

LOS GATOS LITTLE LEAGUE 2008 MAJORS 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 Majors 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 Majors 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 Majors 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. The home team will supply an official scorekeeper for the game. The scorekeeper will use the official scorebook provided by the Majors Commissioner. All meetings with the official scorekeeper, including substitutions, must be done off to the side of the batting area and not behind the catcher during warm-ups. The manager will also give substitutions to the home plate umpire.
2. Only players and coaches are allowed in the dugouts and in the field of play. Players should remain in the dugout or on the field during games unless otherwise directed by a coach or manager. Players should not be in the spectator stands. All equipment is to be kept in the dugout. Only adult coaches or uniformed players may be base coaches. Only one coach may be on the astroturf in front of the dugout at one time (in addition to any base coaches). A total of three adult coaches may be on the field or in the dugout at any time.
3. 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.). 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 manager, if you have parents yelling "strike" or "safe" before the umpire makes a call, please ask them to stop. The following is a link to useful parent information from the PCA: <http://www.positivecoach.org/parents/guidelines.html>

4. 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”).
5. **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 Majors Commissioner.
6. Every player on a team roster will participate in each game for a full three (3) innings. The innings need not be consecutive, but substitution rule 3.03 must be followed when substituting players. In the event that the home team is ahead after 5 ½ innings, six (6) defensive outs will fulfill the requirement for the visiting team. If the game is officially ended early prior to the completion of six (6) full innings, but the game is a complete regulation game, then mandatory play for all roster players for that game will be six (6) defensive outs.
7. Continuous batting will not be used.
8. Running up the score is discouraged. Please do your best to follow PCA philosophy if your team is ahead by ten or more runs. A manager whose team is losing by ten or more runs may opt to end the game pursuant to the 10-run rule (including completion of a regulation game) as long as the manager has complied with the mandatory play requirements.
9. A pitcher should not appear in more than a total of six (6) innings against the same team during the regular season.

**LOS GATOS LITTLE LEAGUE
2008 MAJORS 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 Majors 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. The ten-run rule will be in effect only when the game duration has reached 2 hours and another game is scheduled to follow the game in progress.