

# TWIN CITIES LITTLE LEAGUE

## **SPECIAL RULES**

ORIGINAL BOARD ADOPTION: 11/21/92

DATES OF REVIEW AND AMENDMENT: 1/2/96; 1/18/00; 12/16/04; 12/15/05;  
12/14/06; 11/08/07; 12/10/08; 2/20/10; 3/13/12; 1/24/13; 4/21/15; 1/5/16; 1/14/2020; 1/9/2024; 3/13/2025

### PREFACE

It is the intent of these Special Rules to achieve the interests of, and comply with the Rules of, Little League Baseball. Except to the extent these Special Rules are more restrictive, if any portion of these Special Rules is in conflict with, the Official Rules of Little League Baseball or the current year's Operating Manual for Little League Baseball, that/those portion(s) is/are void and the remainder of these Special Rules is valid. Any question regarding or challenge to these Special Rules should be made to the Twin Cities Little League Rules Committee. The Rules Committee and Board of Directors reviews and approves these Special Rules every season.

## **1.0 MAJOR LEAGUE DIVISION RULES**

1.1: Draft: In all circumstances outlined herein, the intention to choose a son or daughter of a manager, or brother or sister of an existing major league player, must be made in writing to the Player Agent 48 hours prior to the commencement of the Major League Draft. The Player Agent will announce the player or players to be chosen under this rule prior to the draft, and those players selected under this rule will be assigned by the Player Agent and be ineligible for the draft. Any selection made under the rule must be in accordance with the rules found in the current year's Little League Operating Manual. See, <https://www.littleleague.org/playing-rules/position-policy-statements/options-on-sons-daughters-and-siblings/>

1.1.1 A nine-year old is not eligible for the Major League division.

1.1.2: A 10-year old player in the fifth grade is considered as an 11-year old player for purposes of the Major League draft.

1.1.3: If players are of equal talent, preference should be given to the older player. The determination of talent is made by a majority vote by the President, Player Agent, and Major League Commissioner.

1.1.4: All 12-year old players must be drafted into the Major League pursuant to national Little League Rules.

1.1.5: Any player of league age 10, 11, or 12 may be selected in the first round of the draft.

1.1.6: The Major League draft will be conducted by the Player Agent and Major League Commissioner in accordance with Plan "B" of the current year's Little League Operating Manual. This draft takes place in two separate parts.

The first part of the draft includes those players who are: (1) Returning from a Major team in the same division, AND; (2) Have registered for the current season. The second part of the draft includes: All players who are eligible for selection and have attended the required number of player evaluations.

This first draft of returning players must be completed before the second part of the draft, and all returning players who qualify under both conditions above must be drafted. Managers are not permitted to waive a draft choice.

The draft rotation follows the reverse order of finish from the previous season, with the last place team's manager receiving the first pick. For example, in a four-team league, the team that finished last in the previous season would get the 1st, 8th, 9th, and 16th picks through the first four rounds.

1.1.7: Players of league age 10, 11 and 12 are eligible to play in the Major League (see also, Special Rule 1.1.2 above). It is the recommendation of TCLL that all eligible 11 and 12-year-old players play in the Major League. In order to effectuate this

recommendation, a 10-year-old in the fourth grade may be selected ahead of an older player ONLY in the first three rounds of the Major League Draft.

1.1.8: A player should attend and participate in the league supervised tryout to be eligible to be drafted. The only exception is a waiver approved and signed by the President, Player Agent, and Major League Commissioner. In such waiver cases, these players will be announced prior to the draft by the Player Agent.

1.1.9: Parent/Child Rule: The child of a Major League manager of record will be eligible to play on their parents' team if they are not already on a Major League roster. The child will be selected as the last draft pick of the team, or assigned to another round by the Player Agent to achieve the interests of Little League Baseball. To select a player under this rule, written notice must be given to the Player Agent at least 48 hours prior to the draft, who will announce the selection before the draft begins. An incoming son or daughter of a pre-existing coach of record can be drafted onto that team in the third round, or assigned to another round by the Player Agent to achieve the interests of Little League Baseball. Any selection under this rule must be in accordance with the rules found in the current year's Little League Operating Manual.

1.1.10: Brother/Sister Rule: Siblings of current Major League players MUST be selected by the manager of that team within the first three draft selections (rounds) per the Little League Operating Manual.

1.2: Participation Rule: All players must attend 75% of the pre-season practices. Failure to comply with this rule may result in removal from the roster and reassignment. The Rules Committee will make the determination of whether a player is removed and reassigned, with input from the Player Agent.

1.3: Player Replacement: If a player is removed from a Major League roster, the Player Agent and Major League Commissioner shall select a replacement player of the same age, if available, from another division. The replacement player shall become a permanent member of that team.

1.4: Limit on Age Groups: At no time may a team have more than seven (7) players of any particular age group.

## 1.5 Playing Rules

1.5.1: Nine Players Required: The inability of a team to field nine players within 20 minutes of the scheduled start time of a game, or at any time after a game is started but not yet complete will result in the suspension of the game. "Pool Players" may be used in the Major League in accordance with the Operating Manual and the Official Rules of Little League Baseball. If Pool Players are utilized, they must bat last in the lineup, may not play the position of pitcher, and must come from a Minor League team. Practice games between teams are not allowed. The Board of Directors will make a determination whether the game is rescheduled, forfeited, or canceled.

1.5.2 Time Limit: There is no time limit on Major League games.

1.5.3 If after four (4) innings (or three and one-half innings if the home team is ahead), one team has a lead of 10 runs or more, the manager of the team with the least runs shall concede the victory to the opponent.

1.5.4 Bats: All bats used in the Major League must meet Little League specifications and standards as set forth in the Little League Official Regulations and Playing Rules. A bat that is not in compliance with this rule shall be deemed an “illegal bat” within the meaning of the Little League Official Regulations and Playing Rules, the use of which shall result in the penalties described therein.

1.5.5 Continuous Batting Order: The batting order in all Major division games will be a “continuous” batting order; a player may bat more than once in an inning.

1.5.6 Minimum Infield Play: During first half of the season all players must play at least one (1) defensive inning at an infield position. The Major League Commissioner may extend this rule for the second half of the season to to achieve the interests of Little League Baseball.

1.5.7 Pitching Limit: No pitcher may pitch more than 65 pitches in a day. Exception: a pitcher may finish pitching to a batter if he/she reaches the 65 pitch limit during an at-bat.

1.5.8 Tie Games: After completion of six innings, if the score is tied, then starting in the top of the seventh inning, and each half inning thereafter, the offensive team shall begin its turn at bat with the player who is scheduled to bat last in that respective half inning being placed on second base. EXAMPLE: If the number five batter is the lead-off batter, the number four batter in the batting order will be placed on second base. An eligible substitute or special pinch runner may be inserted for the runner.

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## 2.0 MINOR LEAGUE DIVISION RULES

2.1: Draft: In all circumstances outlined herein, the intention to choose a son or daughter of a manager, or brother or sister of an existing Minor League player, must be made in writing to the Player Agent and Minor League Commissioner prior to the commencement of the Minor League Draft. The Player Agent or Minor League Commissioner will announce the player or players to be chosen under this rule prior to the draft, and those players selected under this rule will be assigned by the Player Agent and be ineligible for the draft. Any selection made under the rule must be in accordance with the rules found in the current year's Little League Operating Manual.

2.1.1 If a Minor League manager believes a player lacks the basic skill to play in the Minors, the manager should notify the Player Agent and Minor League Commissioner. The Player Agent may assign the player to a different division.

2.1.2: The child of a Minor League manager may be selected prior to the draft if written notification is given to the Player Agent and Minor League Commissioner. The League, by and through the Player Agent in consultation with the Minor League Commissioner, reserves the right to determine the order of selection of the player selected by this rule to achieve the interests of Little League Baseball. Any selection under this rule must be made in accordance with the rules found in the current year's Little League Operating Manual.

2.1.3: Sibling Players: The parents of the siblings may request separate or same team assignment. If siblings are drafted onto the same team, they should be selected in subsequent rounds and no other manager may select the sibling player. However, the League by and through the Player Agent in consultation with the Minor League Commissioner, reserves the right to decide in which round a sibling player is chosen to achieve the interests of Little League Baseball. Any selection under this rule must be made in accordance with the rules in the current year's Little League Operating Manual.

2.1.4: First Three Draft Rounds Pool: The Player Agent in consultation with the Minor League Commissioner will determine the highest rated players at the tryout. The Player Agent will create a pool of the top players equal to three times the number of teams plus 10. The Player Agent will make this list available prior to the draft. Players in this pool should be selected in the first three rounds of the draft. At the end of the first three rounds, any eligible player may be selected.

2.1.5: Order of Draft - Serpentine: The draft order of teams will be determined by teams randomly selecting numbers from a TCLL baseball cap. The draft will serpentine between rounds, meaning that the last team that picks in the first round will be the first team to pick in the second round, and so on. If a circumstance arises whereby there are fewer draftable players in the 12th and final round than slots available on teams, the final round will be started in a spot in the serpentine whereby the last pick of the draft will be taken by the team which had the first pick of the draft.

## 2.2: Playing Rules

2.2.1 Continuous Batting Order: All players present will be in the batting order, but no player may bat more than once per inning. If the last batter is walked, players on base may only advance one base only. If the last batter hits a fair ball, play ends when home plate is tagged by a defensive player with the ball or when the third out is recorded.

A team may only bat through their batting order once in an inning. Even in the last inning with no five-run limit, a team may only bat through their batting order once. It does not matter how many players are on the opposing team's batting order.

2.2.2 Mandatory Play: Each player must play minimum of three innings per game. For example, if a player does not play a defensive position in the First inning, the player must play a defensive position the entire Second, Fourth, and Sixth innings. No player shall sit out for two consecutive defensive innings.

In addition to the above, each player must play at least one full inning at an infield position, unless there is a bona fide safety reason for the player not to play at an infield position. In such cases, the Manager of the player in question must notify the Player Agent, Minor League Commissioner and all Minor League Managers before the start of the regular season. Any disputes or protests concerning this rule will be referred to the Rules Committee for resolution.

2.2.3: Pitching Rules: A 12-year old may not pitch in the Minors under any circumstance. No pitcher may pitch in more than three (3) innings in a game. A single pitch constitutes an inning pitched. Further rules regarding pitch counts (based on the age of the player) are found in the Little League Rule Book however, no pitcher may pitch more than 65 pitches in a day. Exception: a pitcher may finish pitching to a batter if he/she reaches the 65 pitch limit during an at-bat.

The use of any type of breaking ball by pitchers is prohibited. Pitchers may throw off-speed pitches including change-ups and knuckleballs. If, in the judgment of the Umpire a player throws a breaking ball, the pitch will be called a ball unless the batter hits a fair ball, in which case play will continue and the batter runner will be safe or out, as the case may be and all runners may advance, either by being forced or at their own peril. Thereafter, the pitcher and the manager will be issued a warning. If the Umpire determines the same pitcher throws a second breaking ball, then the pitcher shall be removed and replaced with a new pitcher, and the manager will receive a written warning. The determination of whether a pitch is breaking ball may be made by the Umpire at the game or the Minor League Commissioner, and any appeal may be made by the player or manager to the Rules Committee. The decision of the Rules Committee is final.

2.2.4 Five Run Rule: No offensive team may score more than five runs in an inning, except for the last inning of the game, where there is no five run limit (but no batter may bat more than once per inning – see Rule 2.2.1, above). If the game

continues beyond the “last” inning (e.g., a tied game), then for purposes of this rule, there shall be no five run limit in any of those following innings.

2.2.5 Courtesy Runner for Catchers: A “courtesy runner” may be used for the player who is currently playing catcher when there are two (2) outs. The “courtesy runner” must be the player in the batting order who made the last out.

2.3 Time Limit: No inning shall start (a) more than two hours and fifteen minutes from the official start of the game on a weekday or on the last game of the day on a weekend; and (b) more than one hour and forty-five minutes from the official start of the game on a weekend when at least four (4) Minor League games are scheduled at the same location and the game is not the last game of the day.

2.4 Tied Games: In the event a game is tied at the end of the time limit or regulation play, the teams shall continue to play if and only if: (1) there is no game scheduled to begin after the tied game; and (2) there is sufficient daylight to continue playing. Note: the issue of whether there is sufficient light to continue to play rests solely with the Umpires.

2.5 Nine Players Required: The inability of a team to field nine players within twenty minutes of the scheduled start time of a game, or at any time after a game is started but not yet complete will result in the suspension of the game. “Pool Players” may be used in the Minor League in accordance with the Operating Manual and the Official Rules of Little League Baseball. Practice games between teams are not allowed. The Board of Directors will make a determination whether the game is rescheduled, forfeited, or cancelled.

2.6 First Half Season Rules. For the first half of the season, generally intended to last until the first game after spring break but with an end date determined by the Minors League Commissioner in consultation with the Player Agent, the following special rules will apply:

2.6.1 No Stealing Home: A runner may not steal home in the first half of the season, even on a passed ball, wild pitch, or overthrow back to the pitcher.

2.6.2 No Extra Bases on Steals when the Catcher Overthrows: To encourage catcher development, runners may take only one base on a steal attempt, even if the catcher makes a bad throw in an attempt to get them out that would enable an extra base to be taken.

2.7 No Infield Fly Rule: There shall be no infield fly rule called in the Minors. Any fly ball hit in an infield fly situation must be caught in order to retire the batter. Runners may attempt to advance as soon as the fly ball is touched.

2.8 Mitts and Gloves in Minors: The catcher may use a fielder’s glove or first baseman’s mitt up to a date certain that is roughly half-way through the season, to be

determined by the Minor League Commissioner, with notification to the teams and Umpires.

2.9 Adults at Game Sites: A maximum of three (3) authorized adults are permitted at game sites and in the dugouts with teams. No other people (siblings, scorekeepers, etc.) may be with the team on the field or in the dugouts. Siblings, scorekeepers and other parents sit in the stands. One adult (authorized manager or coach) must always be in the dugout with the team.

2.10 The Minor League Game: After the Minor TOC Championship Game and the Minor Ted Meyer Baseball Classic, each Minor team shall select their top three players who were not selected on an All-Star Team. The Manager who wins the Ted Meyer Baseball Classic will coach one team and the Manager of the runner-up will coach the other. The Players on the 1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th and 9th place team would play the players from the other teams.

2.10.1 Pitchers for each team would only pitch one (1) inning and Managers would have free substitution during the game to make sure everyone gets close to the same playing time.

2.10.2 No awards or trophies will be handed out at the end of the game. Players will wear their regular season jerseys, pants and hats.

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### 3.0 JUNIOR/SENIOR LEAGUE DIVISION RULES

3.1: Junior/Senior League Eligibility: All league players ages 13 and 14 are eligible for selection in the Junior League. Selection is in a manner chosen by the Player Agent and approved by the League President. A 12-year old player may elect to play in the Junior League if he/she is enrolled in the seventh grade, but the election must be made before Major League tryouts and cannot be changed after that event. Players league age 15 and 16 are eligible for the Senior League, and team selection is in a manner chosen by the Player Agent and approved by the League President.

3.2 Senior/Junior League Selection/Draft: Players are selected by a draft supervised by the Player Agent and League Representative, or as otherwise agreed by all the managers, with the approval of the Player Agent and President. If consensus on team formation cannot be reached, then the draft order of teams will be determined by the managers of the teams blindly selecting numbers from a TCLL baseball cap. The draft will serpentine between rounds, meaning that the last team that picks in the first round will be the first team to pick in the second round, and so on.

3.3 Nine Players Required: The use of "Pool Players" is allowed in the Junior League in accordance with the Official Rules of Little League Baseball and the current year's



Little League Operating Manual. Therefore, the inability of a team to field nine players within twenty minutes of the scheduled start time of a game, or at any time after a game is started but not yet complete will result in the suspension of the game. Practice games between teams are not allowed. The Board of Directors will make a determination whether the game is rescheduled, forfeited, or cancelled.

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#### 4.0 **50/70 LEAGUE DIVISION RULES**

4.1: **50/70 Eligibility:** All league players ages 13 and 14 are eligible for selection in the 50/70 Division. Selection is in a manner chosen by the Player Agent and approved by the League President. A 12-year old player may elect to play in the 50/70 Division if he/she is enrolled in the seventh grade, but the election must be made before tryouts and cannot be changed after that event.

4.2 **50/70 Selection/Draft:** Players are selected by a draft supervised by the Player Agent and League Representative, or as otherwise agreed by all the managers, with the approval of the Player Agent and President. If consensus on team formation cannot be reached, then the draft order of teams will be determined by the managers of the teams blindly selecting numbers from a TCLL baseball cap. The draft will serpentine between rounds, meaning that the last team that picks in the first round will be the first team to pick in the second round, and so on.

4.3 **Nine Players Required:** The use of “Pool Players” is allowed in the 50/70 Division in accordance with the Official Rules of Little League Baseball and the current year’s Little League Operating Manual. Therefore, the inability of a team to field nine players within twenty minutes of the scheduled start time of a game, or at any time after a game is started but not yet complete will result in the suspension of the game. Practice games between teams are not allowed. The Board of Directors will make a determination whether the game is rescheduled, forfeited, or cancelled.

#### 5.0 **ROOKIE LEAGUE DIVISION PLAYING RULES**

The Rookie League Division is intended to be an instructional experience for all players, with the goal of preparing the players to succeed in the Minor League Division.

5.1 **Age Eligibility:** seven (7) year olds and any eight (8) year olds not selected for the into Minors. There will be NO six (6) year olds nor nine (9) year olds allowed to play in the Rookie League Division without prior approval by the Player Agent and the League President.

5.2 **No Statistics or Tournaments:** There are no official wins / losses, or any “stats” of any kind. No official score is kept. There will not be a tournament at the end of season, but there may be a skills contest / demonstration / hitting derby at the end of the season, at the discretion of the Board of Directors in consultation with the Rookie League Commissioner. There may also be some additional games, similar to the Minor League Game (Special Rule 2.4), the teams for which are comprised of several players from different teams. These teams and games must be approved by the Board of Directors, in consultation with the Player Agent and Rookie League Commissioner.

5.3 **Playing Rules**

5.3.1. Continuous batting order. Every player bats once every inning.

5.3.2 If a batter does not put the ball in play after the maximum pitches (7) they will return to dugout. NOTE: a batter who is hit by a pitch while at bat shall have the option of completing the at-bat or taking first base. In no event shall the player's at-bat be extended beyond seven (7) pitches.

5.3.3 Games are six innings or 1 hour 45 minutes, whichever comes first. The game will stop when time expires ("drop dead"), or the sixth inning is completed, whichever comes first.

5.3.4 Team Pregame Warm-Ups: 30 minutes prior to game Visitors have infield & outfield (defensive warm-ups) for 15 minutes. 15 minutes prior to game time the Home team has infield & outfield for 15 minutes. While each team is waiting for the field they can do soft toss along the outfield fence. (ONLY WIFFLE BALLS FOR SOFT TOSS)

5.3.5 There shall be four (4) outfielders stationed in the outfield while the team is on defense.

5.3.6 First Half: The League-approved manager of the team on offense will pitch to their own team using a regulation Little League baseball. Each batter shall receive a maximum of seven (7) pitches, regardless of the location of the pitches and regardless if there are foul balls or a hit batsman.

5.3.7 Second Half: Players pitch to the opposition team using a regulation Little League baseball. Pitchers cannot pitch more than 50 pitches in a game. Pitchers will pitch a maximum of four (4) pitches and if the batter has not put a ball in play by the fourth pitch, the offensive coach will pitch a maximum of three (3) pitches to the batter. If the batter still has not put a fair ball in play, that batter shall return to the dugout.

5.3.8 Mandatory Play: No player will sit out defensively two consecutive innings. No player shall sit out defensively a second inning before all other players sit a first.

5.3.9 Rotate Positions: Managers shall rotate positions regularly. Every player shall play the infield at least once. No player shall play the same position the entire game. No player shall play the infield the entire game.

5.3.10 No Infield Fly Rule - Runners may not advance on overthrows.

5.3.11 Runners may not advance on overthrows

5.3.12 On any strikeout or on a hit ball where the defense puts the batter runner or any other runner out, the batter or batter runner, as the case may be, shall return to the dugout.

5.3.13 On any ball that is hit in fair territory, and where the defensive team is not successful in putting the batter or batter runner out the following limits will apply to advancing bases:

5.3.13a On a ball hit within the infield, the batter runner may advance no further than first base, and all other runners one base, even if there is an overthrow.

5.3.13.b On a ball hit past the infielders, into the outfield, the batter runner may advance no further than second base, and all other runners one base, unless forced, even if there is an overthrow.

5.3.13c On a ball hit past the outfielders on the ground, the batter runner may advance no further than third base, and all other runners one base, unless forced, even if there is an overthrow.

5.3.13d. On a ball hit over the outfielders in the air, the batter runner may advance no further than home plate, and all other runners one base, unless forced, even if there is an overthrow.

Note: Any successful play or throw by the defense which gets a runner out trying to advance or holds a runner to a base stands and the runner shall return to the dugout if put out. The defense should be rewarded for retiring or holding a runner from advancing.

## 6.0 FARM LEAGUE PLAYING RULES

### 6.1: Playing Rules

#### 6.1.1 Batting

6.1.1.a Coaches will pitch, no batting tee used

6.1.1.b All players will bat in an inning, regardless of how many outs are made by the fielding team.

6.1.1.c IMPORTANT---Each player will get eight (8) HITTABLE pitches (what would be called strikes). If he/she takes, fouls-off, or swings-and-misses eight (8) hittable pitches, the player may then advance to first base. This is not a strikeout, as there are no strikeouts in Farm. This rule is intended to help maintain an appropriate speeds for the game and allows the players to stay engaged. Swinging and missing is inevitable, as it happens to all baseball players. Teammates and parents should clap and encourage the player regardless of the outcome of the at-bat.

6.1.1.d Players should be encouraged to run THROUGH first base on a batted ball. Players are DISCOURAGED from running recklessly around the bases. Many kids cannot catch-and-throw proficiently at this age, so it is possible to hit a ground ball

and run around the bases without recourse. Many kids will call this a “homerun.” It is not a homerun, and it is not good for development. As players improve, coaches may teach players to take a turn around first and prepare to run to second if the play warrants it.

6.1.1.e If a player is put out at a base by a tag out or force, the play by the defense should be acknowledged and cheered, but the batter/runner may stay on base. This allows for a better pace of play.

6.1.1.f Please monitor and help to deter kids who throw their bat after hitting the ball; this can lead to serious injuries and result in ejections at the higher levels of baseball.

6.1.1.g Players must wear a League issued batting helmet when batting and when on base. Exception: If a player supplies his/her own batting helmet, the batting helmet must meet Little League specifications and match the same style and color of the team helmets issued by the League.

### 6.1.2 Fielding

6.1.2.a All players must wear a baseball glove in the field.

6.1.2.b Players should be rotated to different positions each inning. Coaches may use discretion with kids playing first base, as first basemen get a lot of balls thrown their way.

6.1.2.c If there is a player who wants to play catcher, he/she may, at the coaches' discretion.

6.1.2.d Keeping track of outs is fine, but everyone on the batting team hits regardless of outs made.

6.1.2.e A player should play near the coach-pitcher and make the defensive plays on a batted ball. Coaches who are pitching should only stop batted balls in self-defense.

6.1.2.f Coaches should stand in the outfield to coach and direct players; this is encouraged.

### 6.1.3 Scoring/Time

6.1.3.a Games are 1 hour 45 minutes. Coaches should time the game so a complete inning ends close to 1 hour 45 minutes. In other words, do not start a new inning with 5 minutes left in the game hoping it will end quickly.

6.1.3.b No score is kept. No standings are kept.

6.1.3.c There are no umpires, so coaches will make decisions on hittable pitches (strikes), outs, etc. Fairness is assumed in this area.

6.1.3.d A League-supplied Farm League Baseball must be used at all times. These balls are slightly softer and, therefore, safer than a hard ball.

6.1.3.e The first team listed on the schedule, for example Cards vs. Yankees, is the AWAY team and will bat first.

#### 6.1.4 Conduct

6.1.4.a No player or coach shall use profanity at any time.

6.1.4.b There is to be no throwing of equipment at any time.

6.1.4.c Any questions or concerns should be directed to the Farm League Commissioner, who shall report to the Rules Committee and the League Board of Directors.

### 7.0 **SCHEDULING**

7.1 Changes: No changes in the League schedules are permitted except by the Board of Directors, which shall approve every schedule.

7.2 Ted Meyer Tournament: Ted Meyer Tournament home/away determination: Playoffs for Major League and Minor League will consist of a double-elimination tournament involving all teams in that division. For seeding purposes, if there is a tie for the first place team, the higher seed will be decided by head to head games. If still tied, the higher seed will be decided by head to head runs against. If still tied, the higher seed will be decided by runs against for the entire season. The higher regular-season seed will be the home team for all games leading up to the Final. In the final, the undefeated team coming from the winners' brackets will be home team. If the team coming from the losers' bracket wins, the higher regular-season seed will be the home team in the "if necessary" second game. The winner of the Ted Meyer Tournament goes to the District Tournament of Champions ("TOC"). In the event of a split season, a single game playoff between the first-place teams set by the Rules Committee will decide the TOC representative.

7.3 Minor League Division Playoffs – Tie: The rules set out in 7.2 above will apply to the Minor League in the event of a tie at the end of the regular season. However, if there is a split season, there will be a single playoff game, set by the League, to determine the TOC representative.

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## 8.0 ALL STAR TEAMS

8.1 All-Star managers and coaches for all age groups and teams are selected by the League President, and are subject to approval by the Rules Committee.

### 8.2 Selection of Players:

The **11 & 12-Year Old All Star Team** will be selected as follows:

Seven (7) players are selected from a confidential written vote of all Major League players, (top seven vote getters) conducted by the Player Agent;

Four (4) players are selected by a confidential written vote of the major league managers conducted by the Player Agent;

The remaining player(s) will be selected by the All-Star Manager.

The team will consist of 12 to 14 players and the size will be decided by the Player Agent in consultation with the 11-12 All Star Manager.

The **10 & 11-Year Old All Star Team** will be selected as follows: A confidential written vote of the Major League managers conducted by the Player Agent, assisted by the Major League Commissioner. The team will consist of 12 to 14 players, and the size will be decided by the Player Agent in consultation with the 10-11 All Star Manager.

The **9 & 10-Year Old All Star Team** will be selected as follows:

A confidential written vote of the Major League managers and the Minor League managers conducted by the Player Agent, assisted by the Major League Commissioner and the Minor League Commissioner.

The team will consist of 12 to 14 players, and the size will be decided by the Player Agent in consultation with the 9-10 All Star Manager.

The **8 & 9-Year Old All Star Team** will be selected as follows:

A confidential written vote of the Minor League managers conducted by the Player Agent, assisted by the Minor League Commissioner.

The team will consist of 12 to 14 players, and the size will be decided by the Player Agent in consultation with the 8-9 All Star Manager.

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**MISCELLANEOUS SPECIAL RULES**

9.1 Batting practice before a game is prohibited per National Little League Rules, but the teams may participate in “whiffle ball” practice. The home takes infield practice 45 minutes before the game, and the visiting team 30 minutes before. Each team has 15 minutes to complete their infield practice. Upon completion of the infield practice, teams must remain in their respective dugouts. Only the manager, players, and two coaches of record may enter the field.

9.2 The maximum number of team meetings per week (Sunday to Saturday) is three (3). A team meeting is defined as a meeting between at least one manager or coach and a player not a child of said manager or coach. No team meeting may exceed three hours in length. Use of a batting cage is not a team meeting. All league play ends upon the completion of the regular season except for authorized post-season play. No use of league facilities or equipment is allowed after completion of the regular season except as authorized by the Board of Directors. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the Major League division only, teams may hold one field practice per week regardless of how many games a team has in that given week.

9.3 The Rules Committee is composed of five members appointed by the League President, and serve at the pleasure of the League President. The members should have no conflict of interest concerning any issue to be decided, and should abstain from voting when a conflict arises. The League President may not serve on this committee.

9.4 Managers and coaches in all divisions are appointed by the League President and approved by the Board of Directors.

9.5 Only the official team manager and two coaches of record are allowed in the team dugout. Players must remain in the dugout or on the field before and during games. The only exceptions are the batter, bullpen (warm-up), playing defense, and base coaches. This rule does not apply to the Rookie, Farm, and T-Ball divisions.

9.6 A player may be ejected from a game for unsportsmanlike conduct by his or her manager or an umpire. When ejected, the player may not return. The rules regarding minimum play do not apply to him or her. The reason for the ejection should be reported to the League President by the managers of the game involved within 24 hours.

9.7 The team manager is personally responsible for all league uniforms and equipment. No alteration or addition to the uniforms or equipment is permitted. Team jackets, purchased by the League, are permitted in the Major and Junior divisions and the all-star teams only. All equipment, jackets, and uniforms must be returned by the team manager at the end of the season. Trophies, equipment and team apparel are not permitted except those authorized by the League. Exception: If a player supplies his/her own batting helmet, the batting helmet must meet Little League specifications and match the same style and color of the team helmets issued by the League.

9.8 Pitch Count: The scorekeeper for every team will maintain a pitch count for every pitcher. The record must be maintained for the entire season and is subject to inspection by the President or Player Agent at any time. The home team book is the official book for the game, and the manager and coaches of the home team are primarily responsible for field maintenance.

9.9 Zero Tolerance for Unsportsmanlike Conduct: The actions, on or off the field, of players, managers, coaches, umpires, and league officials must be above reproach. Any player, manager, coach, umpire, or league representative who is involved in a verbal or physical altercation, or an incident of unsportsmanlike conduct, at the game site or any other Little League activity including through online or social media, is subject to disciplinary action by the Board of Directors. Any inappropriate or unsportsmanlike conduct must be immediately reported to the Rules Committee for investigation and reporting to the Board of Directors.

10.0 **SPECIAL RULES VIOLATIONS**

10.1 The League President must be notified of all violations of these Special Rules. It is the responsibility of every league volunteer to report violations promptly to the League President. The President, Vice-President, and Player Agent are authorized to take whatever action is necessary to prevent repeated violations of the rules. Within one week of the violation, the Rules Committee will convene privately and take whatever action necessary to prevent a repeated violation and/or punish those involved in the violation(s). If the Rules Committee finds a violation occurred, the following sanctions are authorized:

First Offense: **A written warning**

Second Offense: **A one-game suspension**

Third Offense: **A suspension for the balance of the season.**

An intentional violation may be punished by any of the above sanctions.

The Rules Committee will report to the Board of Directors all actions taken under this rule.

The Special Rules will be available for viewing at the league website (twincitiesll.com)

Respectfully Submitted by the Rules Committee to the League President and Board of Directors on December 5, 2023 (first reading).

**Rules Committee:**

*Steve Lightfoot, Chairman*  
*Dave DeMartini*

*Andrew Revell*  
*Chad Solter*

*Paul Elmquist*

**League President:** *Mike Boland*