



2017 – Major League Local Rules and Selected LLI Rules

1. SEASON

The Major League season will consist of (a) 12-14 scheduled regular season games and (b) a post-season tournament. Some games may be scheduled as double-headers, if necessary.

2. RESCHEDULED GAMES

Games that are postponed for any reason will be rescheduled by the OBLL Scheduling Coordinator or his/her designee. Managers are not permitted to unilaterally reschedule games. It is OBLL's policy that, except in cases of prolonged weather situations, all 12-14 regular season games will be played by each team.

3. MAJOR LEAGUE REPLACEMENT POOL

The OBLL Player Agent will maintain a pool of AAA players eligible for promotion to a Major League team (the "Replacement Pool") for either (a) a specified game or games (such as when a Major League team does not have a sufficient number of rostered players available for a scheduled game), or (b) the remainder of the season (in the event a player is permanently removed from a Major League roster for any reason). The Replacement Pool shall include (a) all AAA players who achieved a Major League qualifying evaluation score, but were not drafted to a team, and

Olentangy Braves Little League

(b) a sufficient number of additional players, as determined at the discretion of the Player Agent. It is the responsibility of the Major League manager to request that the Player Agent assign a player from the Replacement Pool. The determination of whether a replacement player should be assigned and the selection of such player is at the sole discretion of the Player Agent, although any replacement player must be assigned to a team within the Charter in which that player resides.

A Major League manager who requests a player from the Replacement Pool for a single game or limited number of games must consult with the player's AAA manager before using the replacement player as a pitcher to ensure (a) that all Little League pitch limits are observed and (b) that the use of the player as a pitcher in a Major League game does not interfere with the AAA's managers ability to use the player as a pitcher on his regular AAA team.

Assignment under this rule is voluntary, and no player shall be required to play as a replacement Major League player.

A Major League team may choose to play any game with fewer than 12 players and is therefore not required to utilize the Replacement Pool. Having fewer than nine players **at the scheduled time of a game**, however, may result in a forfeit.

4. **JUNIOR LEAGUE REPLACEMENT POOL**

The OBLL Player Agent will maintain a pool of Major League players eligible for promotion to a Junior League team, similar to the rule set forth above for the Major League Replacement Pool. Players assigned to Major League teams may therefore be called upon to play in Junior League Games.

5. **ROSTER SIZE**

Each Major League team is to have a roster size of 10-12 players.

6. **PLAYER AGENT AUTHORITY**

The OBLL Player Agent has ultimate authority over all rosters and has the power, to the full extent permitted by Little League regulations, to control or modify rosters to ensure the best interests of all participants.

Olentangy Braves Little League

7. REGISTERED PLAYERS ONLY

No player shall be permitted to participate in any OLL game or participate in any OBLL practice unless that player is (a) registered with Olentangy Little League and (b) assigned to the team's roster or otherwise approved by the OBLL Player Agent.

8. TRADES

Trading of players is permitted, but must be completed on the day of the draft. Any trades must be for an equal number of players and must be approved by both the OBLL Player Agent and the OBLL President.

9. MANAGER/COACH/VOLUNTEER QUALIFICATIONS

All individuals desiring to manage or coach in any OBLL division may be required to participate in coaching clinics, umpire clinics, interviews or other activities, as determined by the OBLL Coaching Coordinator and OBLL President.

In addition to assigned coaches, managers are permitted to obtain the volunteer assistance, **during practices**, of team member's parents or otherwise qualified individuals. During games, teams shall have no more than one manager and two coaches in uniform. No additional coaches or volunteers are permitted to participate in games.

Per Little League regulations, all persons who provide regular service to OBLL and/or have repetitive access to, or contact with, players or teams must annually complete and submit an official "Little League Volunteer Application" to the OBLL President. This rule applies to all managers and coaches, as well as parent or other volunteers who provide assistance on a repetitive basis. Annual background checks shall be paid for directly by OBLL.

All managers are responsible for ensuring compliance by their team and (to the extent reasonably possible) their team's parents and families with all Little League rules and all OBLL bylaws. A manager who fails to do so is subject to removal as manager, at the recommendation of the OBLL Coaching Coordinator and upon approval of the OBLL President and Board of Directors.

10. UNIFORMS

Olentangy Braves Little League

All uniforms worn by managers, coaches or players during OBLL games must be provided by OBLL. All managers and coaches must be in uniform during games.

The manager shall select the color of pants to be worn by the team. All players shall wear the same color pants during games.

11. EQUIPMENT DEPOSIT

OBLL will provide equipment to each team for use throughout the season. To ensure return of such equipment, each manager (or a person they designate) must provide a check made out to OBLL in an amount and pursuant to a process to be determined by the Coaching Coordinator on an annual basis. Such check will not be cashed unless the manager fails to return the equipment at the conclusion of the season.

12. NO JEWELRY

Pursuant to Little League International 1.11(j), players may not wear jewelry of any kind, other than those worn for medical purposes. Both managers/coaches and umpires should enforce this rule.

13. SCORE, PITCHER AND UMPIRE REPORTING

OBLL has established an online score reporting system. The winning manager in each game (or someone he designates) is responsible for posting the final score, pitch count and umpire evaluation form by midnight on game day. Game scores and current standings will be updated by OBLL on a daily basis.

14. TIE GAMES

Unless the teams have a future game scheduled against one another, tied games which are suspended because of time limitations, weather, or darkness, and which constitute a regulation game per Little League rules, shall be declared a tie. Whether a game is to be declared a tie (i.e., whether runs scored in the final inning count) is governed by Little League rule 4.11.

15. TIME LIMITS

No new inning may start less than 25 minutes before the scheduled start of the following game or 2 hours after the start of the game.

16. PITCH COUNTS

Pitch count rules are strictly enforced.

Pitch count rules are fully set forth in the Little League rulebook and **OBLL managers are expected to be fully familiar with these rules and communicate their players results by midnight of each game day.**

At a minimum, OBLL rules require that at the conclusion of each game, each team shall physically sign off on the opposing team's pitch count for that game. It is the responsibility of the **winning team coach** to enter all pitch counts for both the winning and losing teams on the established OBLL website as well as the date/score of each game.

17. PRE-GAME LINEUP EXCHANGE

Immediately prior to each game, managers shall exchange line-ups. Line-ups shall include (a) the batting order, and (b) the starting defensive players listed by position.

18. CONTINUOUS BATTING ORDER

OBLL Major League games **will** utilize a continuous batting order, where each player on the roster shall bat in order regardless of their defensive position. OBLL highly recommends a continuous batting order for all regular season games.

19. FIRST BASE COACH

OBLL encourages the use of bench players as a first-base coach. Teams may have a manager or coach share the first base coach's box with a bench player. Any player acting as a first base coach must wear a helmet.

Olentangy Braves Little League

20. FIELD PREPARATION, DUGOUTS, AND CONCLUSION OF GAME

The home team manager and coaches are responsible for preparation of the field before each game. The away team manager and coaches are responsible for dragging the field and putting away all the bases and equipment after each game.

Both teams shall have an equal amount of infield practice prior to a game. The visiting team shall take infield first, followed by the home team. If time permits, each team shall have a total of 10 minutes infield.

The home team shall occupy the third-base dugout. No person other than uniformed players, managers and coaches may be in the dugout. Uniformed players must remain on the field or in the dugout throughout the game and may not leave the dugout without umpire permission. Each team is responsible for cleaning its dugout area at the conclusion of each game, including removal of all trash.

Both teams shall ensure that, at the conclusion of the final game on a field for the day, that all trash has been placed in trash cans (including in spectator areas), that the bases have been removed, and that all equipment has been stored and locked.

21. SAFETY RULES

All safety rules, including the rule governing lightning, are to be strictly enforced.

22. PRE-GAME OATH

Prior to each game, a manager, coach, player or players chosen by the home team manager shall lead the teams in reciting the Little League Oath and, when a flag is visible, the Pledge of Allegiance.

Olentangy Braves Little League

23. UMPIRE HARASSMENT

Harassment of umpires will not be tolerated. Per Little League Rule 9.02 (a):

Any umpire's decision which involves judgment, such as, but not limited to, whether a batted ball is fair or foul, whether a pitch is a strike or a ball, or whether a runner is safe or out, is final. **No player, manager, coach or substitute shall object to any such judgment decisions.**

OBLL has implemented the "6 things rules" in all levels of umpired Little League baseball games. The 6 things that are not allowed to question, discuss or inquire are fair/foul, out/ safe or ball/strike. Any coach, player or parent that violates this rule will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including suspension and/or removal from team for the remainder of the season.

24. MINIMUM PLAYER TIME

Per Little League rules, all players must play a minimum of six defensive outs.

25. DROPPED THIRD STRIKE

Per Little League Rule 6.05(b), new in 2012, a batter may become a runner on a third strike not caught by the catcher.

26. INFIELD FLY RULE

The infield fly rule is in effect.

27. STEALING/BASERUNNING

Runners must stay on their base until the pitched ball has been batted or has crossed home plate.

28. WARMING UP PITCHERS

Any player warming up a pitcher must either be in full catcher's gear or, if not in full gear, must be wearing a catcher's mask and standing up in front of home plate. No adult or coach may warm up a pitcher at any time.

Olentangy Braves Little League

29. 10-RUN RULE

The 10-run “mercy” rule is in effect, per Little League rule 4.10(e).

30. THROWN BAT RULE

OBLL local rules provide that in the event of a thrown bat by a batter, the team will be given a warning by the umpire. Each thrown bat thereafter will result in the batter being called out. If a thrown bat hits any person (including the catcher, umpire, base coaches, or other defensive players), the batter will be called out regardless of whether a warning had previously been issued.

If there are any questions, comments or concerns regarding the rules and/or interpretation of the rules, please contact the Major’s Commissioner, Shawn Moore at majors@olentangybravesll.org