

MORRISVILLE LITTLE LEAGUE

Spring 2022 Major Baseball Division Plan

Overview

Eligibility:

All players ages 11 and 12, and players age 10, as drafted. Ages for 12's are determined as of April 30th, 2021 and as of August 31st for 10 and 11 year olds. Parents of 11 year old players may elect (upon review by MLL Player Agent & Division Coordinators) to have their child play in the minor baseball division.

Objective:

The major baseball division is a competitive baseball league. This division will also provide a high level of instruction and development.

Skill Development:

Players in the major baseball division should have already developed the basic skills necessary to play at this level and have a good understanding of the game of baseball. The primary mission for this division will be to leverage the ability of each player in a competitive environment, while continuing to develop each player's baseball skills. Team managers will teach the Majors division level skills as outlined on the Majors Division Baseball Curriculum.

Placement on a Team:

Ten-year old players, and any eleven or twelve year old who did not play for a major baseball division team last year, must attend tryouts and must be drafted to play at this level. Once a player is drafted by a major baseball division team, the player will remain with that same team throughout their time in the major baseball division. If a player does not attend tryouts then he/she cannot be drafted onto a team until all of the other players have been selected.

During The Season:

Games: Teams will typically play two 6 inning games per week from early April through early June against the other Morrisville Little League major baseball division teams.

Playing Time: Each player who is present at the start of a game will play a minimum of six defensive outs in the field.

Regular season batting rule: During the regular season each team will bat its entire line-up. If a player shows up after the game has begun, that player will be put into the last spot in the line-up.

Practices: Teams typically practice once or twice per week

Equipment: Morrisville Little League will provide each player with a hat, shirt, and pants. The league will provide each team with bats, balls, catcher's gear, helmets, first aid kit, and ice packs. Each player needs to have their own glove; should wear rubber cleats; and boys must wear a protective cup.

Location of Games:

Most games are played on the major baseball field (the field next to the playground and the batting cage) in Williamson Park on Delmorr Avenue in Morrisville.

Additional Details***Draft:***

All twelve year old players must play in the major baseball division. Parents of 11 year old players may elect (upon review by MLL Player Agent & Division coordinators) to have their child play in the minor baseball division.

- All new managers to the division will be assigned teams based on a coin flip. The only exception will be if the new manager's child is currently on a majors team.
- Team's draft in reverse order of finish from the previous season. If teams have identical records a coin flip will determine the higher seeded team. The draft maintains the same order until all the spots are filled.
- If a team has four players or less on its existing roster the Team Manager will be given an additional pick at the end of the fourth round.
- The Team Manager is expected to take their child in the second round or risk losing their child to another team.
- If a sibling to an existing team player is in the draft they must be taken by the third round or risk losing them. If there are two siblings in the draft they must be taken in consecutive rounds. An exception to this would be if a ten or eleven year old is not considered to be ready for the major baseball division by the majority of the team managers or by the player's parents. In this case the sibling can stay in the minor baseball division.
- At no time shall a team have on its roster more than 6 players whose league age is 12. Additionally, a team shall not have more than 6 players of the same age group.
- All other rules follow the Little League operations manual.

Pre season guidelines for Team Managers:

- Be organized; hand out a practice schedule that includes a time and location. If a player is unable to make a practice have them call you.
- The more practices the better.
- Please get your parents to help out on field clean up days. These work days are every Saturday 9 a.m. to 12 noon in March
- Have background check forms completed and turned in prior to any individual interacting with kids.
- Have medical release forms filled out and with you at all times. At this age many parents do not stay at practices, you are assuming responsibility.

Regular season:

- **Home team responsibilities:**

- Occupies the third base dugout.
- Sets up the field, installs bases, lines the field, checks for dangerous conditions
- Uses the field first for warm-ups 40 to 20 minutes prior to game time.
- At the end of the game, make sure doors are locked including the batting cage, (Please follow the Field Care Tips that are posted inside the shed area behind home plate.)
- Makes sure the upstairs windows are closed and locked. Checks on concession stand workers. No one should be left alone.
- Sweeps the third base dugout and picks up trash. Fills out pitching log which will be housed on the league website(gomll.org).

- **Visiting team responsibilities:**

- Occupies the first base dugout.
- Uses the batting cage first for warm-ups 40 to 20 minutes prior to game time.
- At the end of the game, smooth out the pitcher's mound and around home plate. grooms the infield, sweeps the first base dugout and picks up trash. Fills out pitching log which will be housed on the league website(gomll.org).

- **Game/Mercy Rule:**

- Games will have a time limit. No new inning after 1 hour and 50 minutes. Coaches and the umpire will agree on the start time for each game.
- 10 runs after 5 innings. The game will end if one team is 10 or more runs ahead of the other after playing 5 innings. If the home team is ahead by 10 or more runs, then only 4 1/2 innings are required in order for the mercy rule to take affect.

Rainouts or cancellations:

- The home team is responsible for calling off a game due to weather conditions. The Home and Visiting Team Manager should communicate and work together. If the game is called off, please notify the Division Coordinator so he can communicate to the concession stand and umpire coordinators.
- Games that are cancelled must be made up within two weeks of the postponement. Contact the Division Coordinator for open times to reschedule.
- Sundays are available for make-up games.

Umpires:

- The league will provide one or two umpires per game when available.
- The Umpire coordinator is responsible for scheduling umpires.
- Arguing with umpires is not permitted. If there is a question, only the Team Manager can approach the umpire to discuss a rule. Safe, out or other discretionary calls are not up for debate.

Replacement Player Rules:

- If a Team Manager knows prior to a game that he will not be able to field nine players then, he should contact the Player Agent and request to have a minor division player to fill the spot.
- Any other substitutions from other teams would need to be agreed upon by the opposing Team Manager and must be told to the umpire before the beginning of the game. A substitute player cannot pitch or catch.

Substitution Rules:

- Each player who is present at the start of the game must play a minimum of six defensive outs.
- A continuous batting order must be used during the regular season and playoffs.
- You must communicate to the opposing Team Manager when substitutions are made.
- If there is an injury and a player is leaving the game the two Team Managers will discuss what changes are mutually agreed upon in front of the umpire. We will not force an injured player to continue to play.
- Prior to each game, both managers can agree on running for the catcher with 2 outs to help speed up the game.

Pitching Rules:

- If you wish to intentionally walk a batter, the manager must inform the umpire and the batter will be placed on 1st. No physical pitches are needed but 4 pitches will be added to the pitchers total.
- We will maintain a pitching log – it is imperative that it be filled out after each game. The pitching log will be housed on-line using google docs. Only managers and designated assistant coaches will be able to view the pitching log.
- We will follow Little League International's pitching rules.

1 – 20 pitches (0) days rest, (0) games rest (pitch next day)

21 – 35 pitches (1) days rest, (0) games rest (pitch in 2 days)

36 – 50 pitches (2) days rest, (0) games rest (pitch in 3 days)

51 – 65 pitches (3) days rest, (0) games rest (pitch in 4 days)

66 or more pitches (4) days rest, (0) games rest (pitch in 5 days)

Be aware of the pitch limits: 10's (75 pitches), 11 & 12's (85 pitches)

- If a pitcher reaches the pitch-count limit for their age while facing a batter, the pitcher may continue to throw until the batter reaches base, is thrown out, or the third out is made to complete the half-inning.
- Any pitcher who delivers 41 or more pitches in a game may not go behind the plate to play catcher for the remainder of the game.
- Any player, who has played the position of catcher in four (4) or more innings in a game, is not eligible to pitch on that calendar day

Safety:

- Make sure you are familiar with and follow the safety rules that are outlined in the Morrisville Little League Safety Manual
- Only players with a catcher's helmet are permitted to warm-up pitchers in a game or catch for a pitcher during practices. Adults and players without a catcher's helmet are NOT permitted to catch for a pitcher under any circumstance.
- Only wood bats and/or bats with the USA sticker are able to be used for practice and games. Please refer to Little League International's website for details and a list of approved bats.
- On deck batters are NOT permitted at any time.

Schedule:

- We anticipate playing no less than 16 games each season.
- We anticipate ending the season with a double-elimination playoff tournament.
- Any cancelled games need to be made up within two weeks of the scheduled game.
- The schedule will be available 2 weeks prior to Opening Day

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