

NORTHAMPTON LITTLE LEAGUE (NHLL)

2010 LOCAL RULES

These are the Local Rules as voted on by the NHLL Board of Directors. These rules are in addition to the rules found in the Little League rulebook. Please see your division Commissioner if you have any questions concerning any rules not included in this document.

ALL DIVISIONS

1. Any representative of Northampton Little League (board members, managers, coaches, umpires) and spectators, etc. that displays conduct detrimental to the league and Little League Baseball, Inc. will be subject to disciplinary action by the board.
2. All volunteers must submit a volunteer application along with a pictured ID for background check purposes.
3. Any manager or coach abandoning a team in unsportsmanlike conduct during a game will have his/her NHLL membership position terminated.
4. Any manager or player who does not return NHLL property (equipment, uniforms, etc) at the end of the playing season will not be in good standing with the league.
5. Managers and coaches can only be listed on one (1) official team roster for NHLL.
6. A manager cannot manage or coach for another youth sports organization whose season occurs during the same time frame as the NHLL's schedule.
7. A minimum of one (1) coach from each team and umpire are required to walk the field and check for hazards prior to the start of a game.
8. All teams are required to police their dugouts and bleachers, empty trash, and rake the field before leaving the field or risk losing the use of batting cages and/or practice fields.
9. The home team is responsible for preparing the field for that day (lining field, placing bases, putting out trash cans, etc...).
10. The visiting team is responsible for providing the official scorekeeper and announcer as well as for keeping the official pitch count.
11. Announcers must be at least fourteen (14) years of age.
12. Scorekeepers and pitch counters must be at least eighteen (18) years of age. They shall:

-Observe the game from a position in or near the announcing booth. The scorer shall have sole authority to make all decisions involving judgment, such as whether a batter's advance to first base is the result of a hit or an error.

-Record the official game start time announced by the umpire-in-chief.

-Report the final score and if applicable, complete signed pitching records for both teams.

-Scorekeepers and pitch counters shall not publicly cheer for a particular team from the announcing booth area.

13. The field umpire must be at least fourteen (14) years of age for majors and below. The field umpire must be at least seventeen (17) for Junior and Senior Leagues. Field umpires under the age of eighteen (18) must have a permission slip signed by their parent(s).

14. The home team from the previous game played within each division will provide field umpires. (Exception for softball: home team will provide umpire)

15. Managers should approve the official scorebook by signing it immediately after a game. Not signing the official scorebook means accepting as written. Errors in scorekeeping records must be noted and brought to the attention of league officials immediately. Protests must be noted in the official scorebook.

16. Games that are postponed (for any reason) shall be made up in order and on the first available date. No exceptions will be made.

17. Any player who must seek a physician's medical attention due to an illness or any injury, regardless of location that injury occurred (school, home, playground, etc...), is required to submit a medical release form (to a Board member) in order to return to play. Ongoing medical conditions require a doctor's release to play.

18. Any Major Division player who is inactive for four (4) consecutive weeks due to illness, injury, absences, etc...during the playing season will be released.

19. Playing season is defined as a division's opening regular season game through its last regular season game.

20. After losing a player, managers must immediately notify the player agent. If a player misses three consecutive games and/or practices without notifying manager, the manager should contact the player agent who will contact player's parents/guardians.

21. Any player on a waiting list is on a first come, first serve basis to be put on a team.

22. There will be twelve (12) or thirteen (13) players selected for the 9/10 baseball and softball all-star team(s) by the managers through a try-out evaluation.

23. There will be twelve (12) or thirteen (13) players selected for the 10/11 baseball all-star team by the managers through a try-out evaluation (if needed).

24. There will be twelve (12) or thirteen (13) players selected for the 11/12 major baseball and softball all-star team(s). Six (6) will be selected by players, and six (6) or seven (7) will be selected by managers.

25. There will be twelve (12) or thirteen (13) players selected for the Jr & Sr baseball and softball all-star team(s). Six (6) will be selected by players, and six (6) or seven (7) will be selected by managers.

26. First place managers from each division will be given first priority for managing a tournament team. They will select their own coaches from that league and division, per little league rules. To qualify for all-star manager, you must not have more than one written warning from the Board of Directors.

27. The following persons will count All-Star election ballots: league President, divisional Commissioner, league Player Agent, and an additional nonpartisan Board member.

28. Players who wish to be placed on the ballot for an All-Star team must be in good standing with the league and must not owe any monies to the league.

29. END OF SEASON TIES—If two (2) teams are tied for first place there will be a playoff game to break tie. If more than two (2) teams are tied, a formula of runs allowed divided by innings played, and the team that gave up the fewest runs will determine the two top teams. Second place ties will be settled by the following, Head to Head record, if that doesn't settle the tie, then we will look at a formula of runs allowed divided by innings played and the fewest runs allowed will win.

30. All players must remain on the bench without a bat until it is time to take their turn in the batter's box.

31. Players are not allowed to swing a bat inside or outside the dugout.

T-BALL DIVISION (Ages 5 -6)

1. A game will last the lesser of three innings or 1 ½ hours.

2. Only one (1) player will play the position of pitcher. The player must remain within the 10' radius circle and cannot leave the circle until the ball is put in play.

3. Runners can only advance one (1) base per batted ball. (Exception: When the last batter hits the ball, play will end when the ball is under control in the infield.)

INSTRUCTIONAL MINOR DIVISION (Ages 7-8)

1. There will be a try-out evaluation and draft system for all players.

2. A six (6) year old with one (1) year of T-Ball experience may try out for this division based on available space. If the player is not selected for this division, then the player will play in the T-Ball Division.

3. A pitching machine will be used all season. The speed will be determined by the Commissioner and will not be adjusted during the game.

4. Each player will get up to six (6) pitches from the pitching machine and three (3) strikes will constitute an out. A player cannot strike out on a foul ball.

5. The inning will not change before there are three (3) outs or every player on the batting team has batted.
6. A game will last the lesser of six (6) innings or two (2) hours. At the end of the time limit, the current inning will be completed.
7. There will be no base stealing.
8. At the half way point in the season, scorekeeping will begin and the five (5) run rule will be in effect per Little League Regulation 2.00 INNING.
9. Each player shall play a minimum of every other inning on defense. Unlimited substitutions are allowed.
10. The umpire will declare the ball dead and no runners will advance beyond the base they are running to when the ball is returned to the infield and breaks the plane of the inside of the base path.
11. No additional bases are awarded on an overthrow. Runners running out of the base lines to avoid a tag will be called out.
12. *1 manager, 2 coaches and 1 team parent are allowed in the dugout (no batboys or batgirls).*
[As per Warner Robbins LL Coach Pitch Rules]

INTERMEDIATE MINOR DIVISION (Ages 9-11)

1. There will be a try-out evaluation and draft system for all players.
2. An eight (8) year old may try out for this division based on available space. If the player is not selected for this division, then the player will play in the Instructional Minor Division.
3. Each player must play a minimum of two (2) innings and must start at least every other game. At the top of the 3rd inning, all substitutions will be made. The penalty rule, per Little League Regulation IV (i) will be enforced for managers.
4. A game will last the lesser of six (6) innings or two (2) hours. At the end of the time limit, the current inning will be completed.

MAJOR DIVISION (Ages 10-12)

1. A try-out evaluation and draft system is mandatory for this division.
2. Managers must immediately notify the Player Agent after the loss of a player and must report his/her choice for a replacement player within 48 hours.
3. Intermediate Minor division players cannot be called up to the Major Division during the last two weeks of the Major Division regular season. (Little League Regulation III (d))

JR/SR DIVISION (Ages 13-16)

1. A try-out evaluation and draft system is used for this division.
2. A two and one half (2 1/2) hour time limit will be observed from scheduled starting time.
(Exceptions: Tie ball game, umpire late, bad weather).
3. Any ball hit up and striking the power cable located across the corner of left and right field will be called as it falls. If the ball is hit and touches the wire above home plate, the ball is dead.
4. Only 13 and 14 year olds will play in the Junior Division.
5. Only 15 and 16 year olds will play in the Senior Division.