



LIONVILLE YOUTH ASSOCIATION

LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL

League: Summer Sandlot

Typical Ages: 8-13

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

The Summer Sandlot League is designed for only one purpose, fun. As such, the main objectives are:

- Keeps kids playing baseball into the summer
- Promote friendly, 'neighborhood' atmosphere
- Minimal adult interference/engagement

The Summer Sandlot season is a fun 'league' building upon the momentum from Spring Baseball to keep kids playing throughout the summer, deepening their love for the game. LYA's primary objectives are for all the kids to have fun, make new friends, deepen existing friendships and promote a 'pickup baseball' atmosphere. The LYA rules are intended to encourage these goals, while keeping it just organized enough that these goals can be met.

Safety

Sandlot baseball is required to comply with all aspects of the LYA Safety Manual. Extra emphasis and relevance should be placed on these items:

- Batters **MUST** wear a helmet at all times. Base runners **MUST** wear a helmet at all times. If a player is coaching a base they **MUST** wear a helmet at all times.
- Only the batter may be holding a bat. NO ON DECK CIRCLE
- Catchers must wear all catching equipment in order to play the position. This includes a protective cup and throat protector on the mask.
- Coaches who elect to warm up pitchers do so at their own risk.
- No minor aged persons that are not rostered players are allowed in the dugout during games.
- As a local rule, players may NOT wear metal cleats.
- No headfirst slides except back into a base.
- Coaches are there primarily to ensure safety rules are followed and games are respectful and somewhat orderly so they are Fun.

Team Formation

Players who played LYA or Hillcats Baseball from Minors, Majors, Intermediates or Hillcats 8U-12U are eligible to register. At each event the commissioners, or a designated representative, will review the players that are planned to be in attendance as well as the quantity of players and determine how many

fields/games are needed for that day. They will break up the games using factors like skill, age, friend groups, siblings, etc. in order to promote a fun environment. Once assigned to a field/game, the teams will be determined in some random fashion that is inclusive in nature (gloves in method for example). If a particular game seems unbalanced, the coaches can have the teams resorted.

Coaches

During registration, any adult volunteer who volunteered during the Spring is eligible to be a coach volunteer for Sandlot. After the completion of registration, the Executive Admin will 'roster' parent volunteers who register as interested in volunteering who meet this qualification.

All coaches have the responsibility to demonstrate good sportsmanship and be in control of their emotions in accordance with the LYA Safety Manual & Code of Ethics. It is also the coach's responsibility to ensure safety & league rules are followed and help promote a fun environment.

Evaluations

There are no evaluations for Summer Sandlot.

Draft

There is no draft for Summer Sandlot.

RULES OF PLAY

Rules for this League should loosely follow the Rules Described in the Little League Handbook with exception to LYA specific rules outlined below. LYA specific rules take precedence over Little League Handbook.

1. No scores or statistics shall be kept.
2. No preset teams or standing.
3. Coach volunteers assist for BOTH teams. They are not coaching one team over another.
4. The coach volunteers will serve as the 'umpire' for the game and call balls and strikes, out/safe from behind the pitchers mound. The umpiring should be done in a way that keeps the game moving, fun and organized. Getting every call exactly right is not the priority.
5. Players are to 'pitch to contact' so the vast majority of balls are in play.

6. If a player walks or HBP, they can either take first base or get 3 free swings off of coach pitch at an easy speed. If after those 3 pitches they 'strike-out' they advance to first base as if they had walked, so the player is encouraged to take the free pitches.
7. Continuous batting order always. Batting Order should also be random and assembled by the team. No coach/volunteer interference in this process except to maintain civility and order if necessary.
8. Positions should be constantly rotating with the goal of never playing the same position two innings in a row, especially the pitcher.
 - a. Exception made for the catcher. Use as many different catchers that are willing.
 - b. Take caution at 1st base and catcher. The kids at these positions need to be able to protect themselves.
 - c. Encourage kids to try new positions, especially Pitcher/Catcher.
 - d. Use 4 outfielders if needed so less people sit on the bench.
 - e. No one sits the bench twice in a row unless they want to, but encourage all kids to play.
 - f. This league is not a travel player showcase league.
9. Inning ends after 3 outs or when the offense has 'batted around' the lineup once.
10. Players will pitch throughout the regular season. An umpire will call balls and strikes throughout the game.
11. One successful steal of home per inning. A steal is defined as any non-batted ball, non-walk or HBP.
12. Game ends due to darkness or naturally breaking up due players leaving mid-game and not having enough to continue. Try to merge games if able to safely do so.