

# BARNSTABLE LITTLE LEAGUE

## Information for Managers and Coaches 2009 Season Local Rules Major League division

### 1. PLAYING THE GAME

- A. Little League rules prevail unless there is a local rule.
  - B. Local Rules:
    - 1. No Intentional Walks.
    - 2. If a batter's intent is to bunt, he cannot pull back to swing away: it is an automatic out.
    - 3. Barnstable Little League uses a ten player batting order.
    - 4. There will be no batter "on deck".
    - 5. The DH cannot be changed and cannot take a defensive position during a game. (EXCEPTION – if the DH is the backup catcher and the starting catcher is injured, the DH may catch the balance of the game.) A player not in the lineup will fill the starting catcher's position in the lineup.
    - 6. All players on a team must DH once before a player is scheduled to DH a second time.
    - 7. The playoffs start a new DH cycle, which continues until the championship series ends. During the championship series, any player may DH once.
    - 8. Each player must play a minimum of three innings and come to bat at least once during the course of the game. Substitutions cannot be made prior to the third inning, EXCEPT in the case of injury. If, due to an error, a player fails to come to bat, then that player must play in a field position in the entire next game. The following are the penalties for managers failing to comply with this rule:
      - a. **1<sup>st</sup> offense: Letter from the President**
      - b. **2<sup>nd</sup> offense: 1 game suspension**
      - c. **3<sup>rd</sup> offense: Expulsion**
- NOTE: the penalty will be waived if the missed at bat is due to home team's lack of batting in the bottom of the 6<sup>th</sup> inning, however, the player that did not come to bat in the previous game must start in a field position in the next game and be one of the top 6 batters.**
- 9. On weekends, there is a concession rule that specifies that at the end of the fourth inning (or at the end of three and a half, if the home team is leading) the game is ruled complete if one team has a 12 run lead.
  - 10. A courtesy runner is allowed if the catcher is a runner and there are two outs. This runner must be chosen from players not currently in the lineup.

11. There is no time limit to Major league games but no inning may start after 10 PM.

## **II. PLAYERS**

### **A. Eligibility**

Eligible players for the Major League must be the ages of 10,11, or 12 prior to May 1<sup>st</sup> of the current season.

### **B. Injury**

1. Once removed from the game due to injury, a player is out for the entire game. An accident report must be filled out by the manager and submitted within 24 hours. In order for the player to resume playing in future games and practices, written permission must be received from the parent or guardian (if no medical attention was required). If medical attention was required, a medical release is required prior to participating in any practices or games.
2. **LONG TERM:** When a player is injured with more than two weeks, or four games remaining on the regular season schedule, and that player is not expected to return within two weeks of the first game missed due to injury, the manager must replace that player on this team roster within 72 hours after the period of 2 weeks. If not followed, the President of the League will select a player from the Minor League to take the injured player's roster position. The injured player will be put on "injured reserve" and will remain the property of that team and will not have to be re-drafted the next season. If the injured player is able to return before the end of the season, the manager will be required to play with 13 players and will have to make substitutions per local rule (3 innings and 1 at bat per game per player) The replacement must come from the Minor League.
3. If a team needs a player to come up to the Major League, and the child refuses, he must stay in the Minors for the remainder of the year. Next year he goes back into the draft.

### **C. Code of Conduct**

To maintain order, it is necessary for the manager to enforce the Code of Conduct. This discipline is expected to be reasonable and consistent. Some form of progressive discipline is preferred and it must not vary according to the talent level of the players. If benching a player for disciplinary reasons, you should notify the scorer and opposing manager prior to the game. If it becomes necessary to remove a child from your team, you must consult with the league vice-president and player agent prior to removal.

## **D. PLAYER REPLACEMENT AND ELIGIBILITY**

1. In the event to a major league roster opening, created by long term injury, player moving, disciplinary suspension or any other properly documented reason:
  - a. **PRESEASON** – the player agent must be notified, upon verification of the roster opening and eligible replacement must be chosen from the Minor League (see eligibility guidelines) before the start of the Major League regular season.
  - b. **IN SEASON** – the player agent must be notified, upon verification of the roster opening, an eligible replacement must be chosen from the Minor League. This is **Mandatory** when there are 4 or more games remaining on the major League schedule, the eligible player must be brought up within 72 hours.
  - c. **The Player Agent** then will advise the Manager as to the eligibility of the replacement player. ***Then and only then, can a Manager contact that replacement player.***

## **2. ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES**

- a. Minor League Players must be age 10,11, or 12 years old and have participated in the preseason tryouts to be considered eligible for a Major League call up.
- b. Any player, in the Minor League, who did not participate in the preseason tryout, is not available for a Major League call up until that player had participated for a minimum of two weeks into the Minor League game schedule.
- c. Any player, who refuses a draft assignment or call up to the Major Leagues, must participate in the Minor League for the balance of the season, but he/she is eligible to participate in the following year's tryout and draft process.

## **III. MANAGERS & COACHES**

A. All Major League Managers are subject to yearly approval. Major League managers are to list 2 coaches for league approval. These coaches are the coaches of record for the season in the dugout. If one of the coaches is not able to make the game, the league officials before each game must approve the manager's choice of Volunteer.

### **B. Equipment and Uniforms**

Managers are responsible for ensuring that the equipment and uniforms that are issued to their team are properly cared for and turned back into the league at the end of the season. No child will receive any trophies or awards at the end of the season if the uniform has not been returned.

### **C. Practices**

1. In addition to pre-season practices, each manager is expected to hold at least one regular season practice per week.
2. No team is to practice more than three times per week during the regular season.

### **D. POSTPONEMENTS and MAKE-UP GAMES**

1. In the event of inclement weather, Little League rules state that both managers must agree to play or not to play a scheduled game. This decision can only be made within 2 hours before the start of the scheduled game. The decision, if the managers cannot agree or are not available, will be made by the President or the Vice President of the League.
2. As soon as it is learned that a game will not be played, it is the HOME team's manager's responsibility to notify the League Vice President, umpires, scorers and snack bar volunteer.
3. Any canceled game will be made up on the NEXT Sunday, at the first available opening time, starting at 9:00 AM. NO EXCEPTIONS!

### **E. SPECIAL EVENTS and ACTIVITIES**

Managers are to keep their team apprised of and promote participation in any league special event or activity.

### **F. PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT**

Managers are to encourage parental involvement in all league activities.

### **G. ON-FIELD LOCATION**

Managers are reminded that only the manager is allowed to coach from outside the dugout and must stay within the designated coach's box in the front of the dugout. All other coaches shall not leave the dugout. The manager must ask permission from the umpire to leave the box to speak with a player or umpire.

### **H. SUBSTITUTION RULE**

EXCEPT in case of injury, there will be no substitutions from the bench. Any substitutions, pitching changes, etc., will be made from the players currently in on the lineup.

## **I. PITCH COUNT RECORDING**

It is MANDATORY that each Manager record the pitch count in the Official Scorebook for each game. This is to include the names of the pitchers, age and number of pitches.

At the conclusion of EVERY game, both Managers are to review the pitch counts of both teams and sign the scorebook.

Scorebooks are to be accessible for all league officials and Managers.