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Orangecrest Little League
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The Board of Directors hereby amends the existing Ground Rules and approves these additional Ground rules for the 2021 Fall Season.

Effective Date: Sunday, September 1st, 2021

Approved as amended by simple majority on:

President

Brett Varner

Vice President

Stephen Ashby

Secretary

Mallory Cartwright

Safety Officer

Phillip Schmidt

ORANGECREST LITTLE LEAGUE 2021 FALL GROUND RULE AMENDMENT FOR BASEBALL

Preface:

The objective of Orangecrest Little League is to implant firmly in the children of the community the ideal of good sportsmanship, honesty, loyalty, courage, and respect for authority, so that they may be well-adjusted, strong and happy children and will grow to be good, decent, healthy, and trustworthy citizens.

These ground rules are intended to be in complete accord with the Little League Player Rules. Should it be determined that these rules in any way conflict with the official Playing Rules, the 2021 Official regulations and playing rules will take precedence.

Team managers, coaches, players, umpires, league members, parents and spectators who knowingly violate these ground rules or other league rules are subject to appropriate discipline by the league president, officers and/or Board of Directors ("Board"). Such discipline may include probation, suspension, and removal from team, loss of team, additional work assignments, or any other penalty deemed appropriate by the Board of Directors.

Revisions to these Ground Rules will be posted at <http://www.ocll.com> following approval by the Board.



Proud Member of Little League Baseball
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Article X. Right to Revise, Amend and Supplement

Section 10.01 Board Authority

- (a) To assure the smooth operation of the league, the Board reserves the right to revise, amend, supplement, or otherwise change these Ground Rules at any time during the season as deemed appropriate. Changes must be approved by majority vote of a duly confirmed quorum of voting members

Article XI. Fall Ground Rule Amendments

Section 11.01 To highlight the focus on player development for our Fall season, the Board approves the following additional Ground Rules for the Fall season. These amendments will supersede the corresponding Spring Ground rules. Unless otherwise amended herein, the Spring Ground Rules and Little League Rules remain in force

Section 11.02 Exhibition Season – Fall games are designated as exhibition games focused on player development. No official standings shall be maintained

Section 11.03 Division Make-up

- (a) The following divisions shall be formed

- (i) T-Ball – league age 4-6 – Game Time Limit – 1:00*
- Farm – league age 6-7 – No new inning time -1:15*
- Single A – league age 7-9 – No new inning time – 1:30*
- Double A – league age 8-10 – No new inning time – 1:30*
- Triple A – league age 9-11 – No new inning time – 1:45*
- Major – league age 10-12 – No new inning time – 1:45*
- Intermediate – league age 12-13*
- Junior – league age 13-15*
- Senior – league age 13-16*

- (ii) For the purposes of League Age, players may be placed according to their 2021 or 2022 league age*

- 1) Players are encouraged to be registered and place in a division than corresponds with their 2022 league age to best prepare them for the Spring season. However, a parent/guardian may request a player may play under their 2021 league age. Requests may be approved by the Player Agent and/or President

Section 11.04 Additional Playing Rules – Fall Season Only

- (a) **No New Inning** - Once a new inning has been started in accordance with the time limits, the inning will be played until its completion of either the last out is recorded in the bottom half of the inning, OR the Home team is leading after the first half, or during the bottom half inning
- (i) *In the event that either team is 5 or more runs behind in the final inning, the inning shall still be played to completion*
- (ii) *There is no prescribed drop-dead time for an inning started in AA, AAA and Major*
- 1) Farm shall have a drop-dead time of 1:30
 - 2) Single A shall have a drop-dead time of 1:45
- (b) **Five Run Rule – All Levels (except t-ball)**
No team may score more than 5 runs per inning. A half inning will be deemed concluded when a team has scored 5 runs or 3 outs are recorded.
- (c) **Batting Order – All levels**
All teams will bat their entire roster in a continuous batting lineup and will have free substitution for fielding positions. Pitcher and catcher substitution rules remain in effect in accordance with Little League 2021 Official Rule Book.
- (d) **Pitching – A, AA, AAA and Major**
Pitchers may only pitch in 2 innings. Any number of pitches thrown in an inning, will count as an inning pitched. All pitch counts and days of rest remain in effect in accordance with Little League 2021 Official Rule Book.
- (e) **Defensive Positions – All levels**
- (i) *Managers shall position every player in an infield position at least 1 inning per game, unless doing so would create undue risk to player safety*
- 1) 1 Inning shall mean 3 defensive outs, or 5 run limit reached
 - 2) If the manager believes a safety concern exists, then it should be discussed with the parent/guardian of the player
- (ii) *“Undue risk to player safety” should be determined in consultation with the player’s parents and shall be defined as a player lacking the basic skill and focus to avoid being struck by a batted ball in the infield. The player’s skill to make defensive plays shall not be a determining factor for this rule in Fall.*
- (iii) *The Board reserves the right to require defensive substitutions to be reported to the scorekeeper and recorded in the scorebook to monitor compliance*
- (iv) *The failure to meet these requirements may subject the manager to sanction by the Board that may include written warning, suspension and/or removal from the position of manager.*

(f) Home Plate

- (i) Single A & Farm - Home plate is closed for the duration of the season. A runner may only advance to home upon a batted ball. A runner may not advance past 3rd base on an overthrow*
- (ii) Double A - Home plate is to be closed for the first 8 scheduled games (first half of season). Starting with the 9th scheduled game, home will be open and a runner may advance to home on a passed ball or any ball in play*

(g) Outfielders – Single A & Farm

Teams shall position four (4) outfielders in their defensive positions. All 4 outfielders must be positioned in outfield positions; no outfielder may be positioned as an “extra” infielder.

(h) Coach Pitch – Single A

- (i) No base-on-balls shall be issued. The pitcher shall pitch to a batter until a ball is hit in play, the batter is awarded 1st base by catcher interference or hit by pitch, a strikeout is recorded, or the batter reaches four balls. When four balls are reached, the batter will not be awarded a base-on-balls. Rather, the batter will receive additional pitches from an adult coach as prescribed herein:*
 - 1) The number of coach-pitched strikes available to the batter shall be determined by subtracting the number of strikes in the count at the time 4 balls is reached from three.
 - a) For example, if the batter had two strikes when the fourth ball was called, the batter shall receive one coach-pitched strike (3 - 2 = 1). If the batter had one strike when the fourth ball was called, the batter shall receive a maximum of two coach-pitched strikes (3 - 1 = 2).*
 - 2) The coach must initiate pitches from within the pitcher’s mound and may only throw in an overhand motion
 - 3) A coach shall pitch to a batter until a ball is put in play or 3 strikes are recorded, up to a maximum of 5 pitches. A batter reaching 3 strikes or 5 total coach delivered pitches shall be recorded as a strike-out. The umpire shall rule each coach pitched ball as a ball or strike
 - 4) Should the batter hit a foul ball on the 5th pitch, then the batter shall receive another pitch.
- (ii) Pitches thrown by a coach shall not be counted against the pitcher’s pitch count*
- (iii) Batters are prohibited from bunting coach-pitched balls.*
- (iv) In the event a batted ball strikes the Coach pitcher, the ball shall be declared dead and the umpire shall determine interference*
 - 1) If umpire judges the coach did not intentionally interfere with the batted ball, the runners (including the batter) shall be ruled safe and advance one base from their starting point

- 2) If the umpire judges that the coach intentionally interfered with the batted ball, or did not make reasonable effort to avoid contact with the ball, then the batter shall be ruled out and runners returned to their original position
- (v) While a Coach is pitching to a batter, the player pitcher shall continue to occupy the defensive position of pitcher and may only be positioned on either side of the pitching mound, within 3 feet of the base of the mound. The pitcher may not occupy any other defensive position*
- 1) The coach delivering pitches must make a reasonable attempt to avoid interfering with the defensive player's effort to field a batted ball. In the event of interference, the live play shall first be completed. Following completion of the play, the umpire shall determine if the coach interfered with the player's opportunity to make a defensive play. The umpire shall determine:
 - a) *If the coach made a reasonable attempt to avoid interfering, the result of the play shall stand, except that runners shall be limited to advancing one base from their initial starting point*
 - b) *If the coach did not make a reasonable attempt to avoid interference, the batter shall be ruled out and any base runners returned to their original base*
- (vi) In the interest of increasing the pace of play, the Coach who will pitch under this rule must be positioned on the field as a base coach immediately prior to taking the mound to pitch. A coach may not leave the dugout for the purposes of coach pitching*
- (vii) There shall be no base stealing or advancing on a passed ball when the coach is pitching. Runners may only advance on a batted ball*
- (viii) Prior to the mid-point of the season, the Board shall evaluate the status of the Coach pitch rule to consider removing it for the 2nd half of the season.*