



Langley Baseball Association House Rules

These house rules and the differences for each division are intended to supplement and/or highlight the Official Rules of Little League Baseball. A copy of the Rule Books is necessary to fully understand the game. Copies are available for download on all digital devices.

1. Langley Baseball shall be governed by rules in the following priority:
 - a) Langley Baseball House Rules
 - b) Little League Canada
 - c) Little League International

2. All parents and spectators are to refrain from the following:
 - a) Smoking in or around the diamonds or buildings.
 - b) Abusive or derogatory language.
 - c) Conflict with other managers, coaches, players, parents, spectators and umpires.
 - d) Deliberately attempting to demoralize any opposing player, team or umpire.
 - e) Fighting.
 - f) Abusive use of equipment.
 - g) Bringing alcoholic beverages to the park.

Penalty:

 - 1st offense – warning from umpire to manager of team that parent's player is on.
 - 2nd offense – immediate ejection of manager from game and parent will be asked to leave the park.

3. Coaches/Managers
 - a) It is the coaches' responsibility to display and promote good sportsmanship and behavior of their team and their parents at all times.
 - b) Must ensure that all players are wearing athletic protective equipment.
 - c) Ensure that all equipment is in good working order.
 - d) When team is on the field defensively, only 2 coaches may be outside of the dugout. The coaches must remain beside the dugout entrance (furthest from home plate.)

- e) While on field offensively, coaches are to remain in coaches' boxes located beside 1st and 3rd base while play is occurring.
- f) No more than 3 coaches on the diamond per team. One coach must remain in the dugout at all times.
- g) Buckets or coaches should not interfere with play at any time. Buckets are to be removed from the field if not being used.
- h) All on-field warm ups should be completed 10 minutes prior to game start time.
- i) Ensure that home team scorekeeper records pitch counts and game scores. Pitch count sheets to be maintained by the manager with the scorebook. These may be reviewed at any time by Division Coordinator, Vice President or President (9 Year Old's and up).
- j) At the end of the game, coaches/managers are to ensure dugouts are cleaned out.
- k) If final game of the day, please ensure the following:
 - i. All dugouts are locked.
 - ii. Gates to field are locked.
 - iii. All field equipment is put away.
 - iv. Batting cage and container are locked.
- l) All coaches/managers are to refrain from the following:
 - i. Abusive or derogatory language or gestures.
 - ii. Conflict with players, coaches, parents, fans or umpires.
 - iii. Deliberately attempting to demoralize any player or team.
 - iv. Fighting.
 - v. Abusive use of equipment.

Penalty

- 1st offense – warning from umpire.
- 2nd offense – immediate ejection from game and park – see Rule 4.07 (Little League Rule Book_ and given an automatic 1 game suspension.
- “Any manager, coach, or player ejected from a game is suspended for his or her team’s next physically played game and may not be in attendance at the game site from which they were suspended.”
- All ejections will be reviewed for further disciplinary action.

4. Protests

- a) No protests are allowed in Blastball, T-ball, 7- or 8-year-old divisions (i.e., games will not be replayed due to incorrect rule interpretation.)
- b) Complaints (9-year-old and up) must be presented to the League Executive in writing, within 48 hours of the incident, or they will not be considered.

5. Fair Play Rule

As a community baseball organization, the following fair play rules are in effect. Note that at any time, Division Coordinator, Vice President or President may check the team position line-up sheets, scorebooks or pitch count sheets to ensure fair play rules are being adhered to.

- a) 7- and 8-year-old coaches must ensure:
 - a. All players are on the field for at least 3 completed innings per game (game consists of 6 innings), if game is less than 6 innings, all players should be on the field for at least 2 innings in the first 4 innings of a game.
 - b. No player may sit out more than one inning before all other players on the team have sat out one inning.
 - c. Each player plays a minimum of two innings per game in the infield.
- b) 9–12-year-old coaches must ensure:
 - a. All players are on the field for at least 3 complete innings per game (game consists of 6 innings), if game is less than 6 innings, all players should be on the field for at least 2 innings.
 - b. No player may sit out more than one inning before all other players on the team have sat out one inning. No player should sit for 2 innings or more in a row.
 - c. Each player plays a minimum of two innings per game in the infield.
- c) Juniors, Seniors and CABA coaches must ensure:
 - a. All players are on the field for at least 3 complete innings per game (game consists of 7 innings), if game is less than 7 innings, all players should be on the field for at least 2 innings.

6. Players

- a. Must appear in full, clean uniforms at all games. Uniforms are not to be worn to practices.
- b. Must wear protective athletic equipment, or they will not be allowed to play in the game.
- c. Must wear double ear flap helmets with chin straps or form fitting helmet, when batting, base running or spotting.

- d. Catcher must wear a 1-piece helmet, mask with throat protector, shin guards and chest protector.
- e. Must remain in the dugout when not taking an active part in the game.
- f. Must ensure that all equipment not actually in use is kept off the playing field (i.e., bats, catcher's equipment etc.)
- g. It is recommended that shoes with molded rubber cleats be used by all players. Running shoes and soccer shoes will be permitted. Metal cleats are permitted in Intermediates, Juniors, Seniors, CABA ONLY (13-19 years old.)
- h. Must hustle on and off the field at all times.
- i. All players are to refrain from the following:
 - i. Abusive or derogatory language or gestures.
 - ii. Conflict with players, coaches, parents, spectators or umpires.
 - iii. Deliberately attempting to demoralize any player or team.
 - iv. Fighting.
 - v. Abusive use of equipment. Includes throwing of bats or helmets (ages 9 and up.)

Penalty

- 1st offense – warning from umpire to player and manager advised.
- 2nd offense – immediate ejection from game and park – see Rule 4.07 (Little League rule book) and given an automatic 1 game suspension.
- “Any manager, coach, or player ejected from a game is suspended for his or her team’s next physically played game and may not be in attendance at the game site from which they were suspended.”
- All ejections will be reviewed for further disciplinary action.

7. Umpires

- a) Are frequently children and most are learning how to umpire. They deserve the respect and cooperation of all coaches, players and parents.
- b) Plate umpire must wear 1 piece mask unit, shin guards, chest protector and protective athletic equipment.
- c) Umpires should be at fields 15 minutes prior to game start time and on the field 10 minutes prior to game start time.
- d) Once the umpire has received the home team line-up, the umpire will have complete charge of the game, and all decisions on judgement plays are FINAL. Any person who questions an umpire’s judgement call may be ejected from the game and/or park.
- e) Shall check that the catcher is wearing an athletic protector the further time the

player catches in the game.

- f) Shall ensure that all equipment is legal and safe.
- g) Coaches are not to approach umpires when they are having a meeting regarding a call. If they do, they will be given a warning.
- h) Only the manager from a team may approach an umpire to clarify rule interpretations.
- i) The manager may appeal a decision and ask that the umpire that made the call consult with their umpire partner on a ruling. Umpires will then discuss, then the umpire that made the call will give the decision.
- j) Any abusive or derogatory language or gesture directly towards or at an umpire by a coach/manager, or player will result in IMMEDIATE ejection from the game and park.
- k) All ejections are to be reported to the Umpire in Chief (verbally) and by email to UIC's and the President (president@langleybaseball.ca) . All ejections will be reviewed for further disciplinary action.

8. Baserunners

- a. SLIDE and/or AVOID rule is in effect in all divisions, and is at the umpire's discretion – all decisions will be final. It is MANDATORY for all baserunners to slide or make an effort to avoid a collision at all bases (except when running to 1st base) and home plate. Failure to do so will result in an automatic out and ejection from the game if deliberate.
- b. If the baserunner is required to evade a defensive player who is blocking a base or the baseline while not receiving or holding the ball, the runner may be awarded that base (obstruction) at the umpire's discretion.

9. Head First Slides

- a. No head first slides are allowed in the 12-year-old and under divisions. Driving back to a base on a pickoff attempt will be allowed. Head first slides are allowed in 13 and over divisions.
- b. Absolutely no sliding into first base after a hit. Runner shall be called out and play is dead. All runners return to previous position.

10. Catchers

- a. If a catcher reaches base safely after there are 2 out, a substitute runner (the last previous out) may be entered into the game so as to allow the catcher to get equipment back on, hence speeding up the game. This is an option, no compulsory.
- b. All warm up catchers need to wear full catcher's gear: catcher's mask, helmet, chest protector, and shin guards. No managers, coaches or parents

can warm up pitchers on the field.

- c. If a pitcher is being warmed up on and on-field bull pen, a spotter must be present behind the pitcher and wearing a helmet and glove.

11. Calling up Lower Division Players

Players from one division lower may be called up to replace regular players who are absent for a game to make a maximum of 9 players on the roster for a game, under the following conditions:

- a) A player can be called up to a division a **MAXIMUM** of 3 times over the course of a season. This will be tracked by the coordinator of the division.
Penalty for bringing up a player a fourth time: the game will be forfeited.
- b) Notify the following so that players called up can be tracked:
 - Coordinator of the division that a player plays in
 - Coordinator of the division the player is being borrowed from
 - Player agent
- c) Permission is required from the player's regular team coach.
- d) The player is not allowed to pitch. Player must bat last in the lineup. Fielding, they should be treated like players on the team playing for.
- e) The player must receive the same treatment as regular players and must not play more innings than regular team players.
- f) The player must wear their regular team uniform and not be placed in a jersey of the game they have been called up to.
- g) The player cannot be selected if they have another game with their regular team at the same time.

12. Player Eligibility

- a. An underage player may be eligible to play one age division higher, provided the player displays an exceptional level of physical ability and behavioral skills, similar to the norm of the division they will play up for. The coordinator will determine if this is the case with the help of the coach if needed. Players that are already playing up for Spring season (ex. 7-year-old playing as an 8-year-old, cannot now be called up for minors, as that would be playing 2 divisions up from their little league age.) **NOTE:** Call up players will not be permitted to play in district post season play in the higher division.

13. Line Up Sheets and Scorebooks

- a. All line up sheets **MUST HAVE** the player's first name, last name, uniform # and starting position, plus all coaches' names listed. One sheet should be given to opposing team's scorekeeper and the white copy to the plate umpire

at the plate meeting.

- b. All scorebooks MUST HAVE the player's first name or initial, last name, uniform #, starting position, date of game, location of game, time of game and name of other team and club.
- c. All tournament games should be kept in a separate scorebook.

14. Pre-Game

- a. All on field warm up should be completed 10 minutes prior to game start.

15. No Food or Drink Allowed on the Field

- a. All players, coaches and umpires will not eat or drink while on the field. Players are not allowed to chew gum, candy or spitz during a game. Coaches should refrain from spitz while on the field also. Umpires will drink water during inning breaks off to the side of the field.

16. Rescheduling, Cancelling and Rainouts

- a. Change of game times and dates must be done through the Division Coordinators, not the coaches.
- b. Once a change has been confirmed, the coaches, Field Scheduler, Umpire Coordinator, and Vice President of the division must be notified.
- c. Rainouts will be called by the Umpire in Chief, President or Vice President. Coaches of all teams playing and the Umpire Coordinator must be notified.

17. Conflict Management

When you encounter an issue/conflict on or off the field, here is a guideline to assist you in addressing the issue/conflict:

- a) After the conflict, please use the 24-hour rule before responding to the issue or conflict.
- b) Arrange a meeting between the parties to openly discuss the issue/conflict with a 3rd neutral party in attendance. Please do not have a discussion in front of the youth (or any other youth) or if youth must be present, please ensure parents are also present.
- c) If the conflict is unable to be resolved, please contact your Division Coordinator for assistance.
- d) If conflict is still unable to be resolved, the Division Coordinator will contact the Vice President of the division.
- e) If the Vice President is unable to resolve the conflict, the Vice President will speak with the other Vice Presidents and the President.