

# ROSAMOND LITTLE LEAGUE BYLAWS

## ARTICLE I – REGISTRATION GUIDELINES & PARTICIPATION FEE

- 1.1. A reasonable league participation fee may be assessed as the parents' obligation to assure the operational continuity of the Local League.
- 1.2. Registration shall continue through the final tryout or upon reaching the maximum capacity as defined by the Board of Directors. For players on school Baseball or Softball teams, registration may continue until 5 days after their release from the school team.
- 1.3. All residency documents shall be established by documents, dated or in force between February 1 (previous year) and January 31 (current year). Three proofs of residence or proof of school attended is required at registration. PA is required to view the state birth certificate of each player. No player will be eligible to be drafted to a team or placed on a team without this documentation.
- 1.4. Registration fees may be refunded per the following schedule:
  - (A) On or before February 5th - Full Refund minus \$20 administration fee,
  - (B) February 6th through March 10th - Half Refund,
  - (C) After March 11th - No Refund,
  - (D) ALL refunds are contingent upon the return of the uniform jersey.
  - (E) Any other requests for refund will be contingent upon a 2/3 majority Board of Directors vote.
- 1.5. At registration, the player shall specify whether trying out for Baseball, Softball or both.

## ARTICLE II - MANAGERS, COACHES AND UMPIRES

- 2.1 Team managers and coaches can be recommended by anyone on the Board, they will be voted on after mandatory meeting and screening process by the Board and shall be responsible for the selection of their teams, (with the exception of T-ball and Coach-Pitch) and for their actions on the field.
  - (A) See Article III,
  - (B) Manager selection by the President and Board Approval for each division shall be subject to review of previous seasons performance, discipline, etc., and in order of seniority as follows:

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1. Returning managers for same division as previous season,
2. Returning managers moving up to next division,
3. Managers returning to a lower division,
4. Coaches from previous season in same order of preference as for returning Managers,
5. Board Member; and
6. New volunteer with child playing in Division.

2.2 Managers/Coaches shall be appointed by the President and approved by the Board.

2.3 The League shall not tolerate physical contact, intimidation, verbal attacks or assaults by any member. If anyone believes inappropriate behavior is being exhibited by anyone either at a practice or game, they shall submit their complaint or allegation in writing to the Board of Directors. The Executive Committee shall conduct a preliminary investigation. If the Executive Committee believes there is sufficient evidence to warrant disciplinary action, the Executive Committee recommendation shall be presented to the Board of Directors for final decision.

(A) Managers and Coaches are expected to be role models for our Local League players, parents and spectators. Managers are expected to control their players at all times. If a manager is deemed to not enforce the guidelines for appropriate conduct within his/her team, the manager will be held liable for the actions of his team and disciplinary action by the Board of Directors will be decided upon.

2.4 Manager/Coach/Player ejected from a game shall **not** be at the game site for the remainder of the game and their next physically played game, **NO EXCEPTIONS**. If an ejected Manager or Coach is scheduled to be the Board Member on duty when their ejection game is to be served, the ejected Board Member shall find another Board Member to assume their duties. Plate Umpire shall report the ejection in writing to the President within 24 hours. The ejected Manager or Coach shall report in writing the circumstances of the ejection to applicable Division Director within 24 hours. In the case of an ejected minor and parent of said ejected minor is not present, Board Member on duty shall remain with the ejected minor.

## **EJECTION PENALTIES**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Ejection 1 game suspension
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Ejection 3 game suspension
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Ejection permanent removal from team as Manager/Coach/Player/Board Member

**NOTE: A MANAGER SUSPENDED SHALL NOT HAVE ANY CONTACT WITH ANY TEAM MEMBER PRIOR TO OR DURING THE GAME. THIS INCLUDES WARM-UP DRILLS AND PRACTICES LEADING UP TO THE SUSPENDED GAME.**

2.5 **Managers shall have the authority to bench any player ONCE, per Little League Season, for a valid disciplinary reason. Managers must provide immediate notice to the divisional director in**

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**order for the director to notify the parent of the player in a sufficient amount of time. The player must attend the game for benching purposes and will not be allowed to play until he/she has sat, in uniform, on the bench for one complete game.** An entry shall be made in the scorebook and signed by the manager and Board member on duty. Any subsequent disciplinary action shall require board approval. Disciplining a player for tournament play shall require board approval. Players who arrive at the game site after a game begins may be inserted in the lineup, if the manager so chooses. The manager is responsible to ensure the mandatory playing rules are met for each player.

- 2.6 Managers of the Farm division and above shall be responsible for supplying at least one umpire per Umpire in Chief weekly umpire schedule. **Failure to supply an umpire to the scheduled or assigned game shall result in a warning for the 1<sup>st</sup> offense, 1 game suspension of a coach for the 2<sup>nd</sup> offense and additional offenses may result in additional suspensions, possible termination or forfeiture of next scheduled game(s).** All missed assignments shall be rescheduled by the MANAGER. If unable to complete assigned shift, you must contact the Umpire in Chief **at least 24 hours** in advance of your scheduled shift.
- 2.7 Umpires shall be comprised of volunteers, with the approval of the Board of Directors, and passing of a background check. All umpires shall be responsible for their assignments and for their actions on the field.
- 2.8 Managers and Coaches and all volunteer umpires shall attend one (1) Umpire clinic per year.
- 2.9 The Umpire in Chief shall create the umpire schedule and will manage the availability.
- 2.10 Volunteers can umpire any division other than the Team that they manage or coach for.
- 2.11 Youth Umpires can be utilized with the following guidelines:
- Must umpire with an adult with sole purpose to supervise,
  - Must attend an umpire clinic,
  - May only umpire 2 divisions below the division in which they participate, and
  - Must have Umpire in Chief or Senior Umpire's approval.
- 2.12 Rule interpretation questions shall be referred to the Board Member on duty for clarification within the Little League Baseball/Softball Official Regulations, Playing Rules and Policies book as well as Local League Standing Rules. Rulings are binding. The Board Member on duty shall consult with at least the President, Vice President, Umpire in Chief and/or the Player Agent.
- 2.13 All protests shall be handled in accordance with the Little League Baseball/Softball Official Regulations, Playing Rules and Policies book. In accordance with this rule book, all protests will be resolved **BEFORE NEXT PITCH in Farm, Minor Baseball and Minor Softball**. Protest Committee for Farm and Minor divisions shall be the Board Member on duty and one parent from each team. If the

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Board Member on duty is affiliated with either team, they will abstain, and call will be placed to Umpire in Chief to vote in their place. This decision will be FINAL.

**2.14** A dress code will be enforced for any and all managers, coaches, and any other adult assisting during a practice, game, and in the dugout. Provocative clothing and/or lewd graphics on clothing will not be permitted. Please cover-up appropriate body parts that should not be partially or fully exposed to minor children. All footwear must be completely closed (i.e. tennis shoes). The dress code will be enforced, in the areas mentioned above at any Little League, including our own. Remember that you are representing Rosamond Little League. Snack Bar volunteers must adhere to the same dress code regarding footwear as above, as per California's Health Code statutes.

## ARTICLE III – PLAYER DEFINING AGE GROUPS FOR DIVISION OF PLAY

**3.1 Tee Ball:** 4 to 6 years of age per current Little League age chart only. This is the only division that 4 year olds may participate. **(No exceptions)**

- (A) T-Ball is a developmental training division, which emphasizes non-competitive play while focusing on the enhancement and development of basic skills as well as having fun.
- (B) T-Ball team roster shall be at least 8-10 players or at the discretion of the Player Agent. If a team roster goes below 10 players, the team may be assigned an eligible player if possible by the PA.
- (C) **A T-Ball game shall consist of 1 complete hour from their scheduled start time.** It is alright to end a game if only ½ an inning is completed.
- (D) The batting tee shall be utilized the entire season; the tee shall be placed in front of home plate, not on it. The Manager/Coach shall be responsible for immediately removing the batting tee from the home plate area once the batter hits the ball. A ball hit beyond the baseline will result in the base runner advancing two bases, no more, unless the ball is caught or player is tagged out.
- (E) Base runners shall **not** advance on an errant throw from any player to the pitcher. One base on an overthrow per batter. One base no more. Runner can advance at own risk on 1<sup>st</sup> overthrow.
- (F) The Manager and Coaches must be on the field instructing the players during defense, but shall avoid interference, assisting players, or touching a ball in play.
- (G) A half inning is completed when the offense bats all players in the lineup; continuous batting order.
- (H) All players shall play on defense. Players shall be placed in the primary infield positions i.e.

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Pitcher Catcher 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> bases and Shortstop. All remaining players will be distributed throughout the outfield.

- (I) All T-Ball players must wear the uniform. This includes a team shirt, with a number, hat, shoes (non-metal baseball cleats or tennis shoes), pants, and an appropriate baseball glove. Hats shall be worn at all times while on the field for defense. No shorts or open toes shoes shall be worn. If a child loses a uniform, the manager is responsible to inform the league so that a replacement can be secured at the cost of the parent/guardian.
- (J) Outs will be called all season, runner will return to the dugout, continuous batting line up will resume, regardless of number of outs per inning.
- (K) **Only the players on the team's roster are allowed on the field and or dugout, no siblings, friends etc.**
- (L) Field Set-Up. **Both managers are required to set up the field prior to each game and to tear down the field if no game is following.** Home Team will be responsible for marking the baselines, Visiting team will be responsible for dragging, watering and placing bases. The lines will be marked prior to the start of each game. No throw down bases are to be used; all bases shall be secured to the ground. Please handle bases with care; each must last through the season and beyond.
- (M) Each team's offensive inning ends when all players have batted. Managers are not allowed to compensate for a greater or lesser amount of players during the offensive series. Example – if one team has 12 players and their opponent has 10, then the team with 10 players' bats 10 and the team with 12 players' bats 12, no exceptions. A batting line up shall be established at the beginning of the season and rotated one player each game.
- (N) The offensive team is allowed 3 adult coaches on the field, one at 1st and/or 3<sup>rd</sup> base coaching box and one in proximity of home plate. An adult coach or the Team Parent must be seated in the dugout with the players. Under no circumstances shall any player have a bat in hand until the player is wearing a Little League approved helmet, and adult is immediately present, and it is time for the player to bat. This safety issue is addressed by the removal of the on-deck circle. No player is to leave the dugout without manager or umpires' permission.

## 3.2 COACH PITCH BASEBALL/SOFTBALL DIVISION

- (A) All rules listed in the Official Little League rulebook shall apply and supersede the following:
- (B) The intent of the Coach-Pitch program is to transition 6-, 7-, and 8-year-old players from Tee-Ball to the Minor Division. A player's ability to play baseball, through his or her experience, will determine eligibility for this division. This program is strictly an

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instructional program where players can have fun while learning the game of baseball in a structured safe environment. Parents and spectators **must** not focus on or encourage a competitive spirit at this level of play.

- (C) Note: Softball league age 9-year-old players will be eligible for this division.
- (D) **Games should run 1 hour and 15 minutes in length, FROM THEIR SCHEDULED START TIME, but not less than 1 hour.** It is okay to end a game if only ½ of an inning is completed.
- (E) This Division utilizes “coach pitching.” The pitching distance shall be no closer than 30’ and the defensive player occupying the pitching position shall occupy the pitcher’s plate. The offensive Manager or Coach shall pitch at a safe speed for the batter’s ability. It is this coach’s responsibility to protect the player in the pitching position.
- (F) Each batter will get up to 5 pitches to put the ball in play. If a batter does not put the ball in play, they are sent to their respective dugout and the next player brought up to bat with no out recorded. A ball hit beyond the baseline will result in the base runner advancing two bases, no more, unless the ball is caught, or player is tagged out.
- (G) Each team’s offensive inning ends when all players have batted. Managers are not allowed to compensate for a greater or lesser amount of players during the offensive series. Example – if one team has 12 players and their opponent has 10, then the team with 10 players’ bats 10 and the team with 12 players’ bats 12, no exceptions. A batting line up shall be established at the beginning of the season and rotated one player each game.
- (H) The offensive team is allowed 3 adult coaches on the field, one at 1st and/or 3rd coaching box and one in proximity of pitcher’s plate. An adult coach or the Team Parent must be seated in the dugout with the players. Under no circumstances shall any player have a bat in hand until the player is wearing a Little League approved helmet, and adult is immediately present, and it is time for the player to bat. This safety issue is addressed by the removal of the on-deck circle. No player is to leave the dugout without manager or umpires’ permission.
- (I) Each manager shall have a defensive roster established at the beginning of the season in which each player will play in one outfield and one infield position in every game, these positions shall be rotated among the players each game; unless a Safety issue is involved and brought before the Safety Officer for review. Playing ability shall be a factor in making this decision.
- (J) The following rules apply:
  - 1. No base stealing allowed on passed pitches.
  - 2. One adult coach may be in the outfield to coach the defensive players during each

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inning. The adult coach shall not touch a player or the ball during play. A penalty of two bases shall be awarded to the batter, no outs recorded, and the runners forced.

3. If a runner leaves any base early, then the runner leaving early shall be sent back.
4. Both managers and coaches shall umpire each game. The umpire shall be the offensive coach placed in the proximity of home plate and shall call time, foul balls, players safe or out, negate the pitch (no pitch), and send back any runners that advanced due to the runner leaving early. It is the responsibility of the board member(s) on duty to ensure that the parents and spectators refrain from addressing the umpires in a negative manner. The umpire's call is final and there is no protest.
5. If a runner is put out in their attempt to reach base, they will be sent to their respective dugout.
6. 10 defensive players are allowed on the field, the 10th player being called a rover. This rover is an outfielder only and may not enter the infield until the ball has been hit.

**(K) Only the players on the team's roster are allowed on the field and or dugout, no siblings, friends etc.**

**(L)** Both managers are required to set up the field prior to each game and tear down the field if no game is following. The lines shall be marked prior to the start of the game. Throw down bases are not allowed; all bases shall be secured to the ground. Please handle the bases with care; each must last through the season and beyond.

**(M)** All Coach Pitch players must wear the uniform. This includes a team shirt with a number, a hat, shoes (non-metal baseball cleats or tennis shoes), pants, and an appropriate baseball glove. Hats shall be worn at all times while on the field for defense (if a player fails to bring a hat or glove to a game check with the Board Member on duty we may have extras that can be borrowed). No shorts or open toe shoes shall be worn. If a child loses a uniform, the manager is responsible to inform the league so that a replacement uniform can be secured at a cost to the parent.

**(N) There will be no official or unofficial keeping of the score. Winning or losing is not the reason for this division.**

**3.3 Farm Baseball:** 7 to 9 years of age as per current year Little League age chart only.

**(A)**Farm is a training Division (within LL Minor Division) and emphasis shall be placed on the development of the younger players. This division shall play at least 12 games during the season in accordance to LL Minor Division rules. All games shall be played competitively keeping score at each game with the Home team supplying the Official Scorekeeper. Please note, Visiting teams still need to record scores. Standings for this division will be determined by Local League Tournament of Champions tournament play after all regular season

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games are completed.

- (B) Up to three coaches including the manager may participate in each game in the Farm Division.
- (C) Farm team roster shall be at least 10 players and no more than 12 players or at the discretion of the Player Agent. If a team roster goes below 10 players before the last 4 weeks of the season, the team may be assigned a player if possible by the PA. Placement shall be approved by the Board of Directors.
- (D) Each regular season Local League Board of Directors may elect for Baseball/Softball divisions to participate in District 51 Interleague or not. If the Local League elects for this division to participate in District 51 Interleague, District 51 Standing Rules shall apply and supersede Local League Bylaws and Standing Rules.
- (E) Players pitch to players.
- (F) The pitcher's mound shall be 46 feet from the front of pitching plate to rear of home plate.
- (G) Hard balls will be used all season.
- (H) Each Farm Manager will be responsible for supplying an umpire for their own games. This can be done from behind the mound or a volunteer with proper umpire attire can call the game from behind the plate.
- (I) Field Set-Up. **All local Managers/Coaches are required to set up the field prior to each game and to tear down the field if no game is following.** *If BOTH Teams are LOCAL:* Home Team will be responsible for marking the baselines, Visiting team will be responsible for dragging, watering and placing bases. The lines will be marked prior to the start of each game. No throw down bases are to be used; all bases shall be secured to the ground. Please handle bases with care, each must last through the season and beyond
- (J) All Farm division players must wear the uniform. This includes a team shirt, with a number, hat, shoes (non-metal baseball cleats or tennis shoes), pants, and an appropriate baseball glove. Hats shall be worn at all times while on the field for defense. No shorts or open toes shoes shall be worn. If a child loses a uniform, the manager is responsible to inform the league so that a replacement can be secured at the cost of the parent/guardian.

**3.4 Minor Baseball/Softball:** 8 to 11 years of age as per the current Little League age chart for baseball; 7 to 11 year olds as per the current Little League age chart for softball. This division shall play at least 12 games during the season in accordance to LL Minor Division rules. All games shall be played competitively with an Official Scorekeeper from the Home team keeping score at each game. Standings for this division will be determined by Local League Tournament of Champions tournament play after all regular season games are completed.

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- (A) Minor Baseball/Softball team roster shall be at least 10 players and no more than 12 players. If a team roster goes below 10 players before the last 4 weeks of the season, the team will be assigned a player, if possible, by the PA. Placement shall be approved by the Board of Directors.
- (B) Each regular season Local League Board of Directors may elect for Baseball/Softball divisions to participate in District 51 Interleague or not. If the Local League elects for this division to participate in District 51 Interleague, District 51 Standing Rules shall apply and supersede Local League Bylaws and Standing Rules.
- (C) All Minor division players must wear the uniform. This includes a team shirt, with a number, hat, shoes (non-metal baseball cleats or tennis shoes), pants, and an appropriate baseball glove. Hats shall be worn at all times while on the field for defense. No shorts or open toes shoes shall be worn. If a child loses a uniform, the manager is responsible to inform the league so that a replacement can be secured at the cost of the parent/guardian.
- (D) Field Set-Up. **All local Managers/Coaches are required to set up the field prior to each game and to tear down the field if no game is following.** *If BOTH Teams are LOCAL:* Home Team will be responsible for marking the baselines, Visiting team will be responsible for dragging, watering and placing bases. The lines will be marked prior to the start of each game. No throw down bases are to be used; all bases shall be secured to the ground. Please handle bases with care, each must last through the season and beyond.

**3.5 Major Baseball/ Softball:** 10 to 12 years of age as per the current Little League age chart for baseball; 10 to 12 years of age as per the current Little League age chart for softball. This division shall play at least 12 games during the season in accordance to LL Major Division rules. All games shall be played competitively with an Official Scorekeeper from the Home team keeping score at each game. Standings for this division will be determined by Local League Tournament of Champions tournament play after all regular season games are completed.

- (A) Major team roster shall be 12 players or at the discretion of the Player Agent. If a roster goes below the minimum before the last 4 weeks of the season, the team shall call up a player from Minors. The Player Agent shall select a player for the team. The player shall be eligible for Majors immediately and shall not appear in a Minor game.
- (B) ALL league age 12-year-old players must be drafted to a Major team prior to drafting of a 10 or 11 year old; absence of any waiver presented by a parent, Player Agent or Safety Officer which meets the criteria to remain in the Minor division.
- (C) Each regular season Local League Board of Directors may elect for Baseball/Softball divisions to participate in District 51 Interleague or not. If the Local League elects for this division to participate in District 51 Interleague, District 51 Standing Rules shall apply and supersede

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Local League Bylaws and Standing Rules.

**(D)** All Major division players must wear the uniform. This includes a team shirt, with a number, hat, shoes (non-metal baseball cleats or tennis shoes), pants, and an appropriate baseball glove. Hats shall be worn at all times while on the field for defense. No shorts or open toes shoes shall be worn. If a child loses a uniform, the manager is responsible to inform the league so that a replacement can be secured at the cost of the parent/guardian.

**(E)** Field Set-Up. **All local Managers/Coaches are required to set up the field prior to each game and to tear down the field if no game is following.** *If BOTH Teams are LOCAL:* Home Team will be responsible for marking the baselines, Visiting team will be responsible for dragging, watering and placing bases. The lines will be marked prior to the start of each game. No throw down bases are to be used; all bases shall be secured to the ground. Please handle bases with care, each must last through the season and beyond

**3.6 Intermediate (50/70) Baseball:** The Intermediate (50/70) Baseball Division is for players league-age 11-13 as per the Little League Age chart with postseason tournament opportunities, including a World Series, offers a transition for players between the standard Little League field size (46-foot pitching distance and 60-foot base paths) and the Junior/Senior field size (60-foot, 6-inch pitching distance and 90-foot base paths). Regular season players in the Little League Intermediate 50/70 Baseball Division have the opportunity to dual roster, meaning he/she can play in the Little League Major Baseball Division during the same season. Achieving tournament eligibility is possible in either division, but a player must choose one division of play to participate in during the tournament season. This division shall play at least 12 games during the season in accordance to LL Major Division rules. All games shall be played competitively with an Official Scorekeeper from the Home team keeping score at each game. Standings for this division will be determined by Local League Tournament of Champions tournament play after all regular season games are completed.

**(A)** Intermediate (50/70) team rosters shall be at least 12 players or at the discretion of the Player Agent. If a team roster goes below 12 players, the team may be assigned a player, if possible, by the PA. Placement shall be approved by the Board of Directors.

**(B)** Each regular season Local League Board of Directors may elect Junior and Senior divisions to participate in District 51 Interleague or not. If the Local League elects these divisions to participate in District 51 Interleague, District 51 Standing Rules shall apply and supersede Local League Bylaws and Standing Rules.

**(C)** All Junior and Senior division players must wear the uniform. This includes a team shirt, with a number, hat, shoes (may wear metal baseball cleats or tennis shoes), pants, and an appropriate baseball glove. Hats shall be worn at all times while on the field for defense. No shorts or open toes shoes shall be worn. If a child loses a uniform, the manager is responsible to inform the league so that a replacement can be secured at the cost of the parent/guardian.

**(D)** Field Set-Up. **Both managers are required to set up the field prior to each game and to tear**

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**down the field if no game is following.** *If BOTH Teams are LOCAL:* Home Team will be responsible for marking the baselines, Visiting team will be responsible for dragging, watering and placing bases. The lines will be marked prior to the start of each game. No throw down bases are to be used; all bases shall be secured to the ground. Please handle bases with care, each must last through the season and beyond.

**(E)** If a portable pitcher's mound is being utilized, metal cleats are not to be worn on the mound due to the wear and tear metal cleats cause per manufacturer's recommendations.

**3.7 Junior & Senior Baseball/Softball:** Any player with amateur status who will attain the age of 12 years of age as per the current Little League age chart and who will not attain the age of 15 years, as per the current Little League age chart of the year in question shall be eligible to compete in the **Junior Division**. Any player with amateur status who will attain the age of 13 years as per the current Little League age chart and who will not attain the age of 17 years as per the current Little League age chart of the year in question shall be eligible to compete in the **Senior Division**. This division shall play at least 12 games during the season in accordance to LL Junior/Senior Division rules. All games shall be played competitively with an Official Scorekeeper from the Home team keeping score at each game. Standings for this division will be determined by Local League Tournament of Champions tournament play after all regular season games are completed.

**(A)** Junior and Senior team rosters shall be at least 12 players or at the discretion of the Player Agent. If a team roster goes below 12 players, the team may be assigned a player, if possible, by the PA. Placement shall be approved by the Board of Directors.

**(B)** Each regular season Local League Board of Directors may elect Junior and Senior divisions to participate in District 51 Interleague or not. If the Local League elects these divisions to participate in District 51 Interleague, District 51 Standing Rules shall apply and supersede Local League Bylaws and Standing Rules.

**(C)** All Junior and Senior division players must wear the uniform. This includes a team shirt, with a number, hat, shoes (may wear metal baseball cleats or tennis shoes), pants, and an appropriate baseball glove. Hats shall be worn at all times while on the field for defense. No shorts or open toes shoes shall be worn. If a child loses a uniform, the manager is responsible to inform the league so that a replacement can be secured at the cost of the parent/guardian.

**(D)** **Field Set-Up. Both managers are required to set up the field prior to each game and to tear down the field if no game is following.** *If BOTH Teams are LOCAL:* Home Team will be responsible for marking the baselines, Visiting team will be responsible for dragging, watering and placing bases. The lines will be marked prior to the start of each game. No throw down bases are to be used; all bases shall be secured to the ground. Please handle bases with care, each must last through the season and beyond.

**(E)** If a portable pitcher's mound is being utilized, metal cleats are not to be worn on the mound

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due to the wear and tear metal cleats cause per manufacturer's recommendations.

- 3.8** Any and all waivers presented to the Board of Directors by one or all of the above-mentioned authorized Board members will be impartial. If a said player is related to the Player Agent or the Coaching Coordinator, the Player Agent of a comparable Division or the Coaching Coordinator of a comparable Division will evaluate the player; with no bias. Their recommendation will be brought to the Board of Directors for approval.
- 3.9** The On Deck circle will be used in Intermediate/Junior/Senior Divisions and above for both Baseball and Softball.
- 3.10** A Board Member must be present at any games where Rosamond Little League is the home team.

## ARTICLE IV: PLAYER SELECTION SYSTEM

- 4.1** President, Vice President, Player Agent, Division Director and Managers shall be present at their Division draft.
- 4.2** Determination of method of team name selection by managers shall be at the discretion of the Board of Directors. Managers returning to the SAME DIVISION shall be given first option to RETAIN team name from last season. If they do not wish to retain name, they will draw names with the remaining managers.
- 4.3** Only players that attend at least 1 tryout will be eligible for the draft. Exception for returning Major or Junior Division Players not moving up this year and has signed up on a regular season sign up day. Players that do not tryout may be assigned to teams, by the PA, if allowed by Little League Rules, as space becomes available, by the PA with Board of Directors approval based on the date of player registration.
- 4.4** During the draft there may be a 1-minute time limit for choosing a player. Any Manager failing to comply with this time limit may lose his/her turn. The President or Vice President has the authority to change the imposed time limit at the time of the draft if the conditions warrant.
- 4.5** Division Eligibility
- (A)** Baseball, all league age 12-year-old players shall be drafted to a Major team.

**EXCEPTION:** Player Agents and Safety Officer may recommend a 12-year-old be left down in Minors if there is a safety issue regarding that player playing at the Major Level. This recommendation must then be approved by the Executive Board. This exception pertains to Baseball and Softball.

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- (B) Softball, all league age 12 years old players shall be drafted to a Major team.
- (C) Softball, all returning Major league age 11-year-old players shall be drafted to a Major team.
- (D) Softball, all non-returning league age 11-year-old players are eligible to be drafted to a Major team.
- (E) League age 7-year-old players may try out for Farm or Minor Baseball/Softball; based on a review by the PA and Safety Officer and written request by a parent.
- (F) League age 4- to 6-year-old players shall be placed on a T-Ball team by the Player Agent.
- (G) League age 6- to 8-year-old players will be placed on a Coach-Pitch team by the Player Agent.

**Exception:** League age 7- or 8-year-olds who tried out are eligible to be drafted to the Farm Division.

**4.6** Draft Option Plan A from the Little League Official Regulations, Playing Rules and Policies will be adopted by the Local League

**(A)** Farm/Minor Baseball and Softball Divisions will be serpentine draw for draft and position; the draft order shall be determined by pulling a number from a hat (no sooner than 15 minutes prior to each Division's draft) and serpentine after the first pick.

1. **Secrecy:** Players shall never be told the position in which they were drafted.
2. **Bonus Picks:** Each manager requiring eight or more players prior to the draft to complete the roster will be allowed one bonus pick at the completion of round four. If more than one manager is allowed bonus picks under this section, the order of rotation will be identical to that being followed in the draft.

## **(B) OPTIONS ON SONS, DAUGHTERS, AND SIBLINGS**

1. An option is an agreement between a manager and the Player Agent covering a special condition. All options must be in writing (except No.1) and be submitted to the Player Agent 48 hours prior to the draft. The options are as follows:
  - a. **Brother/Sister in the Draft**
    - When there are two or more siblings in the draft, and the first brother or sister is drafted by a manager, that manager automatically has an option to draft the other brother or sister on the next turn. If the manager does not exercise the option, the second sibling is then available to be drafted

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by any team.

## b. Brother/Sister of a Player Currently on a Team

- If desired, a manager shall submit an option in writing on a draftee if the player candidate's brother or sister is a member of that manager's team. If such an option is submitted, the manager **MUST** draft the sibling within the first three draft selections.

## c. Sons/Daughters of Managers

- If a manager has sons and/or daughters eligible under Regulation 2 for the draft and wishes to draft them, he/she must submit the option in writing. If so stated, the parent/manager is required to exercise the option at or before the close of the 4<sup>th</sup> draft round, depending on the League Age of sons and/or daughters. A parent/manager option takes priority over any other option.

**NOTE:** These provisions also apply for managers having eligible brothers or sisters in the draft.

## d. Sons/Daughters of Coaches

- A **NEW** coach shall not be appointed nor approved until after the draft to avoid "Red Shirting" of players through selective coaching appointments. A returning coach, through the manager, may exercise an option in writing to the Player Agent provided:
  - i. The coach has served as a manager or coach in the league (at any level) for the past two years.

**AND;**

- ii. The coach is returning to the same Manager as last year.

**IMPORTANT:** In order for a manager to exercise this option, the coach must qualify under **BOTH** conditions above.

## e. Draft Rounds

- If an option is submitted in writing for the son and/or daughter of a manager or coach, such candidate must be drafted in or before the

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following round:

## Baseball

○ Draft Round	Little League	Junior	Senior
○ 5	9-10	12	14
○ 4	11	13	15
○ 3	12	14	16

## Softball

○ Draft Round	Little League	Junior	Senior
○ 5	9-10	12	14,13
○ 4	11	13	15
○ 3	12	14	16

### f. **Special Considerations Which Apply**

- If the manager so chooses, the option on son or daughter may be waived.
- In the event the parent becomes a manager in another league, that parent may not claim the son or daughter.
- Players are eligible only in the league whose boundaries include the parent/manager's home residence (as defined by Little League).
- When a vacancy occurs during the playing season, the player selected to fill the vacancy becomes a permanent member of that team, governed by the same regulations as all members of the team selected in the draft.
- All players, including sons/daughters of managers and coaches at the Minor League level, are subject to the draft.

(NOTE: THE LITTLE LEAGUE DEFINITION OF RESIDENCE IS LOCATED IN THE "LITTLE LEAGUE RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS" SECTION OF THE "LITTLE LEAGUE POLICIES AND PRINCIPLES" CHAPTER OF THIS MANUAL, AND IN THE RULEBOOKS.)

### 4.7 ALTERNATE METHODS OF OPERATION – The Regular Season

- (A) To aid leagues that are having a difficult time getting enough players for their regular season teams the following option is available:
- (B) A pool of players from existing regular season teams can be created with players that are willing

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to participate in extra games during the regular season when teams face a shortage of roster players for a regular season game. Pool players cannot Pitch or Catch. All pool play must be in accordance to Little League Official Guidelines, Playing Rules and Regulations.

**4.8 Team Expansions:** Expanding by two (2) or more teams, all players are redrafted, through a serpentine draft.

## **4.9 TRADES\CALL-UPS (BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL)**

- (A)** There shall not be any communications between the Managers, Coaches, or parents about player trades. All communications regarding trades shall be made from the team Manager to the PA. If communications between the Managers, Coaches, or parents occurs, the trade shall not be allowed by the Board of Directors. All trades shall be completed immediately after the draft and trade will be made within the same number of picks in that division. (Example: If the division has 12 picks per round, the players traded must have been picked within 12 picks of each other.)
- (B)** A player not attending at least 1 tryout may be called up to a Major team if: 1) a Major team has less than 12 players on their roster, 2) Board of Directors approves the call up and 3) the call up does not occur within the last 4 weeks of the regular season. Playoff games are not considered part of the regular season for this rule.
- (C)** If a Minor player refuses the call up to Majors, the player loses eligibility to play for the Local League All Star Tournament team. The player will also lose eligibility to be called up to Majors for the remainder of the season.
- (D)** Parents of Minor siblings on the same team may refuse the call up to Majors if this creates a family hardship. If the parents refuse call up to Majors, the sibling shall stay on their team, however, the sibling shall not be eligible to be called up to Majors for the remainder of the year.
- (E)** The Manager's child is exempt from a call up to Majors. If a Manager agrees to his/her child to be called up to Majors, the Manager shall state this permission in writing to the PA. If a Manager declines his/her child to be call up to Majors, the Manager shall state this denial in writing to the PA. Once a Manager declines his/her child to be called up to Majors, the player loses eligibility to be called up to Majors for the remainder of the year.
- (F)** A maximum of two players from any individual team may be called up. No team shall lose a second player until all other teams in that division have also had a player called up from their teams.
- (G)** Players shall not be called up to Majors within the last 4 weeks of the regular season. Play-

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offs are not considered regular season for this rule.

- (H) League age 9 year old players shall not be called up to a Major team.
- (I) Farm players shall not be called up to a Major baseball team. Minor teams are not required to call up from the Farm division if the minimum requirement of 10 players is met.

## ARTICLE V: ALL STAR SELECTIONS

- 5.1 All players who have played at least 60% of the season will be eligible for Nomination.
- 5.2 The Eligible players will then be ranked by the Team Manager and Coach then placed on the Voting Ballot by team.
- 5.3 Each Team Manager will then select their All-Star eligible players.
- 5.4 Player Agent will tally each player's votes. The top voted nine (9) players will be considered to be placed on the team.
- 5.5 All Star Managers will be voted on by the Board of Directors. Selection of All Star Managers will be based on the following factors: Manager's sportsmanship, conduct, covering of umpire shifts, The voted All Star Manager will then have the option to select three additional players to be placed on their team.

Voted Managers and Coaches of All Star Teams will not be notified until Teams have been selected. Managers will then choose their 2nd Coach.

## ARTICLE VI: PRACTICES AND GAMES

- 6.1 Teams shall practice only on Board approved practice fields.
- 6.2 All practices shall be conducted under direct supervision of a Board Approved Manager/Coach. Medical releases shall be in possession of Manager/Coach conducting practice.
- 6.3 Allowed practice times per division:
  - (A) **T-Ball** – T-ball shall be allowed to have announced SCHEDULED practices and/or games for a total of no more than 3 hours per week.
  - (B) **Coach-Pitch** – Coach-Pitch shall be allowed to have announced SCHEDULED practices and/or games for a total of no more than 4 hours per week.
  - (C) **Farm** – Farm shall be allowed to have announced SCHEDULED practices and/or games for a total of no more than 6 hours per week.

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**(D) Minor and Major** – Minor and Major teams shall be allowed to have announced SCHEDULED practices and/or games for a total of no more than 4 days per week and no more than 8 total hours. Scheduled practices are interpreted to mean the time a Manager schedules a practice. **There is a two-hour time limit for each practice for all levels of play.**

**(E) Intermediate, Junior and Senior** – Intermediate, Junior and Senior division teams may have an optional fifth day of practice. This fifth day must be advertised as optional. All practices shall be scheduled and provided in writing to each team member.

**THERE IS NO EXCEPTION TO THIS RULE, EXCEPT AS REQUIRED BY ALL-STAR RULES.** Managers can be suspended for violating this rule after an initial written warning from the President.

**6.4** The Home Team shall provide an official score keeper for Farm, Minor, Major, Intermediate, Junior and Senior divisions. The official scorekeeper shall also keep track of pitch count for both teams.

**(A)** The official score books will be housed upstairs in the score booth for Farm and Minor divisions. There will be one (1) official book for each division.

**Exception:** If teams are playing interleague games they will require their own score books.

**(B)** The Home Team official score keeper shall obtain the book prior to the start of the game, maintain the book during the game, obtain signatures from both Managers (if necessary) at the end of the game and return the book to the score booth.

**(C)** The Local League Board of Directors Head Score Keeper will track and maintain all official score books to ensure fair play and official standings of the competitive divisions.

**(D)** If a division is playing through District 51 Interleague, the Manager is responsible for selecting one volunteer to maintain a score book for the Local League. The Manager is responsible for making this score book available at any time to the Board of Directors Head Score Keeper and PA. The manager is also responsible for reporting all scores of interleague games to the Division Director within two (2) hours of the end of the game. This Local League score book will be used to determine official standings for the Local League.

**(E)** The scorekeeper, **as a courtesy**, will announce the pitch count for each pitcher at the end of every half inning, to include the final inning of play. The Manager is responsible to know the teams own pitch count.

**6.5** Every effort shall be made to start a game on time. The Board Member on duty shall ensure games start at the scheduled time.

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**6.6 Game Time Limits:** The rules in the current season Baseball/Softball Official Regulations and Playing Rules must be followed in all aspects.

## 6.7 POINT SYSTEM FOR LEAGUE STANDINGS

Two (2) points shall be awarded to the winning team of each game. One (1) point shall be awarded to each team for a tie. The team with the most accumulated points at the end of the regular season shall be awarded 1st place. In the event there is a tie for points at the end of the regular season, the tie breaker shall be as follows:

1. Most wins
2. Head-to-Head
3. Runs allowed (head-to-head total for the season)
4. Runs Scored (head-to-head total for the season)

Note: If a game has been determined complete by either time, or innings played, and the game is still tied, the game is **COMPLETE/OVER**. Instead each team shall be awarded 1 point toward the final standings.

**6.8** Games tied after 6 innings (7 for JR/SR) can go into extra innings if there is time left on the clock. Games tied once time expires will not be replayed or continued and each team shall be awarded 1 point.

**6.9** Majors and Higher Divisions, games tied after 4 complete innings (5 for JR/SR) and have been called due to time or weather constraints shall not be replayed or continued, each team is awarded 1 point.

**6.10** Weather/Time Suspended games (not regulation) shall be rescheduled within 14 days after the suspension and shall be made up in the order of suspension. Suspended games shall not be scheduled on Easter/Memorial weekends and Mother's Day.

**NOTE: GAMES SHALL NOT BE RESCHEDULED FOR ANY REASON. ONLY EXCEPTIONS ARE SAFE PLAYING CONDITION OF THE FIELD OR INCLEMENT WEATHER.**

**6.11** Any player missing 3 or more consecutive missed practices and/or games shall be reported to the PA by the team Manager. The PA shall notify the parents and VP.

**6.12** Any player injured (practice, game, home, etc.) shall be reported to the Safety Officer by the team Manager and shall require a note from a medical provider in order to return to practice or game.

**6.13** Pool play shall be allowed in Farm and above Baseball and all Softball Divisions only in strict accordance with the Guidelines of the Little League rule book. Pool players playing for a team other than their own shall not pitch or catch in those games and shall be placed at the end of the batting order.

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- (A) If a Manager has less than 9 players for a game and the PA has set up a pool players list, the Manager must contact the PA for the division and request the number of players needed to make 9. Once the PA has confirmation a pool player is going to the game, the PA is to call the Manager and advise who the player is. A pool player's minimum playing time is 9 defensive outs and 1 at bat. If one of the regular season players shows up, they must enter the game and meet the minimum play time. Opposing Managers/Coaches and Umpires must be notified of the pool player's attendance prior to the start of the game.

**6.14** Drop third strike shall be in effect for the following divisions: Majors and above for Baseball and Softball

**6.15** Local Tournament of Champions will be 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> placed teams, both baseball and softball in regular season. Games will be determined prior to last 2 regular season games.

**6.16** **Tournament of Champions:** The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place regular season teams for all divisions, excluding T-Ball and Coach-Pitch, may be participating in Tournament of Champions (TOC) Tournament Play. Pitching restrictions carry from regular season to playoffs to TOC regarding pitch counts/innings and days of rest.

(A) Teams shall not be able to pick up a player for TOC if they lose a player. There will be no pool play allowed in TOC. If a team cannot field a team due to a shortage of players, the 3<sup>rd</sup> place team may be sent in their place.

(B) District 51 District Administrator shall determine the number of Tournament teams from each Little League. District 51 will also supply a Standing Rules for the TOC play that must be adhered to.

## ARTICLE VII – CHALLENGER DIVISION

**7.1** The Challenger Division of Little League Baseball and Softball is a program for Intellectually and physically disabled youth to enjoy the full benefits of participation in an athletic environment structured to their abilities. There are more than just the skills of baseball that are learned through the experience of participating in the Challenger Division. The benefits to each player include: strengthening the player's self-esteem, the opportunity to mainstream into other divisions of play, the discipline of teamwork, citizenship and fair play, as well as the therapeutic benefits received and the social skills learned. These guidelines have been established to help keep the Challenger Division structured and uniform but they are only guidelines and can be altered to meet the needs of each player and team with the Division Director's approval.

**7.2** The 11" Safe Soft ball should be the ball of choice for the Challenger Division.

**7.3** Games shall run 1 hour in length (this can be adjusted accordingly due to weather elements, tiring

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of team, etc.)

- 7.4 Players are encouraged to wear the uniform shirt, hat, sweats or uniform pants, cleats (recommended but optional). No open toed shoes.
- 7.5 When participation numbers allow, levels of play will be based upon player's size, age, and skill level.
- 7.6 Batting line-up to be rotated each game. The Challenger offense bats through the entire line-up. If the visitors are not a Challenger team they will bat until 3 outs are made or once through the line-up.
- 7.7 Buddies (no more than one per Challenger player) will be assigned as needed.
- 7.8 Each batter receives 5 pitches to put the ball in play. If the batter doesn't put the ball in play the tee will be brought out and they will hit from the tee.
- 7.9 At the Manager's/Coach's discretion, runners will be removed from base if an out is made against them. Said runners that are out and stay on base will not score a run.
- 7.10 Challenger pitchers will use the softball pitching mound or some proximity.
- 7.11 One base on an overthrow, try not to encourage aggressive base running or too many homeruns.
- 7.12 Use of an umpire is not needed though, it is recommended. No official scorekeeping. Using the scoreboard is required. Record runs accordingly in order to keep the games close in score.
- 7.13 Rotate outfield positions, keeping in mind any safety issues. Each player should play an infield position at least once per game.