

# Pennridge Little League

## **Rules of Play**

### **Teeball division**

#### **Team Composition**

The number of players on a Teeball division team will be no more than 14. Actual team composition will be determined each season by the total number of applicants and number of available managers.

Available players aged 5 and 6 years old.

Teams must field no more than 10 players per inning defensively. Any players not playing will remain on the bench. No player is permitted to sit 2-innings consecutively. Offensively all players must hit once per inning.

Games are to be played with team members who are present for scheduled games. A minimum of six players must be present to begin a game. Sharing of players between teams playing a game to balance the sides is not required, but strongly encouraged by the Board of Directors.

#### **Equipment**

1. Protective headgear (batting helmets) must be worn by all offensive players while on the playing field.
2. Shin guards, protective cup, chest protector, and catcher's mask with throat protector must be worn while catching.
3. Although not required, coaches are strongly encouraged to promote the use of protective cups and supporters while players are in defensive or fielding positions in the field.
4. Coaches will also make certain all their players have required equipment while participating. It is the coaches and parents responsibility to ensure all players have proper equipment for safety.
5. Both teams must provide a new or like new 9" Little League, cushioned cork center, leather teeball for each game (game balls will be provided to each head coach prior to the start of the season).
6. Metal cleats or spikes are not permitted by any player, manager or coach.

## Regulation Game

All games will have a 1 hour and 15 minute time limit and will be considered complete regardless of the number of innings played. No inning will be allowed to start after the 1 hour and 15 minute time, however, if the game is in the middle of an inning, the game can continue until the end of the current inning.

## Batting

1. The hitting team will hit through the line-up
2. All players present for any game will bat once in each inning with the last batter clearing the bases of all runners including him/herself. While an inning will only end once the last batter bats, hitters/runners may be called out should the runner/batter be thrown/tagged/caught out. That runner/batter must retire to the bench.
3. Any player arriving late will be added to the bottom of the batting line-up.
4. The hitting team Coach will take immediate and appropriate action when a batter throws a bat, regardless of intent. On the first occurrence, the Coach will explain the rule violation to the batter and his/her teammates.
  - On any succeeding occurrences by the same batter the Coach will call the batter "out"
  - If the thrown bat is deemed intentional, the Coach will remove the batter from the game, particularly if the Coach considers the incident to have created an unsafe condition
5. All teams are permitted to use tees for batting throughout the season. Coach, soft or machine pitch will not be permitted. The emphasis here is to teach players at this level the proper batting techniques, which can be more easily and effectively accomplished using a tee.
6. There will be no strikeouts. Every player must hit the ball in fair territory and run the bases.
7. Half swings or swinging bunts are not permitted.
8. A batter who hits the tee, and the action of hitting the tee puts the ball into play is considered a foul ball. All other balls hit into conventional foul territory are also considered foul balls.

## Base Running

1. Base stealing will NOT be allowed at any time in the Teeball division.
2. Base runners may not leave the base before the ball is contacted by the bat.

3. Should a batter hit a ball within the infield that batter and all runners will be awarded 1 base. Should a batter hit a ball in the outfield that batter will be awarded a double with base runners being awarded 2 bases.
4. All players present for any game will bat once in each inning with the last batter clearing the bases of all runners including him/herself. While an inning will only end once the last batter bats, hitters/runners may be called out should the runner/batter be thrown/tagged/caught out. That runner/batter must retire to the bench.
5. Sliding is not permitted.
6. When a player who will be catcher in the next inning is a base runner and there are two outs, a pinch runner may be used to allow the catcher additional time to put on the catcher's equipment.
7. Players must run the bases alone. Coaches and/or parents may not help or interfere with play. Managers or coaches may stand near their batter or defensive players to give advice. Defensive coaches are limited to two in the field.

### **Fielding/Substituting**

1. A maximum of 10 players may play in the field when a team is on defense.
2. The infield will be limited to the normal positions with a pitcher, as a defensive fielder only.
3. The outfield will consist of 4 players spaced evenly.
4. The infield fly rule is waived in the Teeball division. Base runners must advance as forced.
5. Coaches are allowed free substitution throughout the game. Furthermore, coaches are REQUIRED to move players around to different positions during the course of a game. No player should play the same position for more than two consecutive innings.
6. Any player who sits defensively must be inserted into the field the next inning.
7. During the course of a season, each player should be given the opportunity to play the widest range of infield and outfield positions possible. At least 1/3 of each player's playing time should be spent in the infield and 1/3 spent in the outfield. The coach will determine the balance. However, player safety and confidence must be given consideration in making position assignments (i.e., catching, first base).

### **General**

1. Any time a player or coach who behaves in an unsportsmanlike manner (throwing equipment, abusive or inappropriate language, etc.), he or she may, at the discretion of the Player Agent, be removed from the game. Furthermore, an official review by the

Board of Directors could result in discipline up to and including permanent suspension from the League.

2. Coaches from both teams will be responsible for lining the field and placement of bases prior to the start of the game and returning the bases to the equipment shed.
3. Coaches for both teams will make sure that their dugout and bleacher areas are clean after the game.
4. Players and coaches in uniform are the only people allowed in the dugout and field during a game. Any person not wearing the complete uniform issued by the league will not be allowed in the dugout. Please do not allow any children other than players in the dugout. One team parent or one substitute team parent is also allowed as a dugout coach.