



Brett Varner
President
President@ocll.com

Stephen Ashby
Vice President
vp@ocll.com

Orangecrest Little League
19069 Van Buren Blvd, #114-373
Riverside, CA 92508
(951) 789-4115

The Board of Directors hereby establishes and approves these Ground rules for the 2021 League Year.

Effective Date: Friday, March 28, 2021

Approved as amended by simple majority on: March 28, 2021

President

Brett Varner

Vice President

Stephen Ashby

Secretary

Rachel Goveia

Safety Officer

Jenner Goolsby

ORANGECREST LITTLE LEAGUE 2021 GROUND RULES 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 Playing Rules. Should it be determined that these rules in any way conflict with the official Little League Playing Rules, the 2021 Official Little League 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
California District 24 – (951) 780-5985
Little League International
539 US Route 15 Hwy, PO Box 3485
Williamsport PA 17701-0485
(570) 326-1921



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Article I. General

Section 1.01 Safety

- (a) Player Safety is the Principal Concern of Orangecrest Little League
 - (i) *A plastic protective cup must be worn by all male catchers. No male catcher may enter the game unless the player is wearing a hard cup*
 - (ii) *Female catchers are encouraged to wear appropriate protective equipment*
 - (iii) *A plastic protective cup is strongly recommended, although not required, for all other male players, particularly pitchers and infielders*
- (b) There shall be no “on deck” batter. No player other than the batter may handle a bat (Intermediate, Junior and Senior divisions are exempted from this rule)
- (c) All players must stand away from dugout opening when in the dugout during games
- (d) Managers are responsible for assigning an adult coach to supervise the players in the dugout. At least one adult coach must remain in the dugout at all times.
- (e) Prior to the start of the game, the managers and umpires are jointly responsible for inspecting the field conditions. Once the game has started, the umpire is solely responsible for determining if an unsafe playing condition exists
- (f) Baseball pants must be worn by all players during practices and games. Sliding pads are allowed and encouraged, but must be worn under baseball pants.
- (g) All pitchers warming up in the bullpen areas must be supervised by an adult coach. If two approved adult coaches are not available, the manager may designate a temporary adult coach. If a temporary adult coach is not available, then the bullpen may not be used by players. The adult coach shall not allow any players other than the pitcher and catcher to be in the bullpen area. The adult coach is responsible for ensuring no other spectators are in the bullpen area.
 - (i) *All “warm-up” catchers must wear a catcher’s mask in the bullpen or field*
 - (ii) *Managers and coaches are not permitted to catch for a pitcher*

Section 1.02 The Official Incident Reporting Book:

- (a) Location: The Official Incident Reporting Book (“Incident Book”) will be maintained in the snack bar and available at all time for league officials, managers, umpires and official scorekeepers
- (b) No person other than a member of the Board may remove the Incident Book from the immediate snack bar area

(c) All entries **MUST** be countersigned

- (i) Incident Report entries must be signed and dated by the Board Member on Duty AND a manager, umpire, Board member, or snack bar volunteer on duty. Additional signers may add additional information to the report, but may not alter information entered by others*

(d) Injury reporting forms

- (i) In the event of an injury to any Little League participant, a manager or other league official shall complete an Injury Report.*

- 1) Blank Injury Forms can also be found on the website at www.ocll.com/forms
- 2) Completed forms shall be maintained in the completed folder within the Incident Book
- 3) A League Official or manager that completes form must notify the safety officer via phone or email (safetyofficer@ocll.com)

Section 1.03 Participant Responsibilities

(a) Field Decorum

- (i) Any manager, coach, umpire, spectator, league representative or player who is involved in a verbal or physical altercation or any incident of unsportsmanlike conduct before, during, or after any game or practice, or at any other Little League event, is subject to disciplinary action by the Board*
- (ii) Disciplinary action by the Board may include: probation, suspension, or removal from the team roster or league participation*
- (iii) If any league representative determines that an altercation or other incident poses a threat to the safety of any Little League participant, the representative should immediately contact the Riverside Police Department at (951)787-9711 (non-emergency), or 911 (emergency)*
- (iv) Any such incident should be documented via an Incident Report*

(b) Removal of a spectator

- (i) Every Board Member is vested with the authority to remove a spectator (non-game participant) for just cause. In the event of the removal of a spectator due to conduct, the Board Member shall document the circumstances in the Incident Book*

- (c) **Snack Bar Duty** – each team will be assigned snack bar shifts. Failure to provide volunteers for assigned shifts will result in a one (1) game suspension for the team manager at the next scheduled game

Section 1.04 Game Preparation

(a) Field Preparation

(i) The HOME team is responsible for preparing the playing field

- 1) First game of the day includes
 - a) *Raking, preparing mound and batter's boxes*
 - b) *Chalking batters' boxes, baselines and coaching boxes*
 - c) *Setting bases*
- 2) Subsequent Games
 - a) *Raking, tamping batter's boxes and mounds*
 - b) *Touching up chalk lines*

(b) The home team will reside in the 3rd base dugout and the visiting team will reside in the 1st base dugout

(c) Line-up cards

(i) Line-up cards (2) shall be presented to the umpire as directed at the manager meeting

- 1) Managers may give a copy of the line-up card to scorekeepers for setting up the scoring book, but must certify the line-up card when presented to the umpire
- 2) The line-up card shall contain: first name, last name, jersey number and league age for all eligible players
 - a) *Major, Intermediate, Junior & Senior divisions, line up will denote starting players and positions and identify substitute players*
 - b) *Minor divisions shall denote all players in continuous batting order*
 - c) *Unavailable players can be listed with an identifier after their name (a) absent or (i) injured*

(d) Pitcher Eligibility Logs

(i) Each manager shall present their Pitcher Eligibility Log as directed by the umpire to the official score keeper

- a) *In the event that a manager fails to present a complete and accurate Pitcher Eligibility Log, the manager shall be ejected from the game and subject to discipline under rule 4.07 of the Official Rule book*

- i) *The score keepers shall make an effort to verify pitcher eligibility via the Pitch count logs in Game Changer. Pitchers eligibility for the current game will be based upon actual pitches thrown in the previous game (threshold allowances will not be considered, unless it can be conclusively determined the pitcher reached the threshold during the final batter faced).*
- ii) *If the number of pitches cannot be confirmed, then any players that pitched in the previous game will not be eligible to pitch.*

(e) Warm-ups

- (i) Pre-game infield practice is prohibited. Teams may warm-up in the outfield grass areas*
- (ii) Pre-game batting practice is prohibited. Team may use batting nets or screens (not league provided) for soft-toss or tee work. Hitting balls into chain link fencing is strictly prohibited*

(f) Preliminaries

- (i) 5 minutes prior to start of game, teams shall line up players on respective baseline for reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and Little League Pledges. Managers of each team shall designate one player to lead the pledges*
- (ii) Umpire shall meet with both managers to exchange line-up cards, verify field conditions and confirm division specific ground rules*
 - a) *Each manager shall provide the umpire with one new baseball*

(g) Scorekeeping

- (i) Home team shall provide an Official GameChanger Scorekeeper, the Visiting team shall provide a Paper Book Scorekeeper*

- 1) *Scorekeepers are responsible for verifying the correct GameChanger game is selected and the correct score book is being used*
- 2) *Official Game Time clock shall be maintained in GameChanger. As directed by the umpire, the scorekeeper will start the clock. The starting time shall also be noted in the paper book*

- (ii) Scorekeepers shall stay within the area behind home plate and shall maintain a neutral attitude and avoid openly cheering for either team.*

- (iii) Scorekeepers shall not volunteer any information to either team (i.e. pitch count or batting out of order), unless directed to do so by the umpire*

- (iv) In the event of an impending Little League rule violation, other than a playing rule, the Scorekeeper shall inform the Umpire of the impending violations*

- 1) *Violations to be reported to the umpire include:*

- a) *Illegal substitution*

- b) *Use of ineligible pitcher*
- c) *Pitcher reaches maximum allowable pitches for day*
- (v) *Conclusion of game, scorekeepers shall*
 - 1) *Secure required signatures on paper score book (umpire only)*
 - 2) *Verify Pitch Eligibility Logs are accurately completed and signed by scorekeeper, umpire and both managers (pitcher eligibility logs to be completed and signed in Pen)*
- a) *NO alterations to Pitcher Eligibility Log may be made after signatures completed*

Section 1.05 Dugouts

(a) Closed Dugout

- (i) *No person other than registered players, approved coaches, managers, umpires or Board members are allowed in the dugouts before, during or after the game*
- (ii) *At the umpire's discretion, exceptions may be granted in the event of that a player is removed due to injury to allow one (1) additional adult in the dugout until the player returns to the game or leaves the site*
 - 1) *Once a player leaves the site, they are ineligible to return to the game*
- (iii) *The manager must receive approval from the Umpire prior to any player leaving the dugout, including to use the restroom or go to the drinking fountain. Upon being granted permission to use the restroom, the player must be accompanied by an adult until they return to the dugout*
- (iv) *If a female player is listed on the available game roster, an adult female or the player's father must be present in the dugout at all times. The additional adult is not required to be counted as one of the allowable field coaches*

Section 1.06 Uniforms

- (a) **Players shall wear the playing jerseys and hats provided by the league during all scheduled league games. Use of any other uniforms is prohibited.**
- (b) **Players shall wear pants, socks and belt, provided at their own expenses, of a uniform color prescribed by the team manager**
- (c) **Players may, at their own expense, acquire sleeves to be worn under their playing jerseys. The exposed portion of the sleeve shall be of a uniform color, excluding white**
- (d) **Offense players may wear jackets while running bases. Jackets must remain buttoned or zipped at all times.**

- (e) Batters and defensive players may not wear jackets.
- (f) Sweatshirts may be worn provided they match the jersey color and have the players uniform number printed on the back.

Section 1.07 Food & Drink

- (a) Each manager shall establish their own rules for allowable food and drink in the dugout
- (b) Glass containers are not allowed at any time
- (c) No food or drink is allowed within the playing field
- (d) Each team is responsible for removing all trash and debris from the dugout and spectator areas

Section 1.08 Ejection

- (a) Little League Rule 4.07 establishes the rule and procedure for ejections of players, manager, coaches or spectators and will be strictly adhered
 - (i) *The umpire has sole discretion for declaring an ejection*
- (b) The Board has no authority to waive or override a suspension by an umpire and the automatic minimum required 1 game suspension at the next physically played game
- (c) The Board, at its discretion, may impose additional penalties deemed warranted by the severity of the incident or repeated offense
 - (i) *Additional penalties imposed by the Board may include, but are not limited to:*
 - 1) Additional game suspension
 - 2) Removal from team
 - 3) Removal from league

Section 1.09 Protests

- (a) Protests shall be made in accordance with Little League Rule 4.19.
- (b) Upon receiving notice of a protest, the Umpire shall cause the exact game situation at the time of the declared protest to be noted in the score book
- (c) The Umpire shall make a notation in the Incident Reporting Book explaining the circumstance surrounding the protest and the umpires ruling
- (d) The protesting manager shall write the cause and supporting information for their protest in the Incident Reporting book

- (i) The write-up shall contain the specific situation where the manager believes a rule interpretation is in question, including reference to specific rules from the Little League Rule Book or OCLL Ground Rules*
- (e) The protesting manager must complete the Incident Report and notify the League President of the protest within 24 hours of the protest.**
- (f) Protest notifications received greater than 24 hours following the incident will be automatically declared void.**
- (g) The president shall be notified of the protest by the protesting manager via email at president@ocll.com**

Section 1.10 Post-Game Clean-up

- (a) At the conclusion of every game**
 - (i) Both teams shall vacate the dugout as quickly as possible*
 - (ii) Each team is responsible for removing all trash and debris from their dugout and spectator area before exiting the field*
 - (iii) Post-Game Team meetings may not be held in the dugout*
 - (iv) Last game of the day, the HOME team shall*
 - a) Remove all bases and place in storage shed*
 - b) Verify all equipment (maintenance equipment, pitching machine, etc) is placed in shed and lock is secured*
 - c) Level and compact batter's and catcher's boxes as needed*
 - d) Rake and level sliding areas around bases*
 - e) Rake and compact pitcher's mound*

Section 1.11 Additional Playing Rules for ALL Divisions

- (a) All games will be played in accordance with the "Official Little League Playing Rules" and these "Ground Rules". Managers are prohibited from substituting any other rules via mutual agreement**
- (b) Pitcher Eligibility – the use of pitchers in all pitching divisions shall be managed in strict adherence to Regulation VI of the Official Rule book as it pertains to pitcher eligibility, pitches thrown and required days rest periods**
- (c) If a team fails to field nine players after 15 minutes past the scheduled start time:**

- (i) Each manager shall make a notation in the Incident Reporting Book. Unless there are significant extenuating circumstances, the game will be declared a forfeit in favor of the team that was prepared to field a team of at least 9 players*
- (ii) The Board, upon reviewing the incident report, will determine whether the game is a forfeit or a “no game”, subject to a make-up (see Section 1.12)*
- (d) If a game is not played due to inclement weather, or other field conditions:**
 - (i) In the event of a game cancelation by the umpire due to field conditions, the Umpire shall complete an Incident Reporting detailing the decision to cancel the scheduled game(s)*
 - (ii) Cancelations prior to umpires and teams taking the field will be made up at the sole discretion of the Board, or as noted in (iii) below*
 - (iii) Field closures by the City shall immediately cause all scheduled games to be cancelled*
- (e) All Minor Divisions (except Tee Ball)**
 - (i) All available players shall be placed in the batting order and shall bat in continuous order*
 - (ii) No “courtesy runners” are permitted*
 - 1) In the event that a base runner is injured, the player who made the last out shall be substituted as a replacement runner. The injured player may return to the game if deemed by the manager to be able to return
 - 2) If a base runner needs to use the restroom, the Umpire may allow the player who made the last out to replace the base runner
 - 3) The Umpire may permit runner for catcher when there are two outs. The player who made the last out shall be substituted as a replacement runner
 - (iii) An injured player may be removed from the lineup without penalty*
 - 1) Injury removals must be approved by the umpire, before the player’s next scheduled at bat. Upon approval, no out will be declared for the skipped lineup spot
 - 2) The Manger must complete an Injury Report to be signed by the manager and Umpire or Board Member describing the injury and treatment
 - (iv) A player may leave the game early without penalty, upon approval by the Umpire prior to the Player’s next scheduled at bat.*
 - (v) A maximum of five runs per inning may be scored by an offensive team during the first five innings of the game*
 - 1) Play shall be completed during the play upon which the fifth run scores. Once the ball is declared dead, the Umpire shall declare the half inning completed

(vi) There are unlimited runs allowed in the sixth inning

(vii) 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

1) There is no prescribed drop-dead time for an inning started

2) Once the no new inning time has elapsed, a game shall be considered complete when:

a) *Completion of the first half inning and the home team is ahead, or*

b) *At any point during the last half inning the home team takes the lead, or*

c) *The inning is played to completion*

(viii) In event of a tie score at the end of the defined time limit and completion of the final inning started, the game shall be declared a tie in the official score book

(f) Managers shall not purposely delay game play for the sole purpose of advancing the time clock during inactive periods.

(g) Offensive managers shall be limited to one time-out per inning

(i) At the Umpire's discretion, an offensive manager may not be charged with a time-out for meeting with an offensive player during a defensive awarded time-out

(ii) An unlimited number of injury time-outs are available to each team as warranted and at the discretion of the Umpire

Section 1.12 Make-up & Protested Games

(a) Make-up games and rescheduled protest games will generally be scheduled for next available make-up game slot that is at least eight days from the originally scheduled game

(b) Pending make-up games may be cancelled by the Board should it be deemed infeasible to schedule games, except to ensure that teams achieve the minimum number of games as prescribed by the Little League Rule Book

(c) Make-up games will not be scheduled due to a team's inability to field nine players, or pitcher eligibility concerns, except in the event of a circumstance that has a broad impact across the league or division (for example: science camp)

Section 1.13 Roster Vacancies

(a) Managers must notify the Player Agent within 24 hours of a roster vacancy

(b) A "roster vacancy" is defined by the Little League Operating Manual. However, for reporting purposes, a manager should report a vacancy in the event of:

- (i) A player reports that he/she will miss three consecutive games; or*
- (ii) A player misses three consecutive games*
- (c) The Player Agent and Board will determine on a case-by-case basis if a replacement player is elevated from a lower division or assigned from a waiting list**
 - (i) When a waiting list exists, consideration will be given first to filling the roster vacancy from the waiting list*
 - (ii) Major Division: In the event that a waiting list does not exist for Major eligible players, the final decision on the replacement player shall be made by the Player Agent, in consultation with the affected team manager*
 - (iii) Only rostered Minor AAA players will be eligible for elevation to the Major Division to fill a roster vacancy*
 - (iv) Intermediate/Junior/Senior Divisions may only receive replacement players from the waiting list. In the event that no players exist on the waiting list, then the team manager may recruit additional players. Players may not participate in any team activities until properly registered and rostered by the Player Agent*
 - (v) All Other Divisions (T-Ball and Minor): Replacement players selection shall be made at the sole discretion of the Player Agent*
- (d) The refusal of an eligible player to be elevated to a higher division shall result in the forfeiture of that player's eligibility to be elevated for the remainder of the current season**
- (e) Minor division player promotions shall only be to the immediately higher division only, unless a special exception is granted by the Board, subject to league age ground rules**

Section 1.14 Game Time Limits

- (a) Due to limited field availability, time limits are established for each league division**
- (b) Game time will start at the conclusion of the pre-game meeting as designated by the umpire**
 - (i) Time elapsed for delays due to inclement weather, or other field conditions (i.e. sprinkler or light failure) shall not count against the time limit*
 - 1) In the event of a suspended game, the time elapsed shall be noted in the official score book and approved by the Umpire
 - (ii) Games delayed by more than 20 minutes, shall be cancelled*
- (c) All Divisions (except Tee Ball)**
 - (i) A new inning shall be deemed started when the third out is recorded in the previous inning*

(d) At the conclusion of an inning as described in 1.14(c)(i), if there is any time remaining on the no new inning clock, a new inning shall be commenced and played to completion as detailed in Section 1.11(e)(vii), EXCEPT:

(i) If there is 5 minutes or less remaining and either team is ahead by more than 5 runs

(ii) Either manager concedes the game

Article II. Tee Ball

Section 2.01 Game Time Limit

(a) The game shall be called complete after 1:00 of elapsed game time, regardless of game situation

Section 2.02 Age Requirements

(a) Players League Age 4-6 as determined by Little League Rules

Section 2.03 Game Play

(a) Play shall be strictly Tee ball, no modified coach pitch allowed

(i) EXCEPTION - in the Final 2 games, a coach may pitch a maximum of 3 pitches to a batter. If a player does not hit after 3 pitches, then the tee must be used

(b) Teams shall bat a continuous lineup and all players shall bat each inning

(c) All players may be placed in defensive positions

(d) There are no outs or runs recorded

(e) Each at bat, offensive batters will advance by one base, until the final batter

(i) Final Batter - all runners will advance to Home and the inning is deemed completed

Article III. Farm

Section 3.01 Game Time Limit

(a) No new inning shall be allowed to commence after 1:15

Section 3.02 Age Requirements

(a) Farm eligible players must meet one of the following two requirements

(i) League Age 6 with one year of T-Ball, OR

*(ii) League Age 7***Section 3.03 Additional Playing Rules****(a) League provided and approved pitching machine shall be used for the entire season**

- (i) In the event of a failure of the pitching machine, the Umpire may allow the game to continue with coach pitch. Coaches must pitch from 46'*
- (ii) The placement and settings of the pitch machine shall be established prior to the start of the game by both managers and the Umpire. Once set, only minor adjustments may be made by the managers.*
 - 1) If the Umpire determines a full reset is required, then the umpire will call both managers to the pitch machine to conduct the reset. The Umpire will determine when the machine is set to proceed
 - 2) The front cross beam of the pitching machine shall be placed at 46 feet from the back corner of home plate
 - a) *On fields 2 and 4, it shall be placed directly behind the pitchers plate. On Field 3, a marker is placed at 46'. If missing, the measuring tape available from the BOD or in the storage shed, shall be used to measure the appropriate distance*

(b) Each batter shall receive a maximum of five pitches, except as noted in the following

- (i) No batting count will be kept, and there will be no walks. Each at bat will continue until the batter puts the ball in play or reaches the maximum number of pitches*
- (ii) If the batter hits a foul ball on the 5th pitch, the batter will receive another pitch until such time that the batter puts the ball in play or fails to hit a subsequent pitch*

(c) Base Runners

- (i) On a ball hit to outfield, runners may advance until the ball crosses into the interior diamond of the base paths, it does not need to be controlled by a player. Until play is stopped by the Umpire, the play is live and runners may be tagged out. Once play is declared dead, the Umpire shall award the base runner(s) to the base they were closest to at the moment the ball entered the interior diamond, this may be forward to the next base, or back to the previous base*
- (ii) Infield Overthrows – on a ball fielded by infielder where the first subsequent throw is missed or overthrown, base runners may advance one base up to third base. Runners may not advance to home on an overthrown ball.*
- (iii) Home plate is CLOSED. A base runner may ONLY advance to home on a batted ball*

(d) Positions

- (i) The goal of the Farm division is to develop baseball knowledge and skill. Accordingly, each player should play at least one inning in the infield each game, and not sit out more than one inning (3 defensive outs) consecutively*

Article IV. Minor Single A and Double A

Section 4.01 Game Time Limits

- (a) No new inning shall be allowed to commence after 1:30

Section 4.02 Age Requirements

- (a) Single A shall be limited to players league aged 7-9 years old only
(b) Double A shall be limited to players league aged 8-10 years old only

Section 4.03 Additional Playing Rules

- (a) Home Plate is Closed under the guidelines in sections (i), (ii) and (iii)

(i) A runner may only advance to home upon a batted ball or forced advance due to walk. A runner may not advance past 3rd base on an overthrow. A batted ball includes a fly ball that is caught and the runner tags up at third (may advance after the catch)

- 1) In the event of a run-down play with another baserunner, the forward runner may not advance past third base
- 2) The umpire has sole discretion to determine whether a player had advanced past 3rd at the time of an overthrow
- 3) If an overthrown ball enters the dugout, the umpire shall award bases in accordance with Little League Rule 7.06

(ii) Single A – home plate is closed for the entire season, including playoffs

(iii) Double A – home plate is closed for the first half of the season, or nine games. Upon reaching the mid-point of the season, home plate shall be open upon notification by the president to all team managers. For the remainder of the season, home plate will be open and runners may advance to home on any live play in accordance with Little League rules

Section 4.04 Minor Single A Coach Pitch

- (a) 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:

- (i) 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.*
- 1) 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 ($3 - 1 = 2$).
- (ii) The coach must initiate pitches from within the pitcher's mound and may only throw in an overhand motion*
- (iii) 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*
- (iv) Should the batter hit a foul ball on the 5th pitch, then the batter shall receive another pitch.*
- (b) Pitches thrown by a coach shall not be counted against the pitcher's pitch count**
- (c) Batters are prohibited from bunting coach-pitched balls.**
- (d) In the event a batted ball strikes the Coach pitcher, the ball shall be declared dead and the umpire shall determine interference**
- (i) 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*
- (ii) 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*
- (e) 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**
- (i) 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:*
- 1) 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
 - 2) 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

- (f) 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
- (g) 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
- (h) Prior to the mid-point of the season, the Board shall evaluate the coach pitch rule and determine to maintain it through the season, or remove in the 2nd half of the season

Article V. Minor Triple A (AAA)

Section 5.01 Game Time Limits

- (a) No new inning shall be allowed to commence after 1:45.

Section 5.02 Age Requirements

- (a) The Minor AAA Division shall be limited to qualified players league aged 9-11 years old

Section 5.03 Additional Playing Rules

- (a) None, except the common Additional Playing Rules prescribed in Article I, Section 1.11

Article VI. Major Division

Section 6.01 Game Time Limits

- (a) No new inning shall be allowed to commence after 1:45

Section 6.02 Age Requirements

- (a) Per Little League rules, all league age 12 year old players must be placed in the Major Division
- (b) The Major Division shall be limited to players league aged 10 through 12 years old only

Section 6.03 Additional Playing Rules

- (a) The common Additional Playing Rules prescribed in Article I, Section 1.11
- (b) The “Mercy” rule is in effect (Little League Rule 4.10(e))

Article VII. Upper Divisions (Intermediate / Junior / Senior)

Section 7.01 Team Availability

- (a) The Board will evaluate upper division player registrations and consult with District 24 RBI staff to determine which upper division teams will be placed by Orangecrest Little League for the Spring Season

Section 7.02 Age Requirements

- (a) Intermediate Division – shall be limited to league age players 13 years old only
 - (i) *In fall season, league age 12 year old players may play up to their next year league age to participate in the Intermediate Division*
- (b) Junior Division – shall be limited to players league age 13 and 14 years old only.
- (c) Senior Division - shall be limited to players league age 13 – 16 years old only

Section 7.03 Playing Rules

- (a) Orangecrest Little League will participate in District 24’s RBI Intradistrict Program for the Upper Divisions
- (b) District 24’s RBI Committee shall establish the Ground Rules for the upper divisions and upon publication by the District, they will be considered an extension of these Ground Rules
- (c) Except in the Ground Rules published by District 24, Upper Division games shall be played in accordance with the Official Little League Rule Book

Article VIII. Final Standings

Section 8.01 For Spring 2021, the final team placing will be determined by the regular season final standings.

- (a) There shall be no playoffs in any Division. Final standings will be determined by winning percentage of the final standings.
 - (i) *Winning percentage shall be calculated : Wins + (Ties/2) / Total Games played*
 - (ii) *There shall be no tie-breakers in Farm. Ties in final standings shall result in shared placement in the final standings*
- (b) There shall be no standings or playoffs in the Tee Ball Division.
- (c) Upper Division (Intermediate, Junior, Senior) playoff rules and placement shall be determined by District 24 RBI Ground Rule

- (d) Single A, Double A, Triple A, Major Tie Breakers in the event of a tie in winning percentage for any of the top 3 placements will be used to in order until the tie is broken
 - (i) *Head-to-head records between tied teams*
 - (ii) *Winning percentage against other top 3 placing teams*
 - (iii) *Run differential of games played against other top 3 placing teams (calculated as: total runs scored / total runs given up)*

Article IX. Post Season Tournaments (Spring Only)

Section 9.01 Tournament of Champions (“TOC”)

- (a) TOC Tournaments are not expected to be scheduled in 2021
- (b) Should tournaments be scheduled, the 1st place winners of the Major and Minor AAA Divisions shall represent OCLL in the District 24 TOC
 - 1) If two or more teams are tied for first place, based upon winning percentage, then the TOC representative will be determined using the playoff seeding tie breakers detailed in Section 8.01(d).
- (c) Tournament rules and seedings shall be determined by District 24

Section 9.02 All Star Teams

- (a) OCLL shall enter one All Star Teams in the following divisions (divisions are subject to change should Little League International make any changes to available divisions)
 - (i) *Senior – consisting of a minimum of 12 players (maximum 16 players)*
 - (ii) *Intermediate – consisting of a minimum of 12 players (maximum 16 players)*
 - (iii) *11-12 year old – consisting of a minimum of 12 players (maximum 14 players)*
 - (iv) *10-11 year old – consisting of a minimum of 12 players (maximum 14 players)*
 - (v) *9-10 year old – consisting of a minimum of 12 players (maximum 14 players)*
 - (vi) *Little Stars (7-8 year old) - consisting of a minimum of 12 players (max 14 players)*
- (b) The OCLL Board reserves the right to change the divisions entered in All Star tournaments by majority vote.

Section 9.03 All Star Team Managers

- (a) The Board shall have sole discretion to approve All Star team managers recommended for appointment by the President
- (b) Current team managers interested in managing an All Star team must express their interest in writing to the league President by April 16, 2021
 - (i) *Candidates may express interest in more than one division, but must indicate the order of preference. No selected candidate may manage more than one All Star team*
- (c) The Board shall hold a closed session to discuss all star candidates. Each All Star Division candidates shall be discussed in the following order
 - (i) *11-12 year old*
 - (ii) *10-11 year old*
 - (iii) *9-10 year old*
 - (iv) *7-8 year old*
 - (v) *Intermediate*
 - (vi) *Junior or Senior*
- (d) Following the discussion of all candidates, the President shall recommend one manager candidate for each All Star Team to the Board for approval
 - (i) *The president shall first consider the initial list of managers discussed, but may choose to present for appointment a person not on the initial list*
- (e) The Board shall vote by simple majority to approve each of the president's appointees
- (f) The president will notify the approved managers of their confirmed appointment
- (g) The president will then appoint 2 additional coaches to each team
 - (i) *Selected managers shall provide the president with the names of two recommended coaches by June 01, 2021*
 - (ii) *Managers recommended by the Board, but not selected to manage an All Star team shall also be considered as coaches*
- (h) The Board shall approve by simple majority the president's coach appointments
- (i) Appointment of managers and coaches shall not insinuate or guarantee placement of any specific player to a specific All Star team, including their children
- (j) In the event that a manager or coach needs to be replaced, the president shall appoint a replacement to be approved by simple majority vote of the board

- (i) The appointed manager or coach may immediately assume their appointed duties, pending final approval by the Board*
- (ii) If the board is not able to assemble a quorum meeting for approving the appointment within three days, the appointment will be deemed approved by the Board*

Section 9.04 Player Selection Procedures

(a) Player nomination

- (i) Each regular season manager shall be given the opportunity to submit a nomination list of players recommended for All Star consideration*
 - 1) Nomination form, provided by the League, shall include: Player Name, League Age, Division, and primary positions played
 - 2) The nomination list shall include up to 6 players from the manger's own team and up to 10 players from other teams within the same Division recommended by the manager
 - 3) The list shall be submitted to the Player Agent (playeragent@ocll.com) prior to April 30, 2018

(b) Player Selection Committee

- (i) The Player Selection Committee shall consist of: Player Agent, President, Division Coordinators and All Star Managers.*
- (ii) The Player Agent shall serve as chair of the Selection Committee*

(c) Procedure

- (i) The Player Agent shall convene a meeting of the Selection Committee following the conclusion of the regular season, but before season playoffs are completed.*
- (ii) Managers are encouraged to provide a preferred list of players to the Player Agent, prior to the meeting*
- (iii) The Selection Committee shall approve a recommended roster for each All Star team for presentation to the Board for final approval. The approved rosters may include alternate replacements if needed.*
- (iv) The Board shall have final approval of all All-Star rosters*

(d) Additional Guidelines

- (i) No specific player or parent requests will be considered during All Star selection*
- (ii) In the event that a replacement player is needed, the replacement player must be approved by the board. The replacement player may not come from the roster of a different All Star team*

(iii) The player agent or president shall contact each All Star and ask them to confirm:

- 1) Agree to provide residential and age verification documents as required by Little League International for tournament play
- 2) Agree to faithfully attend all practices and games of the duration of the All Star tournaments
- 3) Agree pay portion of All Star uniforms as approved by the Board. The inability to pay will not be a consideration or affect the ability of a player to participate on an All Star team. The president and player agent shall have the authority to waive all or a portion of the fee if deemed appropriate.

(iv) Each player will be allowed to keep their All Star uniform and any other items given to them by the Board as acknowledgement for their participation

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.