

## LOS GATOS LITTLE LEAGUE 2008 AAA POLICIES AND LOCAL RULES

The following are policies developed by Los Gatos Little League over the years to ensure a safe, valuable and enjoyable season for all participants consistent with our mission statement: ***Los Gatos Little League's mission is to develop fundamental baseball skills while positively reinforcing lessons in teamwork, respect and sportsmanship, both in victory and in defeat.*** These policies have been approved by the Board of Directors and are to be followed by all managers, coaches, players and spectators. Managers are expected to ensure that all coaches, players and spectators associated with their team follow these policies.

As a manager or coach it is your responsibility to be knowledgeable about the rules of play of Little League baseball. Each team is provided with an official rule book. We know managers and coaches are often busy professionals, juggling jobs, family, baseball and other responsibilities. Please read the official rule book at least once, however, to familiarize yourself with all rules of play. Certain rules, such as the pitch count rules, are critical for every game.

Managers may not agree to change these policies or any local or Little League rule at any time. If a manager would like to deviate from these policies in any given circumstance, the manager must obtain prior approval from the AAA Commissioner.

If you believe that someone has not followed these policies, including issues you are having as a manager or coach with your players, their parents or spectators, you should report the issue to the AAA Commissioner. Managers that believe these policies are not being followed by the opposing team should discuss the issue with the opposing manager. Parents that believe these policies are not being followed by their child's manager or coach should discuss the issue with the manager. If the issue cannot be resolved in this manner, please report it immediately to the AAA Commissioner. Usually these issues are misunderstandings that are best resolved when they occur so that we can ensure a good experience for all involved.

A manager's or coach's failure to ensure that these policies are followed may impact their future selection as a manager or coach. If necessary, the Board of Directors may also remove a manager or coach during the season if it is in the best interests of the league.

1. All players must remain on the bench when not batting, on base or in the field.
2. Only players and coaches are allowed in the dugouts and in the field of play. All equipment is to be kept in the dugout. Only adult coaches or uniformed players may be base coaches.
3. In games lasting six (6) innings or more, each player must play at least four (4) innings in the field except for teams with thirteen (13) players in the lineup. If a team has thirteen (13) players in the lineup, then in games lasting six (6) innings or more, teams may have up to seven (7) players play only three (3) innings. Little league playing rules apply to games lasting less than six (6) innings.
4. Each player must play at least one inning in the infield. The intent is to require managers and coaches to encourage kids to play several positions, both infield and outfield, and keep the game "interesting" for all. Even players that express a desire to play only in the outfield should be rotated into the infield for one inning. Managers may consider safety (primarily at pitcher, catcher, third and first base) when determining where to place players in the infield.
5. Please report no-shows of umpires to the Commissioner. You should also report any concerns you have with any umpire's appearance, attitude or ability to the Commissioner.
6. The Los Gatos Little League has partnered with the Positive Coaching Alliance (<http://www.positivecoach.org>). We Honor the Game. As a result, there must be absolutely no derogatory comments made to any umpire, player or coach by anyone (player, coach or spectator). Managers, coaches, players and spectators must refrain from making any calls that are the

responsibility of the umpire (ball, strike, safe, out, balk, etc.). We use sometimes use youth umpires in AAA and they can be become influenced or intimidated by others making calls. It is the manager's responsibility to ensure this rule is followed by all of the team's coaches, players and spectators. For example, as a manger, if you have parents yelling "strike" or "safe" before the umpire makes a call, please ask them to stop.

7. If there are disagreements with the umpires, the opposing managers, coaches or players, or any spectators, the managers should calmly discuss the issue together with the umpire. This discussion should occur between innings unless the activity must be stopped immediately. A manager who believes a call was made incorrectly may calmly discuss the call or rules with the umpire in the presence of the opposing manager and outside the presence of any player or spectator. Please think of a blown call as a teachable moment, showing your team how to handle the issue in a constructive manner. Please set expectations appropriately with the team, their families and spectators. The following is a link to useful parent information from the PCA:  
<http://www.positivecoach.org/parents/guidelines.html>
8. At the conclusion of the game, players and managers must line up to shake hands with the opposing team. Remind your players that this is a time to congratulate the other team for a game well played, and not a time to joke or be abusive (such as saying "bad game").
9. **Before** distributing the snacks or snack shack tickets or dismissing the players, the teams **must** clean up the field, dugout **and spectator areas**, making sure all trash is placed in appropriate receptacles, **even if it is not from your team**. This rule also applies following practices too. The league has invested heavily in its fields. **We must build a culture of caring for our fields.** We suggest that players be required to clear all debris from these areas prior to receiving snack shack tickets. Managers may choose another method (such as assigning one or a group of players or parents to accomplish the task) as long as **all** debris is removed. Managers or coaches that arrive to a field of play, dugout or spectator area that is not completely free of debris should report the situation to the AA Commissioner.

**LOS GATOS LITTLE LEAGUE  
2008 AAA LOCAL RULES**

The following are local rules adopted by Los Gatos Little League as allowed by National Little League rules and operating procedures. These local rules will be enforced by game umpires.

As with the LGLL AAA Policies, managers may not agree to change these local rules at any time. Managers that believe these rules are not being followed should discuss the situation with the umpire in the presence of the opposing team's manager. A manager's or coach's failure to ensure that these rules are followed may impact their future selection as a manager or coach and may be removed by the Board of Directors during the season if it is in the best interests of the league.

1. Games will be a maximum of six (6) innings, except in the event of a tie or when the game is called early by the umpire. On Saturdays, however, no new inning may be started more than 2 hours after the officially scheduled start time for the game and no game may continue more than 2 hours 30 minutes after the officially scheduled start time for the game. On Saturdays, for purposes of the five run limit rule, any inning starting more than one hour forty-five minutes after the officially scheduled start time for the game shall be considered the last inning, although the game may continue as long as the inning is completed prior to 2 hours after the officially scheduled start time for the game. The umpire will be the official time keeper but may delegate this duty to the home team scorekeeper.