

Dade City Little League Bylaws 2024

Provision 1 - Operating Rules and Regulations

The official Little League Baseball Handbook of Regulations and Playing Rules and The Little League Operating Manual as published by Little League Baseball Inc., Williamsport, Pennsylvania, shall be binding on this League, unless in direct conflict with matters addressed in the Dade City Little League's Constitution or the Dade City Little League's Bylaws. In the event of such a conflict, the Dade City Little League's Constitution and/or Bylaws shall control.

Provision 2 - Definitions

- A. League Age:
 - a. See appendix 1
 - b. See appendix 2

Provision 3 - League Structure

- A. The Dade City Little League Divisions shall be structured as follows:
 - 1. Tee Ball - League ages 4-6
 - 2. Coach Pitch - League ages 6-8
 - 3. Minors - League ages 8-10
 - 4. Majors - League ages 10-12
 - 5. Juniors - League ages 13-14
 - a. May be combined with Senior League
 - 6. Seniors - League ages 15-16
 - 7. Challengers Division

Provision 4 - Allocation of Players

General Rule: Beginning with the 2024 season, all players are to be placed in Divisions in accordance with their LL age.

Exceptions:

- 1. Players may seek permission to play "down" which is play in a Division one level lower than would ordinarily be dictated by their LL age, in an effort to play with players of a comparable skill level. In the event a player is granted permission to play "down" one Division, that player will not be eligible for postseason tournament play with their LL age appropriate team if they play "down". Permission to play "down" shall be requested at registration. The Player Agent shall decide whether to grant the request and his/her decision shall be final.

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2. Players may seek permission to play “up” one level by written request. The request should be made in writing and delivered to a Board member at time of registration. The request shall not be approved unless Player agent or Vice President finds that the player has shown good cause for granting the request based on tryout scores. Players whose request are granted remain subject to the eligibility requirements, if any, of the Division in which they intend to play.

Provision 5 - Managers and Coaches

- A. Managers for teams at all levels shall be selected by the President and thereafter approved by the Board of Directors. The selection and approval process shall be completed by the January Board Meeting. Coaches shall be appointed by the respective team managers, and thereafter approved by the Board of Directors. If removal for cause of any manager or coach is contemplated per article 3, section 4 of the Constitution, the matter shall be discussed with all interested parties, as determined by the President, or in his/her absence, the Vice President, and the Board of Directors. Thereafter, removal can only be accomplished by majority vote of the Board of Directors.
- B. Any and all Board Members, Committee Members, including the President, may manage, coach, or umpire during the regular season, but cannot manage or coach a team during tournament season without District approval.
- C. To be considered for the position of Manager or Coach, an individual must be a Member in good standing (never removed as a manager/coach in previous seasons) of the Dade City Little League and must submit his or her name to the League President before the January Board Meeting.
- D. All Managers and Coaches from each team MUST complete the Concussion training, obtain CPR certification, and must complete the Diamond Leader program within seven (7) days of appointment.
 - a. Diamond Leader Program
- E. All Managers will be required to adhere to a course of conduct and comply with all Dade City Little League rules, regulations, and policies. Misconduct will subject the manager to discipline, including but not limited to, removal from his/her position as manager.

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- F. If a Manager of a team resigns, or is declared ineligible, or is otherwise deemed unable to manage, his/her Manager's position shall be considered open, and a new manager will be selected by the Vice President of the League and thereafter approved by the Board of Directors, In the event this occurs, the new selection may immediately assume his/her duties as Manager while waiting approval by the Board of Directors.

Provision 6 - Miscellaneous Rules Governing Draft(s)

- A. **Final Draft List:** A final list of all players who are part of the draft pools shall be prepared by the Player Agent and distributed prior to the draft selection. This list must be maintained by the Player Agent and the President of each League.
- B. **Time:** The player drafts shall take place within fourteen (14) days after the last tryout and/or evaluation has been completed.
- C. **Attendance:** The player drafts selection meetings are NOT general membership meetings, and are to the following:
 - a. **Mandatory:** The Manager or his/her designated representative, the Player Agent, and/or the President or Vice President of the League, and/or the Director of the respective Division
 - b. Alternates for Mandatory attendees identified in subsection (a) are permitted but must be identified to the Player Agent prior to proceeding with the draft selection. Alternates must be approved by the President, or if the President so designates, the Director of the Division involved.
- D. **Team Selection:** The teams shall be selected from the draft pool. The process employed by all Divisions shall be a BLIND DRAFT Plan C (see rule book) draft method. For Majors baseball and softball division, all league age twelve (12) year olds will be drafted first and divided evenly between the teams and then the draft will commence. All players in the draft pool shall be drafted onto a team within their Division and be selected each round by a scoring system so as not to give any team any advantage.
- E. **Children of Managers and Coaches:** A Manager or Coach who has a child/children registered for Little League may draft the child/children in the round

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designated and predetermined by the Rule Book of Little League International which will be based on his/her tryout scores. Only two (2) Managers/Coaches options will be allowed going into a draft. Any options past two (2) will need to be addressed via way of trade. Coaches requests will not be honored, except for the Tee Ball Division or if there is proof via way of residency verification that players reside in the same household, or unless requested by parent/legal guardian and approved by the Board of Directors.

- F. **Siblings:** When the first sibling is drafted by a manager, that manager automatically has an option to draft the other sibling on the next turn. If the manager does not exercise the option, the second sibling is then available to be drafted by any team.
- G. **Player Transactions:**
 - a. Trading of players after draft selection is permitted during the draft and/or until the draft meeting is concluded.
 - b. Each manager shall provide 2 pool player to the Player Agent at start of season
 - c. In the event of injury, Managers may request a player from the player pool in their respective division from the Player Agent.
- H. **Draft Results:** Upon completion of drafts, Managers may contact players and notify them of the team they have been chosen for and the dates and times of practices. Rosters will not be distributed to Managers unless they have proof of CPR and Concussion certification as required by Pasco County Parks and Recreation.

Provision 7 - Selection and Placement of Tee Ball Players

- A. The Vice President of Tee Ball and the Player Agent shall be responsible for the selection and/or allocation of the players among the teams. The Vice President of Tee Ball and Player Agent of each league shall endeavor to make the teams as equal and balanced as possible. A formal draft is discouraged for this Division.
- B. **Parental Requests:** Requests by parents and/or guardians to place their child on a specific team, with specific friends or classmates or with a particular manager, should be honored unless there is a compelling reason not to do so. In the event a dispute arises concerning a specific request and the Vice President of Tee Ball is unable to resolve the dispute, the matter should be brought to the attention of

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the Player Agent for resolution. The Player Agent's decision on the issue(s) of dispute shall be final. This is for the Tee Ball Division only.

Provision 8 - In House Tournament

*****There are to be no playoffs held or conducted for Challengers or Tee Ball*****

The In House Tournament for the 2024 regular season will be as follows:

- A. No games count toward seeding until April 1, 2024 Interlocking games do count.
- B. Continuous batting order and Mandatory play will still be in effect for All Divisions.
- C. In the event of a tie for seeding runs allow will be determining factor for seeding.
- D. If need a tie breaker, than a Texas Tie Breaker will be played. (runner on 2nd base must be the last person out from previous inning).

Provision 9 - Tournament Play Selections (All-Stars)

- A. Manager Selection: The tournament Manager(s) for all teams at every level shall be selected by the Board of Directors (by majority vote) from among the managers of each respective Division. Managers may request their coaching staff. This selection is subject to Board approval.
- B. Eligibility of Players: *****No player will be granted automatic position on any tournament team.*****
 - a. Softball:
 - i. Minor Division will be league ages 8-10
 - ii. Major Division will be league ages 10-12
 - iii. Junior Division will be league ages 13-14
 - iv. Senior Divisions will be league ages 13-16
 - b. Baseball
 - i. Minor Division will be league age 8-10
 - ii. Major Division will be league age 10-12
 - iii. Junior Division will be league age 13-14
 - iv. Senior Division will be league 15-16
 - v. 10-11 year old division will be league ages 10-11 and can only be drafted after the 8-10 Minor Division and 11-12 Major Division teams have been drafted.
- C. Player Selection: Coaches must submit a list of nominees of eligible players with a signed player agreement/contract and parent/guardian agreement/contract

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form(s). This form will explain the time commitments for practice, games, etc. The player shall have no vacations or other activities that will interfere with their ability to attend practices and games. This form will also explain playing time possibilities to make sure parents have a general understanding of what could happen at the sole discretion of the head coach.

- a. To promote fairness amongst the player nomination process, the head coach will offer any age eligible player the opportunity to be eligible for the All-Star selection by filling out the agreement form. Any player/parent returning this form will be considered eligible for All-Star selection.
 - b. The Board of Directors will determine the roster and number of players to be selected, but shall be no less than twelve (12) players unless approved by the District Administrator and a maximum of fourteen (14) unless approved by the District Administrator with good cause/reason.
- D. Voting Results: All voting results will be kept confidential among those present at the meeting. A violation of this confidentiality rule may subject a member to discipline by the Board.

Provision 10 - Scorekeeping & Pitch Count

- A. Prior to the commencement of each game, the home team shall provide an official scorekeeper for the game, The visiting team shall provide someone to work the scoreboard and keep up with the pitch count. Both teams will be expected to cooperate and aid the other when the situation may warrant such assistance.

Provision 11 - Coach Pitch Special Rules

- A. Continuous batting is in effect for ALL teams, defensive substitutions can be made freely; however, no player shall sit for more than 2 consecutive innings unless injured or disciplined. This must be announced prior to the start of the game.
- B. Pitch count rules apply to Baseball. Inning count rules apply to Softball.
- C. At the time of the pitch, ALL outfielders must be positioned on the outfield grass.
- D. For 6/7/8s, the first three (3) innings, the teams will change sides after 3 outs or 5 runs, whichever comes first. From inning four (4) on, teams will switch sides after 3 outs, or complete bat through line up. Complete bat through goes away during tournament.
- E. For 6/7/8s, a team may play with less than 9 players, but it must have at least 8 defensive players with a complete infield. Tournament will require 9 players.

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- F. For 6/7/8s, four (4) outfielders are permitted if the opposing team can match, but not mandated (provides more playing time for the players). Again, at the time of the pitch, all outfielders must be positioned on the outfield grass and not in the rover position. During tournament no more than 9 players.
- G. All 6/7/8s The coaches are to be developing pitchers at this level; therefore, the first 3 pitches will be delivered by a defensive player pitcher. Coaches will NOT encourage their players to “just wait til the coach pitches.” If that occurs, the umpire will begin to call strikes. After the initial 3 pitches from the player, the coach will then pitch to his/her own team. In coach pitch, the defensive pitcher must stand to the side of the pitching plate with one foot within 4 feet of the pitching plate. The coach must pitch from the same distance as the pitcher. Pitchers can pitch from the 35 foot pitching plate, or the 46 foot mound.
- H. For 6/7/8s, a player is out on strike 3 or 6 pitches, whichever comes first. Exception, if the 6th or more pitch is fouled off, 1 more pitch will be delivered until a ball is put in play or a batter strikes out.
- I. For 6/7/8s, Neither bunting nor stealing is permitted
- J. For 6/7/8s, the play is over (ball is dead) when the ball is returned to, and in the possession of the pitcher on or near the pitching plate within the circle (softball) or the clay of the mound (baseball). Halfway rule will apply for baserunners once the ball is called dead. If less than halfway, the runner must return to prior base. If more than halfway, runner will be allowed to advance. That is at the umpire’s discretion. Lead runner will determine halfway rule.
- K. For 6/7/8s, If a play is being made on a runner and there is an overthrow, runners will only be given one (1) base. If an overthrow is made returning the ball back to the pitcher, only one (1) base will be given but only up to advancing to third base. Halfway rule will apply. Base runners can score on an overthrow at third base as long as they have only been given one base.
- L. For 6/7/8s, 10 run rule will apply after 3rd inning.
- M. No new inning will begin after 1 hour and 30 minutes.
- N. There will be no infield fly rule.
- O. There will be no walking unless a batter is hit by a player/coach thrown pitch.
- P. For 6/7/8s, no more than 3 coaches may represent players while on defense. Team mom or 4th coach may sit in the dugout. One defensive coach behind the plate to assist with passed balls and catcher only instruction. Two on opposite sides of the outfield to assist with infield/outfield player instruction.
- Q. For 6/7/8s, no more than 3 coaches may represent players while on offense. 2 coaches at respective bases, 1 coach in infield behind the pitcher to assist with pitching. Team mom or 4th coach may sit in dugout.
- R. All rules subject to change by District and will be updated.

Provision 12 - Regular Season Game Provisions (In House DCLL)

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- A. Batting Order: During regular season play at our home field location, continuous batting order and mandatory play will be in effect.
- B. Starting times for all HOME games will be 6:30pm.
- C. Time Limit:
 - a. Tee Ball games will be limited to 1 hour of play
 - b. Coach Pitch will be 1 hour and 45 minutes of play. All games must meet regulations. No new innings will start after 1 hour and 30 minutes.
 - c. Minors will be 1 hour and 45 minutes of play. All games must meet regulations. No new innings will start after 1 hour and 30 minutes.
 - d. Majors will be 2 hours of play with no new inning beginning after 1 hour 45 minutes, with the home team completing their at bat unless they are the winning team. All games must meet regulations.
 - e. Juniors and Seniors will be two hours and 30 minutes, with no new inning starting after two hours and fifteen minutes, with the home team completing their at bat unless they are the winning team. All games must meet regulations.
- D. Mercy/Run Rule:
 - a. For Coach Pitch and Minors divisions, the first 3 innings will be capped at 5 runs each inning. In the 4th inning, the score is open.
 - b. Majors Divisions and above will use the regular three out inning change rule.
 - c. For Majors Division and below, the 10 run rule applies at the end of the 4th inning. 15 runs at the end of the 3rd.
 - d. For Juniors and Seniors, the 10 run rule applies at the end of the 5th inning. 15 runs at the end of the 4th.

These Bylaws may be amended, replaced, or altered in whole or in part by a majority vote at any duly organized meeting of the Board of Directors provided notice of the proposed change included in the notice of such meeting. These Bylaws were approved by the Dade City Little League Board of Directors Membership on November 26, 2024.

President: Stephine Polk

President Signature:

Date:

Little League ID No: 03090404

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