing from other teams in same league is allowed if anticipated you will be short. Of course, no borrowed player can pitch.

Borrowing players is not allowed in the playoffs

Any pitcher removed from the mound and plays another position without being removed from the game can return to pitch but only once in a game (for the purpose of this rule All players are considered in the game and are eligible providing they have met the MILL mandatory sitting rule, even if they are on the bench!!)

No Slashing at the plate

Run Rule: 15 runs after 3 innings and 10 runs after 4 innings as per rule 4.10(e) amended at the 2018 Little League International Congress

No intentional walks during interleague play with Coast

Balks called from first game

Allow the pitcher to fake the pickoff to third (It will not be called a balk)

No School Ball uniforms (this means no school hats, Jerseys or pants)

Pitching availability based on pitch count sheets. (For Coast, Innings limitation will apply to Coast vs Coast playoffs. Innings restriction will not apply to one game Coast vs MILL playoff)

Winning team to verify pitch count with opposing coach AND EMAIL SCORE AND PITCH COUNTS FOR BOTH TEAMS WITHIN 24 HOURS OF GAME COMPLETION. WINNING COACH WILL "CC" OPPOSING COACH ON THIS EMAIL SO BOTH COACHES SEE THE PITCH COUNT SUBMITTED. (Caps added for emphasis)