



Langley Baseball Association 8 Year Old's Spring Rules

Game Setup/Dimensions

- Home team preps field, visiting team cleans up.
- Home team uses 3rd base dugout.
- Distance between bases is 60 feet.
- Front of Slinger at 42 feet; Speed of 6 (May decide as a league to start the season at 5 and then progress; Possibly 7 for Post Season Play).
- A chalk circle, 10 feet in diameter shall be placed around the slinger. No player can enter this circle at any time.
- Baselines and Batters Box will be chalked for all games.
- A 10 minute warm up can be taken on the diamond. Home team warms up 25 minutes prior to game start and Visitors warm up 15 minutes before game time.

Inning Rules

- A half inning will end on 3 defensive outs or 4 runs scored.
- Strikeouts count as defensive outs.
- Slinger Operator acts as Umpire.

Batting/Base Running

- 5 strikes off slinger.
- 3 Coach pitched balls if there isn't a hit off the slinger. (Looking to go to Slinger Only mid season; No Coach Pitch in Post Season play).
- At bat extends if 5th strike is fouled off slinger or 3rd pitch is fouled off coach pitch.
- No Bunting Permitted.
- No walks but balls do not count against the 5 pitches off the slinger to encourage a good eye at the plate (Post Season Tournaments have unique rules for total pitch count).
- Runners can advance when the ball remains in the outfield grass or a throw is in flight back to the infield but must not start to advance once the ball has returned to the infield by touching a player or the playing surface in the infield (even if not in possession).
- No advancing on overthrows at bases (we want to encourage making the right attempted play).
- If a ball hits the machine, the slinger operator or it stops in the slinger circle, the play will be dead but it will be considered a hit and runners will advance.

Fielding

- Max of 10 players in the field (6 Infield, 4 Outfield).
- Catchers are allowed to play the same position twice in a row but it is highly encouraged that all other players rotate through all the positions and don't double up positions.

Players

- A team must have a minimum of 7 players to start a game. If you are short players, you can borrow players from the other team to have 9 players in the field. When it is their turn to bat, rotate the players
- All players must wear an athletic supporter and cup or jill and supply their own personal helmet with chinstraps unless it is a fitted helmet.
- All Players during the game must wear baseball pants, jersey tucked in, cleats and a hat.
- All players are to bat in rotation

Players Continued

- Players remain in the dugout when their team is batting.
- Only the batter is permitted outside the dugout.
- There is no on deck batter and players are not permitted to swing bats to warm up anywhere on the field. A coach or team volunteer will supervise the dugout and make sure bat safety is followed.
- The dugout supervisor will make sure the on deck batter is ready to go and the next batter after that has helmet ready and goes out to retrieve the bat of the previous batter at the plate after they hit the ball to help speed up game time and encourage team support and hustle.
- With the catcher on base and 2 out, the last player out can be put out base in their place to get the catcher in the dugout to put on their gear for the next inning ahead of time.

Coaches

- On offense, teams are permitted to have a 1st base coach, 3rd base coach and Slinger Operator.
- On defense, 1 coach may be on the field to help the defensive team. (Halfway through the season, defensive coaches will stay off the field of play and coach from the dugout).

Rainouts

- In the events of poor weather, the league field committee will advise on fields being playable.
- If fields are playable, any other decisions will be made by the two coaches to make a determination based on safety of play. We want to get as many games in as possible so use best discretion and try to get the games in unless there is pooling water and/or unsafe conditions.
- Entire league wide rainouts may be called in extreme weather conditions. In the event of a cancelled game, coaches are responsible for contacting the following people:
 - Teams (Parents) via Teamsnap messaging
 - Division Coordinator
- Rescheduling of games must be done through the division coordinator