



American Division 2024

Through baseball, the Rancho Cordova Little League ("RCLL") seeks to enhance the physical, mental, and emotional well-being of every child that takes part. It is the league's express goal that every player will be a better citizen and have a greater chance for success in future endeavors, as a result of their Little League experiences. As such, the Rancho Cordova Little League expects the highest degree of sportsmanship from its members.

- Main Objective is to make sure players are having fun, being safe, and learning the game of baseball
- Always be positive with comments and gestures
 - Model and enforce our "Code of Conduct"
 - Follow and recite "Little League Pledge"
- **Expectations of Managers (including, but not limited to)**
 - Attend the Manager Meeting, Rules Meeting and/or Safety Meeting, PCA and other required clinics
 - Perform field maintenance before/after practices and games as directed
 - Manage your team's parents' responsibilities to the league regarding volunteer work and fundraisers
 - Respect all league members, including League Officers, Umpires, Managers, Coaches, Players, and Spectators
 - Take responsibility for Coaches', Players', and Spectators' conduct before, during, and after games
 - Intervene as necessary to uphold a positive culture
 - Seek Board support when needed
 - Train the players in the fundamentals of teamwork, good sportsmanship, and discipline
- **Safety**
 - If there is an injury, you must report it to the safety officer, Matt Nelson; Matt@rcll.org after your game or practice
 - Always have First-Aid Kit, Safety Manual, and Players'/Coaches' Emergency Forms on hand with you
 - Contact the Safety Officer for refills for your First Aid Kit or more ice packs
- **Background Check/Volunteer Form/Badges - Little League International Requirement**
 - Each Manager/Coach/Team Parent/Volunteer/Etc. MUST complete a volunteer form to undergo a background check per LL International guidelines. Each approved volunteer MUST have a badge, excluding Scorekeepers.
 - If you have coaches who have NOT submitted their forms yet, please be sure they get them in ASAP!
- **Live Scan Fingerprints - California Law**
 - **Anyone who was fingerprinted last year, does not need it this year!**
 - California Assembly Bill 506 went into effect January 1, 2022. All administrators, employees, and volunteers must complete a background check; anyone with a history of child abuse is excluded from working or volunteering in a youth serving organization.
 - Regular volunteer means a volunteer with the youth service organization who is 18 years of age or older and who has direct contact with, or supervision of, children for more than 16 hours per month or 32 hours per year.

- We are offering 2 dates for our volunteers to get their live scan completed at no cost to the volunteer. If the volunteer fails to get it done at the 3 events we offer, then they are responsible for the cost associated with the live scan. Sign up on our website for one of the following dates.
 - Feb 3 - 9am-1pm RCLL Complex
 - Feb 24 - 9am-1pm RCLL Complex
 - Any volunteer who does not get their live scan or refuses a live scan, WILL NOT be an approved volunteer.
- **Keys**
 - You will receive 1 key to the American/National Shed
 - Keys are NOT to be duplicated for coaches and MUST be returned at the end of the spring season.
 - If your team is in TOC/All-Stars, you may return keys afterwards
- **Equipment**
 - If you need equipment, contact the Equipment Manager – Sam Hensely (Sam@rcll.org)
 - If you have broken equipment, DO NOT toss it.
 - Contact Sam and turn it in so he can get it replaced.
 - If you need a different size or do not need something anymore, please contact Sam.
 - If you need more of something, please contact Sam.
 - DO NOT go buy something on your own.
- **Schedules**
 - You will be notified as soon as they are released
 - Opening Day March 2, Games start March 9, and Last Day/End-of-Season Picnic May 18
 - Make-up games
 - Will be rescheduled by Commissioner
- **Uniforms**
 - You will be notified as soon as they are ready for pick-up
 - **Required Forms:**
 - Player Code of Conduct
 - Emergency Form
- **Striping Paint for the Field**
 - We will be supplying each Manager enough paint cans for the entire season of home games
 - If you are using the cans properly, you should have enough to last
 - Please let us know if you need instructions on how this is done
 - Once you run out of paint, you are on your own
- **Baseballs**
 - Will be given to the Umpire by the Officer-on-Duty (OD) prior to the start of each game
 - All game balls need to be returned to OD at the end of the game
- **Practices**
 - If something is wrong with our field, DO NOT go and use another field
 - Please contact me immediately
 - Field should be raked in-between ALL practices
 - If you must end your practice 5-10 mins early to do this, then that's what needs to be done

- The other team should not have to lose their practice time so you can clean up the field
 - Each team should do it on their time
- DO NOT use the fence as a backstop for the balls

- **Field set up/Field clean up**
 - Home team sets up the field
 - Visiting team cleans up the field
 - Unless other arrangements are made before the game starts

- **Scorekeepers**
 - Managers are responsible for obtaining their own scorekeeper.
 - Need to ensure the scorekeeper attends training.

- **Music**
 - Music is allowed at practices given it is appropriate.
 - Music is NOT allowed during games unless it is a special approved game by the Board.
 - Music is allowed during game warm up, NOT in between innings.

GAME COORDINATOR (AMERICAN DIVISION)

The Game Coordinator is a volunteer position that requires an adult be stationed at the American division to handle any issues that may arise when an adult umpire is not present. The volunteer cannot be associated with either team playing in the game. The Game Coordinator is an official position according to Little League International and people must respect the person's decisions and actions. The primary role is to support and protect the youth umpire.

Rule 9.03 Umpire Roles - Game Coordinator

(d) If no adult umpire is available for a game, and non-adult umpires are used exclusively for that game, the local Little League must assign an adult as Game Coordinator, or the game cannot be played. The Game Coordinator must not be a manager or coach of either team in the game, and cannot be assigned as Game Coordinator for more than one game at a time.

The Game Coordinator's duties shall be:

(1) To be included in the pregame meeting as noted in Rule 4.01;

(2) To remain at the game at all times, including between half-innings, in a position to see all actions on the field and in close proximity to the field (not in any enclosure). If, for some reason, the Game Coordinator is not present or is unable to perform his/ her duties for any reason, the game must be suspended until the Game Coordinator returns, or until a new adult Game Coordinator is present and assumes the duties of Game Coordinator for the remainder of the game;

(3) To oversee the conduct of all players, managers, coaches, and umpires in the game;

(4) To have the authority to disqualify any player, coach, manager, or substitute for objecting to the decisions of an umpire, for unsportsmanlike conduct or language, or for any of the reasons enumerated in these Playing Rules, and to eject such disqualified person from the playing field. If the Game Coordinator disqualifies a player while a play is in progress, the disqualification shall not take effect until no further action is possible in that play;

(5) To have the sole ability to judge as to whether and when play shall be suspended during a game because of inclement weather conditions or the unfit condition of the playing field; as to whether and when play shall be resumed after such suspension; and as to whether and when a game shall be terminated after such suspension. Said Game Coordinator shall not call the game until at least thirty minutes after play is suspended. The Game Coordinator may continue suspension as long as there is any chance to resume play. (This supersedes Rule 3.10.)

NOTE: The Game Coordinator should not interrupt or stop a game until all play and action ends. At that time, the Game Coordinator can alert the plate umpire to stop the game, and at that time enforce any part of 9.03(d).

What Game Coordinators CANNOT do:

- Over-rule any Umpire's decision.
- Remove any Umpire from the game. (Rule 9.02(d))

Sign-ups will be available on our website.

Volunteering for this does qualify towards the VDR.

American Divisional Rules & Guidelines

● Game Guidelines:

- Weekdays – Time limit is sunset.
- Weekends – Two hours (drop dead time).
- NO new inning after 1 hour 45 minutes.
- There will be a 10-run Mercy Rule in effect after the 4th inning.
- There is a 5-run Cap every inning regardless of score.
- Every player must record at least 1 at-bat and play 6 consecutive outs in the field if present for the first pitch.
- Subs can be rotated at any time.
- A Continuous Batting Order will be used throughout the game.
- If a bat is thrown while batting, the Umpire can call the player out!
- No time-outs in the last inning unless the pitcher has reached his/her max pitches or an injury has occurred.

● Pitching Guidelines:

- Any player may pitch (Exception: 10 and above cannot)
- Number of pitches a pitcher can throw shall be followed by the Little League Rulebook guidelines.
 - 6-8 years old = 50 pitches per day maximum.
 - 9 years old = 75 pitches per day maximum.
 - NO 10/11 YEAR OLD MAY PITCH.
- Days of rest shall be followed by the Little League Rulebook guidelines.
 - Player pitches 1-20 pitches in a day, no (0) calendar day of rest is required.
 - Player pitches 21-35 pitches in a day, one (1) calendar day of rest must be observed.
 - Player pitches 36-50 pitches in a day, two (2) calendar days of rest must be observed.
 - Player pitches 51-65 pitches in a day, three (3) calendar days of rest must be observed.
 - Player pitches 66 or more pitches in a day, four (4) calendar days of rest must be observed.
- A pitcher once removed from the mound cannot return as a pitcher.
- A pitcher who delivers 40 or more pitches in a game cannot play the position of catcher for the remainder of the game.
 - The only exception is if the pitcher reaches 40 pitches while facing a batter he can finish that batter only (finish the batter threshold).
- No catcher that has caught more than three innings can become a pitcher.
- Balk rules shall not apply.
- No intentional walks - pitchers must pitch all 4 balls.

● Base Running Guidelines:

- Home Plate is CLOSED.
 - No runner shall advance home unless he/she is forced home on a walk, a batted ball, or awarded home by the Umpire.
 - Runners shall not advance from 3rd to home on passed balls, wild pitches, or overthrows by the catcher.
 - Even a 1st and 3rd situation where the defending team chooses to attempt to throw out a runner at 2nd still does not give the green light to steal home.
 - A runner stealing 3rd and there is an overthrow may **not** continue on to home.
 - You must earn every run either by walking with bases loaded or by hitting the ball in play.
 - NO STEALING HOME FOR ANY REASON.

- A player can still get picked off at 3rd if leading off after the pitch .
- If awarded a walk to first, the player must stop at first.
 - Player cannot steal 2nd.
- No runner shall advance more than one base on a walk.
- Stealing 2nd or 3rd is legal as long as the runner does not leave until the ball reaches the batter.
 - A runner can only steal one base at a time.
- A batter is automatically OUT on a dropped or missed 3rd strike by the catcher.
- No Infield Fly Rule.
- A courtesy runner can be used in the event a player is injured while reaching base or hit by pitch.
 - The player who was the last recorded out will run in place of the injured player.
 - A courtesy runner can also be used when the catcher or pitcher is on base and there are two outs.
 - A courtesy runner must be reported to the plate Umpire.
- **Reminder (Updated 2023 - Rule 3.09)**
 - Managers or coaches **are permitted to** warm up a pitcher at home plate or in the bullpen or elsewhere at any time **including in-game warm-up, pre-game warm-up, and in other instances.**
 - **Does not apply in Tournament Play.**
- **Suspended Game**
 - Suspended games will start where they left off; runners on base, outs, score, etc.
 - The player who was pitching may re-enter the game as pitcher as long as the player is eligible to pitch (not on rest days from prior game and not over pitch count from suspended game).
 - Pitcher's pitch count re-starts at the suspended game.
 - Any pitchers who pitched in the suspended game, may not re-enter the game as pitcher unless they were the last pitcher of record.
- **Managers/Coaches in Dugout**
 - 4 approved Coaching Staff are allowed in the Dugout.
 - Parents, siblings, etc. are not allowed to enter.
 - If a coach needs to leave during the game, a substitute adult MAY NOT enter the game to take over.
 - Permission needs to be granted by Umpire for adults or players to leave the dugout for any reason.
- **Parent/Guardian/Spectator Communication During Games**
 - Players are NOT permitted to talk with anyone outside of the dugout during games.
 - Only exception to this rule is a player injury when a Board Member will escort the parent to the player.
- **End-of-Season Tournament:**
 - A tournament will be played during the last week of the regular season.
 - More details to follow.
 - 1st and 2nd place trophies, provided by RCLL, will be awarded to the top 2 teams of the American Division Tournament.

THESE GUIDELINES SUPERCEDE THE 2024 LITTLE LEAGUE RULE BOOK, HOWEVER, ALL OTHER RULES LISTED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF LITTLE LEAGUE WILL BE STRICTLY ADHERED TO.