

Scorekeeping Tips and Tricks



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What's the score?

- What's the score? What just happened? Who made that last play?
- The scorekeeper can answer all of these with a small amount of training
- Scorekeeping is part art. However, there are a few guidelines to make it easy for all to understand
- There are as many scoresheets and formats as there are scorekeepers, and no way is truly the correct way
- It's all determined by what the use is and your personal preference

As long as it's accurate, it's fine



Why keep a detailed record?

- Keeping score makes it possible to give an accurate, concise run down of the game's events
- Little League requires a detailed record of every game in Coach Pitch and above be kept for the full season
 - Documents how each team meets the Little League required minimum play time requirement
 - Documents pitch count and pitcher eligibility
 - Documents eligibility for All-Stars
 - Provides a record of the score and game situations in case questions arise
- The scorebook enables the manager to look back at a game and use game situations as teaching points during practices



- Every pitch, play, substitution, and defensive movement is recorded
 - Different for Coach Pitch and Continuous Batting Orders
- Scorekeeper shorthand
 - A series of abbreviations and position numbers to facilitate recording plays
 - There are multiple types of shorthand with no “correct” method – we will teach one type here
- Find a system that works for you to help record the play
 - Must be clear for someone who was not at the game
 - Keep consistent throughout the season



- Set up your Scorebook
 - Record your starting line-up and starting positions
 - *Use first and last names (ignore our examples here)*
 - Work with the opposing scorekeeper to ensure each has the starting lineup and other players who are not starting
- Work with your Pitch Counter to ensure they have the pitcher's name, league age, and uniform number
- If you are the home team, introduce yourself to the Umpire-in-Chief and record his/her name in the scorebook
- Record the official start time (from the UIC) of the game in your scorebook



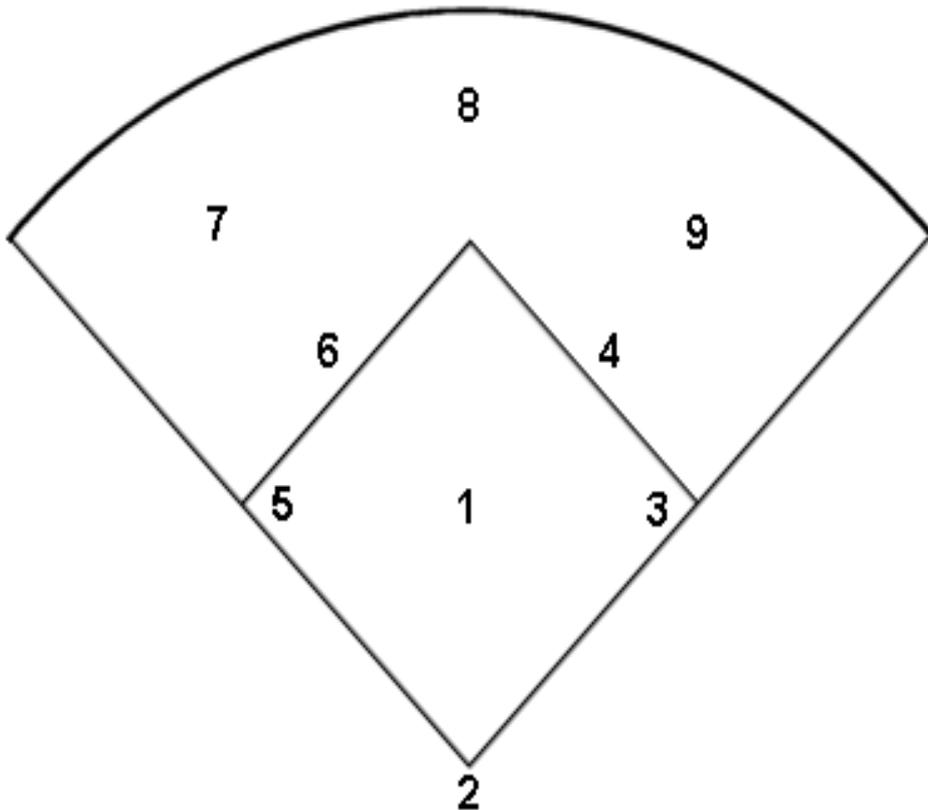
SCLL Local Rules

- Home Team is the Official Scorekeeper and is responsible for submitting the score and pitch counts to the league
 - Home book cannot be kept in the dugout
- Scorekeepers and pitch counters must confer with each other after every half inning to ensure the books are consistent and prevent problems at the end of the game
- Pitch Counters must use the Official SCLL Pitch Count Log (Baseball) and the Pitcher Eligibility Form (Baseball or Softball)
- The official scorebook must be signed by the Visiting Manager before leaving the field



Position Numbers

(Minor/AA and Above)



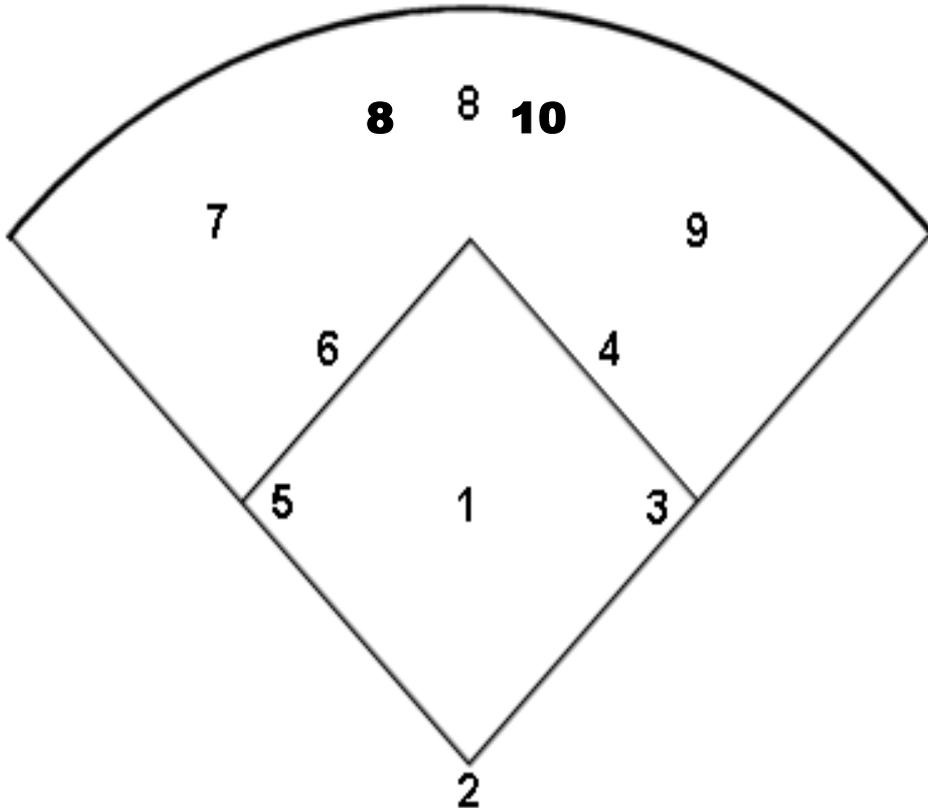
POSITIONS

- 1 = Pitcher (P)
- 2 = Catcher (C)
- 3 = First Baseman (1B)
- 4 = Second Baseman (2B)
- 5 = Third Baseman (3B)
- 6 = Shortstop (SS)
- 7 = Left Fielder (LF)
- 8 = Centerfielder (CF)
- 9 = Right Fielder (RF)



Position Numbers

(Coach Pitch)



POSITIONS

- 1 = Pitcher (P)
- 2 = Catcher (C)
- 3 = First Baseman (1B)
- 4 = Second Baseman (2B)
- 5 = Third Baseman (3B)
- 6 = Shortstop (SS)
- 7 = Left Fielder (LF)
- 8 = Left Centerfielder (LCF)
- 9 = Right Fielder (RF)
- 10 = Right Centerfielder (RCF)



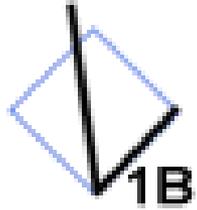
Example (1 of 9)

#	Player	Pos	1
9	Smith, J.	8	
	Sub		
29	Lawson, A.	4	
	Sub		
17	Henry, D.	2	
	Sub		
33	Jones, T.	9	
	Sub		



Example (2 of 9)

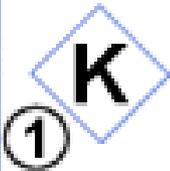
- Smith, J. singles to center field
- To mark Smith's single, we'll darken the line from home to first
- Many people also like to draw a line to show where the batter hit the ball.

9	Smith, J.	8	
		Sub	



Example (3 of 9)

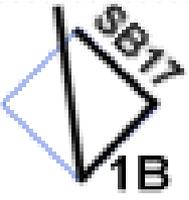
- Lawson, A. is next up and he strikes out swinging
- A "K" is placed in his box to indicate that he struck out
 - If it was a called strike three, a backwards "K" would be placed in the box
- A circled "1" is also placed in the box to indicate that it is the first out

29	Lawson, A.	4	
		Sub	



Example (4 of 9)

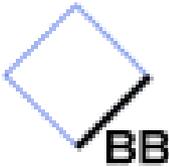
- Henry, D. is batting next, but while he is batting Smith, J. manages to steal second
 - The line from first to second in Smith, J.'s box should be darkened
 - Place an "SB" along with the jersey number of who was at bat to indicate that Smith stole second during Henry's plate appearance
 - If Henry hit or sacrificed the batter over to second, you would place just the uniform or player number next to the path from first to second to show how Smith got there.

9	Smith, J.	8	
		Sub	



Example (5 of 9)

- Henry, D. manages to draw a walk
 - The line from home to first is darkened and a "BB" is written or checked to indicate the walk

17	Henry, D.	2	
		Sub	



Example (6 of 9)

- Jones, T. is now at bat
 - He hits it to the short stop who tosses it to the second baseman who tags the bag to get Henry out
 - The second baseman then throws to first to get Jones out
- A classic 6-4-3 double play, which is what is written in Jones' box
 - However, both outs must be recorded
 - A line is drawn halfway between first and second in Henry's box and is marked with a '33' to indicate that Jones was the batter
 - A circled '2' is also entered to indicate that Henry was the second out.

17	Henry, D.	2	
	<i>Sub</i>		



Example (7 of 9)

- In Jones' box a 6-4-3 is written along with a 'DP' for the double play and a circled '3' to indicate the third out
- A 'DP' could also have been entered in Henry's box to indicate that he was caught up in the double play as well

33	Jones, T.	9	DP 6-4-3 ③
		Sub	



Example (8 of 9)

- Since this is the third out, a slash is drawn across the lower right-hand corner of Jones' box to indicate the end of the inning
- Here is the full example of the half-inning

#	Player	Pos	1
9	Smith, J.	8	
	Sub		
29	Lawson, A.	4	
	Sub		
17	Henry, D.	2	
	Sub		
33	Jones, T.	9	
	Sub		



Example (9 of 9)

- For batter substitutions, I draw a line between the last scorebox of the previous batter and the first scorebox of the new batter
- When a substitution is made for the pitcher, place a line under the score box of the last batter the previous pitcher faced.

#	Player	Pos		8
9	Smith, J.	8		
		Sub		
29	Lawson, A.	4		
3	Kitt, W.	PH		



Common Abbreviations

BATTER IS ON BASE

1B = Single

2B = Double

3B = Triple

HR = Home Run

BB = Base on Balls/Walk

HP = Hit by Pitch (HBP)

FC = Fielder's Choice

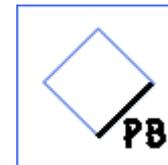
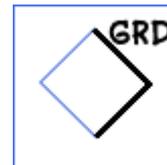
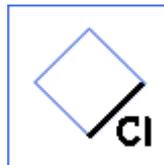
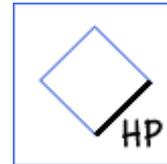
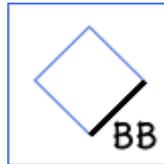
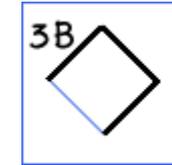
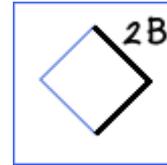
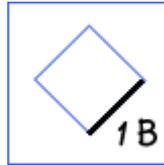
E5 = Reached Base on Error
by 3B

CI = Catcher's Interference

GRD = Ground Rule Double

PB = Passed Ball or

DTS = Dropped Third Strike





Common Abbreviations

BATTER IS OUT

K = Strikeout Swinging

ㄣ = Strikeout Looking

5-3 = Groundout, 3B to 1B

F7 = Fly Out to LF

L5 = Line Out to 3B

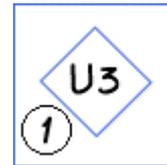
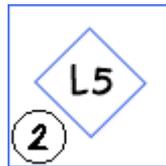
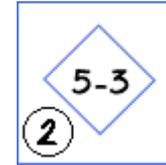
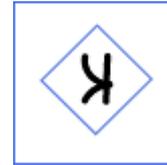
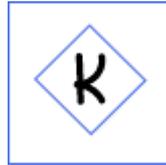
Fo9 = Foul Out to RF

G3 = Unassisted Play by 1B

IFR = Infield Fly Rule

DP 6-4-3 = Double Play, SS to 2B to 1B

U3 = Unassisted Out by 1B
(similar to G3)





Common Abbreviations

BASERUNNING

SB = Stolen Base

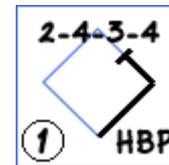
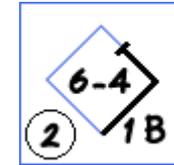
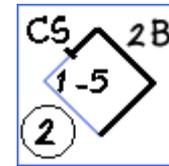
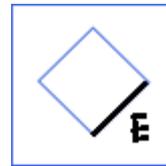
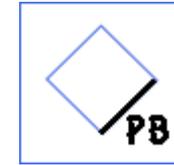
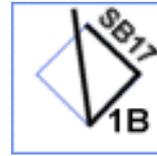
WP = Wild Pitch

PB = Passed Ball

E5 = Advanced on Error by 3B

CS = Caught Stealing

6-4 = Force Out, SS to 2B





Pitcher Eligibility and Days of Rest

- Little League implements a pitch count regulation by age and establishes a number of days of required rest by number of pitches (found under Rule VI) to protect the arms of the children in Little League.
- **Once a player delivers 41 or more pitches in a game, he or she cannot play the position of catcher for the remainder of the day. Inversely, a player who plays catcher for four or more innings cannot pitch for the remainder of the day.**
- The first calendar day of rest does not begin until 12:01am the day following a game. Each required day of rest is a full day; a player cannot pitch until the day after all days of rest have been completed.
 - Example: 9-year-old Timmy throws 67 pitches in a game on Monday evening. By rule, he must rest four days. Day one of rest starts on Tuesday and day four ends on Friday, so Timmy isn't eligible to pitch again until Saturday.



Pitch Count Change

- Regulation VI Changed for 2013
 - Phil starts pitching to Kevin at 18 pitches
 - He strikes Kevin out looking on the 23rd pitch and is removed before facing the next batter
 - Phil is required to observe no days of rest
 - Kevin starts pitching to Maria with 21 pitches
 - Maria drives the 2nd pitch over the left field fence for a grand slam
 - The manager promptly removes Kevin from the mound and he finishes with 23 pitches
 - Kevin is required to observe one day of rest
- Not all pitch counts are the same!

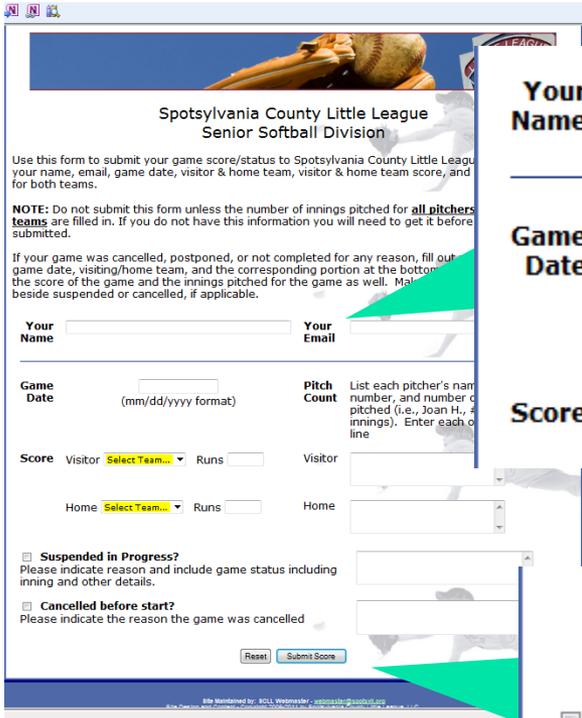


Pitch Count Change (cont)

- Potential Tracking Nightmare
 - Teams must report the correct pitch count
 - Pitch Count for Phil reported as 23 (FB 5)
 - Pitch Count for Kevin reported as 23 (FB 2)
- Managers **MUST** update the Pitcher Eligibility form that they carry with them



Reporting Game Status / Scores



Spotsylvania County Little League Senior Softball Division

Use this form to submit your game score/status to Spotsylvania County Little League. Your name, email, game date, visitor & home team, visitor & home team score, and for both teams.

NOTE: Do not submit this form unless the number of innings pitched for **all pitchers** are filled in. If you do not have this information you will need to get it before submitted.

If your game was cancelled, postponed, or not completed for any reason, fill out game date, visiting/home team, and the corresponding portion at the bottom of the score of the game and the innings pitched for the game as well. Mark as cancelled beside suspended or cancelled, if applicable.

Your Name Your Email

Game Date (mm/dd/yyyy format) Pitch Count List each pitcher's name, uniform number, and number of innings pitched (i.e., Joan H., #41, 4 innings). Enter each on a different line

Score Visitor Select Team... Runs Visitor

Home Select Team... Runs Home

Suspended in Progress?
Please indicate reason and include game status including inning and other details.

Cancelled before start?
Please indicate the reason the game was cancelled

Your Name

Your Email

Game Date

(mm/dd/yyyy format)

Pitch Count

List each pitcher's name, uniform number, and number of innings pitched (i.e., Joan H., #41, 4 innings). Enter each on a different line

Score Visitor

Select Team...

Runs

Visitor

Home Select Team...

Runs

Home

Suspended in Progress?

Please indicate reason and include game status including inning and other details.

Cancelled before start?

Please indicate the reason the game was cancelled



Coach Pitch Rules Overview

- At least 1 coach in the dugout when kids are in the dugout
- No On-Deck Batters
- 10 players on the field during defensive side of inning
- Continuous batting order
- 6 innings or 2 hours (no new inning) which ever comes first
- Advance what the batter earns – Do not push running or scoring
- No player sits for more than 1 straight inning nor more than 3 during a game



AA/AAA Rules Overview

- At least 1 coach in the dugout when kids are in the dugout
- No On-Deck Batters
- 9 players on the field and a continuous batting order
- 6 innings or 2 hours (no new inning) which ever comes first
- Ties will not be broken
- Minimum play time rule
 - 6 outs (must be consecutive if substitute)
 - At least 1 at bat per game



Major Rules Overview

- At least 1 coach in the dugout when kids are in the dugout
- No On-Deck Batters
- 9 players on the field and NO continuous batting order
- 6 innings but no time limit unless a game is schedule after
- Extra innings to break ties but don't exceed the time limit
- Minimum play time rule
 - 6 outs (must be consecutive if substitute)
 - At least 1 at bat per game



Intermediate/Senior Rules Overview

- At least 1 coach in the dugout when kids are in the dugout
- On-Deck batters allowed on the same side as the batter
- 9 players on the field and NO continuous batting order
- 7 innings but no time limit unless a game is schedule after
- Extra innings to break ties but don't exceed the time limit
- Minimum play time rule
 - 6 outs (must be consecutive if substitute)
 - At least 1 at bat per game
- Lead-offs allowed



- Only fundraiser that directly involves the kids
 - Success of the Hit-A-Thon has allowed SCLL to not raise prices in 5 years – Let's keep that going
 - 30% of our annual Budget – No government funding in SCLL
 - Equipment
 - Training
 - Prizes, etc.
- Encourage everyone to participate in the Opening Day event – They don't have to raise money to participate
- Encourage everyone to raise money – Donations are tax deductible



Opportunities

- Umpires (teams provide umpire for 3 games)
- Sponsors
- Richmond Squirrels – SCLL Day
- Golf Tournament
- SCLL Board of Directors



Final Questions?

Thank you again for volunteering!



- Jeff Ooten – SCLL President, jeff@ooten.com or 540-207-1269
- Kim Cheesbrew – SCLL Player Agent, kcheez@comcast.net or 540-786-2236