



## MAJOR 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](mailto:Matt@rcll.org) immediately 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
- **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

- **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.
- **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 3 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
- **Keys**
  - You will receive 1 key to the Major Field and 1 key to the batting cages
  - 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
- **Paint for Striping 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 your Commissioner know if you need instructions on how this is done.
        - Once you run out of paint, you are on your own.
- **Practices**
  - Please be sure you are locking up the field and cages after your practice if there's no one coming in after you.
    - DO NOT assume someone is after you if no one is there.
  - Fields 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.
  - Please be sure your team is cleaning up after themselves, picking up their trash and all equipment.
  - The last team to practice should ensure the home plate mat is placed back over home plate.
  - 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
- **Equipment**
  - If you need equipment, contact the Equipment Manager – Sam Hensley ([Sam@rcll.org](mailto: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.
- **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
    - Game balls are available for purchase in the case of a home run
- **Batting Cages**
  - Rules are posted outside of the cages and should be followed at all times.
  - Players should NOT be holding a bat or batting without a helmet.
  - Players should not be in the cages without an approved Manager/Coach.
- **Scorekeepers**
  - Managers are responsible for obtaining their own scorekeepers.
    - Need to ensure the scorekeeper attends training.
- **Bathrooms**
  - We will have access to the school bathrooms for game days.
  - We will have a porta potty for practices, it will be a combo lock and code is 2460.
    - Managers who unlock it are responsible for locking it back up, regardless of other teams that are there.
      - This will be kept locked for game days.

# Major Divisional Rules

Follow Little League International Rulebook, please download the free Little League rulebook app.

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- **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.** They may also stand by to observe a pitcher during warm-up in the bullpen.
  - **Does not apply to Tournament Play.**

- **Special Pinch Runner**

- Once each inning, a team may utilize a player who is not in the batting order as a special pinch-runner for any offensive player.
  - A player may be removed for a special pinch-runner ONE time per game.

- **Courtesy Runner**

- A Courtesy Runner is a player not currently in the batting order who may become a base runner for the pitcher and/or catcher provided there are two (2) outs in the half inning.
  - See Rules 3.04 and 7.14(b) for conditions if adopted by the local league during the regular season.
    - NOTE: The same courtesy runner may not run for both the pitcher and the catcher at any time during the game.
  - The courtesy runner is allowed only for the player who is the pitcher or catcher of record when there are two outs.
  - A courtesy runner must be reported to the plate Umpire.

- **Run Rules**

- 10 Run Rule
  - Once a game is “official” (4 innings for Major Division) it can end by way of the run rule in any of these ways:
    - If the visiting team’s lead reaches 10 runs in the top half of the 4th inning, and the home team fails to score during its turn at-bat in the bottom of the same inning of an official game.
    - If the home team establishes a 10 run lead (in the bottom of the 4th inning) of an official game.
- 15 Run Rule
  - Once a game is “official” (3 ½ innings for Major Division) it can end by way of the run rule in any of these ways:
    - If the visiting team’s lead reaches 15 runs in the top half of the 3rd inning, and the home team fails to score during its turn at-bat in the bottom of the same inning of an official game.
    - If the home team establishes a 15 run lead (in the bottom of the 3rd inning) of an official game.

- **Bat 9 with Subs**

- Line up bats 9 with subs.
- Manager is responsible for ensuring players get their minimum play.
  - Defense 6 consecutive outs and 1 at bat.

- **Managers/Coaches in Dugout**
  - 3 approved adults (Manager/Coaches) are allowed in the Dugout.
  - Coaches may not swap in and out during the game.
  - If a coach needs to leave during the game, a substitute coach MAY NOT enter the game to take over.
  - Permission needs to be granted by Umpire to leave the dugout for any reason.
- **Infield Fly**
  - Infield fly rule is in effect as followed in the LL rulebook.
    - Call must be made by the Umpire.
- **Pitching Guidelines**
  - Any player may pitch.
  - 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.
    - 9-10 years old = 75 pitches per day maximum.
    - 11-12 years old = 85 pitches per day maximum.
  - Days of rest shall be followed by the Little League Rulebook guidelines which states, If a player pitches:
    - 1-20 pitches in a day, no (0) calendar day of rest is required.
    - 21-35 pitches in a day, one (1) calendar day of rest must be observed.
    - 36-50 pitches in a day, two (2) calendar days of rest must be observed.
    - 51-65 pitches in a day, three (3) calendar days of rest must be observed.
    - 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).
  - A catcher who has played 4 innings or more cannot play the position of pitcher for any part of the remainder of the game.
- **Thrown Bats**
  - If a bat is thrown while batting, the Umpire can call the player out.
    - Does not need to give a warning.
- **Time Limit**
  - There is no time limit for games on the weekends.
  - Time limit on weekdays is sunset, and games will be called by the Umpire.
- **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.
- **Make-Up Games**
  - Games that need to be made up will be done at the next available day/opening within 2 weeks.
    - The Commissioner will work with the Manager to reschedule.
- **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.
- **Umpire Judgment Calls**
  - We will not entertain complaints about an Umpire's judgment call.
- **Parent/Guardian/Spectator Communication During Games**
  - Players/Coaching Staff 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.
- **Baseball Return Bucket**
  - Game balls MUST be returned to the league after every game.
  - Umpires will throw out baseballs that are not playable during the game.
    - These balls should be tossed into the bucket in the home dugout.
  - Once the game is over the umpire will hand the remaining balls to the home manager and they must put all balls into the ball bucket.
- **Trophies**
  - 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place trophies will be awarded to the top 2 teams of the Major Division provided by RCLL.
- **Tournament of Champions (TOC)**
  - The 1st and 2nd place teams will go on to represent Rancho Cordova Little League in the TOC's for District 5.
  - **(Tournament Play) – Managers and Coaches:** Managers and coaches are required to complete the Little League Diamond Leader Training Program ([LittleLeague.org/DiamondLeader](http://LittleLeague.org/DiamondLeader)).
    - As a condition of eligibility for selection as a tournament team manager/coach, the regular season manager/coach must have also completed the Little League Diamond Leader Training Program ([LittleLeague.org/DiamondLeader](http://LittleLeague.org/DiamondLeader)).
      - This program must be completed prior to the individual being named a tournament team manager/coach and before participating in any practices or games.
        - Tournament Team managers/coaches who have completed the program should be prepared to produce the Little League Diamond Leader completion certificate if requested by the District Administrator/Tournament Director.

**ALL OTHER RULES LISTED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF LITTLE LEAGUE WILL BE STRICTLY ADHERED TO.**