

## **Petaluma National Little League Spring 2024 Mini Division Local Rules**

The rules for the Mini division will follow the Little League Green Book except as modified below.

**Coaches and managers are expected to know the Little League Green Book.**

### **SECTION I: FORCE AND EFFECT**

- A. The Local Rules govern the play and conduct of Petaluma National Little League, also referred to as PNLL or "The League." The Local Rules are referred to as "By-Laws," serve in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of Little League Baseball, Inc.
- B. The Local Rules must NOT alter, supersede with any published Little League Baseball Rules, Regulations, Policies or Principles.
- C. Any rule shall NOT remove or replace authority granted to certain persons by the Little League Baseball Rules and Regulations.
- D. The League shall be governed by the Board of Directors, elected from the general membership, consisting of volunteer personnel.
- E. The Board of Directors reserves the right to make changes and/or exceptions to the local rules by normal Board Meeting quorum and majority vote.
- F. The Local Rules shall be distributed and/or be available to any party required to implement and uphold the policies or directives (i.e. managers, coaches, umpires, player agent(s), Board of Directors, etc.).
- G. The League holds its players, managers, coaches, officials, family members and fans to the highest standards of good sportsmanship, fair play, civility, appropriate behavior, appropriate dress and respect for others.

### **SECTION II: VOLUNTEERS**

- A. As a condition of service to the League, all managers, coaches, board members and any other persons, volunteers, or hired workers, who provide regular service to the League, and/or have repetitive access to, or contact with, players or teams must complete and submit an official "Little League Volunteer Application" to the President of the League. Annual background screenings must be completed prior to the applicant assuming his/her duties for the current season. Refusal to annually submit a fully completed "Little League Volunteer Application" will result in immediate dismissal of the person(s) from the League.
- B. Volunteerism: Little League is a volunteer-run organization. Each family wishing to participate in this League shall be expected to embrace this concept. A parent or guardian for each child shall volunteer to work the required number of hours determined by the League. All persons working in the concession stand must be at least 14 years of age. During concession stand operating hours, the only individuals, aside from PNLL Board Members and Little League District Officials, to be in the concession stand are those individuals scheduled to fill a concession stand shift.
- C. Field Duties: The managers and coaches of the home team will prepare the field for play. The visiting manager will lock the storage container at the conclusion of the last game of the day, and after raking the field and securing all League equipment in the dugouts. The visiting manager will also ensure the field/facilities are secure before leaving the area. The visiting manager will also TARP the field after the LAST GAME of the day. Each team is responsible for emptying trash from their respective dugouts.

- D. Scorekeeping: The Minor “Mini” Division does not keep score.

### **SECTION III: REGISTRATION AND PLAYER EVALUATIONS (CONDUCTED BASED ON GUIDELINES FROM OPERATING MANUAL AND RULE BOOK)**

- A. Player registration for the PNLL season shall begin online. Check the website for dates and information.
- B. All player candidates (League Age 8 to 16) shall participate in PNLL’s sanctioned player evaluation (“tryouts”) activities as determined by the League.
- C. There are no evaluations for Mini candidates League age 6 and 7 years old.
- D. Once a player registers with PNLL and has been assigned a team in the Mini Division, the league reserves the right to retain all submitted fees, forms and materials. No refunds will be issued after said player is placed on a roster.

### **SECTION IV: PLAYER SELECTION (BASED ON LITTLE LEAGUE GREEN BOOK)**

- A. The number of teams at each level shall be determined by the Board of Directors immediately following registration dates.
- B. Level of Play: A player candidate’s League Age and the player draft will determine a child’s level of play. All players League Age 6 and 7 and 8 not drafted to a Little League Minors (AA), shall play in this division. (See 2017 Tee Ball Waiver dated 1/14/17)

### **SECTION V: GENERAL GAME RULES AND SAFETY**

- A. Game Status: Prior to game time, a presiding board member, Vice President of the Division, Safety Officer, or any board member may call games for safety and/or weather reasons. Games shall be rescheduled to continue per Little League rules. Once the game has begun the Board Member on Duty (BMOD) will be responsible for making decisions regarding weather and safety with regards to the field.
- B. Missed Games: A player who misses six (6) consecutive regular season games for any reason shall be removed from the roster of his or her current team with the approval of the President and Player Agent.
- C. The playing rules of Little League Baseball, Inc. and these local rules will govern play in all PNLL games. Particular attention shall be paid to the rules of minimum playing time. See Regulation IV (i) in the Little League Rule Book. PNLL will strictly enforce the rules of the game and any violation should be reported immediately to the Umpire-in-Chief at the game involved and the responsible Division Vice President.
- D. Make-ups: The Mini division will have no make-up games as a result of weather, forfeit, or any other reason without good cause and approval of the Division VP and the President.

## **SECTION VI: LITTLE LEAGUE MINI DIVISION SPECIAL RULES**

- A. Equipment: All teams will use the pitching machine specifically designated for the Mini division. The speed of the machine will be set to an appropriate speed (approximately 25 mph) mutually agreed upon by both managers, and will remain at that same speed for the remainder of the game, once set. A PNLL-approved manager/coach may pitch in lieu of a pitching machine if machines are not working properly or are unavailable. Any hit ball that hits the pitching machine will be considered a base hit and the player will be awarded first base only.
- B. Field duties: The managers and coaches of the home team will prepare the field for play. The visiting manager will lock the storage container the conclusion of the last game of the day, and after raking the field, and securing all League equipment in the dugouts. The visiting manager will also ensure the field/facilities are secure before leaving the area. Each team is responsible for emptying trash from their respective dugouts AND putting the bases as well as pitching machines away in the container.
- C. Coaching: An adult member of the coaching staff of the team on defense will run the pitching machine and assist with the proper placement of the infield defensive players. A second member of the coaching staff of the team on defense may also be on the field to assist with player positioning. There must be an adult member of the coaching staff in the dugout at all times. The coaches shall be as unobtrusive as possible.
- D. Scorekeeping: The Mini Division does not keep score. No scorebook is to be kept in the dugout.
- E. Time Limits: Games shall continue for six (6) innings, or until they reach the 1 hour and 30 minutes time limit. During the entire game, a team is limited to scoring five runs in an inning. No new inning (defined as starting at the completion of the last out in the prior inning) shall be started after 1 hour and 30 minutes of play. An inning will end after 3 defensive outs (a strikeout does not constitute a defensive out) are made or once all offensive players get to bat.
- F. Each team will bat the entire line up while at bat in a "True Continuous Batting Order" with the player that would have been the next batter when the game ends will then be the first batter in the next game. The goal is to get all of the players the same number of at bats in a season.
- G. If after 5 pitches from the pitching machine (of any quality) a batter fails to put the ball in play then the batter will get 1 swing off of a batting tee. If the batter does not put the ball in play off the batting tee, they are considered out.
- H. Do not take extra bases on errors. However, do advance if a hit constitutes an extra base - i.e. a double should be a double, not an inside-the-park home run. The intent is to teach the kids baseball rules and prepare them for the next level.