

MOOSE JAW LITTLE LEAGUE POLICIES

The Official Little League Regulations and Playing Rules handbook is recognized as the official source pertaining to all rules with the exception of the rules and by-laws as laid down by the Moose Jaw Little League Association (MJLL) mentioned herein.

For convenience purposes, the Board of Directors of Moose Jaw Little League shall be referred to throughout this document simply as “Board” or “the Board”, and Moose Jaw Little League shall be referred to as “MJLL”.

For a vote of the Board on a motion to be binding there shall be reasonable advance notice provided to all members of the Board regarding meeting date, time & location. A minimum of seventy-two hours shall be deemed to be reasonable advance notice. Furthermore, a quorum of Directors of the Board is required to be present at the meeting. For our purposes a quorum shall be a minimum of 9 Directors of the Board.

1. GENERAL RULES

Remember the # 1 rule is to make this game fun for the kids

- 1.1. Every youngster aged 4 to 16 residing within league boundaries shall be eligible to participate on an annual basis. Exception to age restriction - Challenger Division to age 22.
- 1.2. Each division, with the exceptions of Learn To Play and JR. Rookie, shall hold an evaluation prior to each season. The respective league director shall place any participant failing to attend the evaluation session accordingly. The Board shall gather information on the player's skill level from past coaches, and or arrange an alternate time for the coaches to evaluate such player(s) prior to the draft. This action may only be taken prior to the respective league draft, if possible.
- 1.3. The recommended maximum number of players per team in all leagues shall be 12. The minimum number of players per team in all leagues shall be 10 with the exception of Learn to Play to have minimum of 8.
- 1.4. Players are encouraged to play at their own skill level. Individual requests to play outside the regular age categories due to lower skill levels (exceptional circumstances only) will be at the discretion of the Board. **Requests to move a child up a division must be made to the Board in writing prior to assessment dates.** Players will be evaluated at assessments by the division coordinator and/or Board members and a decision will be made by the Board once evaluation has been completed.

- 1.5.** Only two coaches per team may be named prior to the respective league drafts. At the conclusion of the draft, each team may add additional coaches. The Board and other coaches within the same league prior to the actual draft shall determine the placement of coaches' children in the draft.
- 1.6.** Draft dates, times and locations will be set by the respective league directors with the approval of the Board. The draft will be headed by the division coordinator and overseen by the MJLL President and VP. Trades to accommodate family or driving situations are permitted within 15 minutes of the conclusion of the draft but are subject to Board approval and must be conducted on site so that the Board is fully aware of the motivations behind the trade. Parity amongst the teams is of the utmost importance. There will be no "stacking" of a team. Any complaints or disputes are to be presented to the Board for a ruling. Ideally teams will consist of 12 players, but no less than 10.
- 1.7.** All league schedules and any deviation of those schedules must be approved by the Board.
- 1.8.** Weekday games shall begin at 6:15pm for all leagues with the exception of the Senior League. Weekend games are set at the discretion of the respective league directors.
- 1.9.** A six (6) run Mercy Rule per inning is in effect for all regular season and playoff games.
- 1.10.** A 10 run Mercy Rule will be in effect for all games in the Majors, Juniors and Seniors divisions. If one team is ahead by 10 or more runs at the completion of a full inning, with two innings or less remaining in regulation play, then that team shall be deemed to have won the game.
- 1.11.** No new inning shall begin after 8:00pm until June 1st. Once a game begins, only the umpiring crew shall have the authority to make the decision to conclude a game early based on weather conditions and or darkness.
- 1.12.** Lightning must be taken very seriously and umpires will immediately cease any game if lightning is spotted in the vicinity of the playing field. There shall be no exceptions.
- 1.13.** All regular season games will be deemed a draw if the score remains tied after completion of the regulation innings. Tie games in championship games will be settled through playing additional full innings as per traditional baseball rules until a winner is declared or darkness or inclement weather halts play.
- 1.14.** All players will be included in the batting lineup and all players shall bat in their respective turn.

- 1.15.** Every player on a team in every division will participate in each game. NO player shall sit out more than two (2) innings in any one game. If a manager and or coach does not meet the required playing time, the penalty shall be as follows:
- 1.15.1.** 1st Offence – Receive a written warning
 - 1.15.2.** 2nd Offence – Receive a one game suspension
 - 1.15.3.** 3rd Offence – Suspension for the remainder of the season
- 1.16.** Pitching Records must be kept on forms provided by the league to the coaches at season start. The forms must be kept along with the score sheet at the conclusion of each game and submitted to the Board If requested.
- 1.17.** Home teams shall occupy the 3rd base dugout, put out and put away the bases as well as provide the Official scorekeeper. The Visiting team must provide the Official Pitch Counter.
- 1.18.** Two adult coaches are eligible to coach at 1st and 3rd base - provided a 3rd adult volunteer or coach is present in the dugout at all times.
- 1.19.** All home teams in all leagues shall submit their score sheets and pitch counts (if applicable) to a Board member on game night.
- 1.20.** If it appears any team, at any time will not have sufficient players to field a team for a regularly schedule game, the coach shall arrange for use of a player from the next lower division. (Exception - a player from Majors is only permitted to play in the Junior Division is team is down to 8 players). No player being called up to a higher league may pitch – no exceptions. All players called up must be done through the Board approved list. A player may not be called up if it conflicts with his/her own regular season team. All call up players must meet the minimum playing standards.
- 1.21.** All coaches are expected to be neat in appearance and dress appropriately.
- 1.22.** No League standings will be posted in any public way during regular league play. The respective league directors will track league standings in a confidential “for Board eyes only” fashion for possible playoff seeding purposes only.
- 1.23.** There shall be no food allowed on the playing field. This is to prevent a choking hazard for the youngsters. If you want to treat players, please treat them all and do it after the game.

2. REFUND POLICY

- 2.1. After registration closes and before teams are chosen, refunds will be provided but are subject to a \$25.00 administrative fee, which will be subtracted from the refund balance.
- 2.2. After teams are chosen, but before the first game, refunds will be provided but are subject to a \$50.00 administrative fee, which will be subtracted from the refund balance. Uniforms must be returned prior to MJLL's remittance of the adjusted refund check.
- 2.3. After opening day, no refunds will be granted.
- 2.4. All checks that fail to clear are subject to a \$40.00 NSF fee and must be cleared for the player to participate in MJLL Baseball.
- 2.5. Refunds are made by cheque or credit card refund if available · with delivery via mail.
- 2.6. After opening day, withdrawal from play and request for refund due to injury will be treated on a case by case basis by the Board.

3. GENERAL CODE OF CONDUCT:

- 3.1. At no time shall a player, coach or spectator verbally or physically abuse an umpire. On any disputed call, subject to interpretation only, a coach shall call for time out prior to entering the field of play. After being granted time out by the umpire, the coach shall then question the umpire's interpretation of the call. Failure to call for an official time out and permission to enter the playing field may result in an ejection from the game at the umpire's discretion. A coach may only question a play involving the interpretation of the rules. A judgment call may **NOT** be questioned. Question an umpire's judgment call may result in an ejection from the game at the umpire's discretion. Any official protest of a game must be in writing, must be signed and received by the Board or Umpire In Chief no sooner than 24 hours after the incident, and no longer than 48 hours after the incident. Only a protest on the interpretation of the rules will be reviewed.
- 3.2. Players, coaches and spectators are not permitted to direct negative comments toward players, coaches, fans, or board members at any time. Moose Jaw Little League insists all players, coaches, & fans keep their comments of a positive nature. Verbal abuse towards any player, coach, umpire, fan or board member from spectators-can result in an automatic ejection from the ballpark complex. Failure to leave the facility on the request of the umpire and/or Board members will result in a suspension of the game and the person that refuses to leave may be charged with trespass.

- 3.3. At no time shall any participant consume alcohol on site during a sanctioned Little League event. Persons who appear to be impaired may be asked to leave the facility and if they refuse may be charged with trespass.
- 3.4. Smoking or the use of smokeless tobacco or any tobacco products by a player, coach or umpire is NOT permitted at any time around the fields or other players/fans/participants. Any use of tobacco products must be at least 10 meters from any field, player or fan.
- 3.5. In accordance with Little League International rules, any player or coach getting a game ejection is subject to an automatic one game suspension. The Moose Jaw Little League Board will rule on any additional penalty that may be required.
- 3.6. Any questions or concerns by a participant should be first directed to their respective coach. If necessary, the complaint can be issued to the respective league coordinator. Only if a situation cannot be resolved shall the Board be notified. The Board has the right to rule on any matter; "in the best interests of Moose Jaw Little League" and any decision by the Board shall be considered final.

4. BOARD OF DIRECTORS CODE OF CONDUCT

- 4.1. This Code of Conduct represents the Board's commitment to high standards. It should be regarded as minimum expectations for performance.
- 4.2. Board members shall at all times:
 - Act in the best interests of MJLL.
 - Not engage in activities that are in conflict with the interests of MJLL, that may negatively impact the reputation of MJLL, or that interfere with acting in good faith on behalf of MJLL.
 - Declare any potential conflict of interest and refrain from discussion and voting on those topics when applicable.
 - Ensure there are fair & competitive opportunities when services of contractors or employment opportunities arise.
 - Respect confidentiality of information received in the course of Board meetings and activities.
 - Treat fellow Board members with respect, listen to their points of view, and give recognition to others who contribute to the success of the organization and its activities.

- Participate in Board meetings and keep informed about developments and issues relevant to Board operations.
- Fulfill their role as described in the role description as stated and made available in print at the Annual General Meeting.
- Not speak on behalf of MJLL unless approved to do so by the Board.
- Not discriminate by reason of race, ancestry, place of origin, religious belief, gender, sexual orientation, mental or physical disability, marital status, or financial status.
- Not harass anyone. Harassment is interpreted as unwelcome conduct, comments, gestures, contact, intimidating or offensive behaviour likely to cause offence or humiliation in the eyes of a reasonable person.

4.3. Failure to abide by the Code of Conduct will result in appropriate disciplinary action, which may range from a simple discussion up to and including possible removal of duties or even possibly removal from the Board, all of which is at the Board's discretion.

5. PITCHING RULES

All pitching rules and regulations will be strictly enforced according to the Little League International Rules and Regulations. NO Exceptions to pitch-count maximums may be granted by any league coordinator, Board member, executive or local official. Exceptions to allow weaker pitchers to pitch from slightly in front of the pitching rubber in the interest of fair play and good baseball may be granted by the umpire. This is a judgment call by the umpire and is not subject to challenge by coaches.

6. HOUSE LEAGUE TOURNAMENTS

6.1. All teams shall participate in the annual house league tournament at no cost. No team is permitted to host their own house league tournament.

7. FUNDRAISING

7.1 If a business, company or individual chooses to donate money to an All-Star team, said team may accept the money, but no sponsorship naming rights or any other obligation will be granted.

7.2 All funds raised for All-Star teams shall be put in a team account and may only be used for valid, reasonable, required, team-related expenses. The team shall provide an accurate and detailed accounting (including invoices, receipts, copies of cleared cheques, account statements, etc.) of all income & expenses to the Board for their review within 45 days of the team's final game.

8. UNIFORMS & EQUIPMENT

- 8.1.** All uniforms and equipment shall remain the property of the Moose Jaw Little League unless otherwise stated.
- 8.2.** Coaches are responsible for gathering the uniforms and equipment of their team at the end of the season and returning all to the MJLL equipment director.
- 8.3.** Coaches are responsible for a \$250 equipment/uniform retainer which will be returned when equipment and uniforms are returned (no later than Sept. 1st).