



Bridgewater Little League Local Rules

2026

Revisions approved by BoD on 3/26/26

Below are rules which supersede the official Little League Rules. Each league has their own rules as well (Senior, 50/70, Majors, Minors & Instructional). League rules will not supersede the Bridgewater Little League Local Rules.

- 1) Any rule not specifically outlined or covered in the Local Rules, Major Rules, Minor Rules, Instructional Rules or "T" Ball Rules will go before the Board of Directors if a question needs interpretation or a ruling needs to be made.
- 2) **Zero Tolerance Policy**
 - a) Bridgewater Little League enforces a zero tolerance policy in regards to any form of abuse, physical or emotional misconduct. All allegations are taken seriously and will be investigated. Coaches, volunteers, players and spectators will be subject to suspension during any internal and authority based investigation and subject to further suspension and / or removal from the league based on findings.
- 3) **Player Equipment**
 - a) Safety helmets will be available for batters to wear at each field. They are in the equipment shed for anyone to use.
 - b) Managers shall check their catchers for all required equipment, i.e. mask, helmet with throat protector, chest protector, and shin guards, and will request validation that the catcher is wearing a protective cup.
 - c) All male players must wear athletic supporters and/or protective cups during both games and practice sessions.
 - d) Safety Equipment Enforcement rule
 - i) Adherence to all safety rules is the responsibility of the Manager.
 - ii) Specifically, the adherence of all bats, helmets and catchers protective gear Little League and Local Rules. See specific bats, helmets and catchers protective gear rules for reference.
 - iii) If found in violation through official complaint by a manager or witnessed infraction by BLL Board Manager, the manager in violation will receive one warning. If found noncompliant with the warning and a second infraction occurs, the manager will receive a 1 game suspension. Further infractions would be brought to the board to determine next steps of discipline.
 - (1) Managers should work together to remind one another "if" a true mistake is to occur and not a direct infraction is intended.
- 4) **Managers:**
 - a) All Managers and coaches shall wear a CORI ID tag during games and practices.
 - b) All Managers must be 18+ years old.
 - c) All managers and coaches must be First Aid Certified, approved by the Little League, and show proof of current certification. One Manager/Coach from each team is strongly encouraged to have current AED & CPR Certifications.
- 5) **Player League Eligibility**



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- a) All players within the Little League International boundary map on record, which include the towns of Bridgewater and Raynham, as well as any waiver players as approved by Little League International.
 - i) Players must have attained a League age of 4 years old to be eligible for the T-Ball League.
 - ii) Players must have attained a League age of 8 years old to be eligible for the Minor League.
 - iii) Players must have attained a League age of 10 years to be eligible for the Major League.
 - iv) All deviations from A, B, or C will be determined by the Board of Directors

6) Appointment of Managers and Coaches

- a) Manager openings will be announced at the earliest possible general meeting. All candidates will be reviewed by the Board of Directors and submitted by the President of the League (per Little League rule I(b)).
- b) A person will remain as Manager in the current season until a formal, written, resignation is received by the League or if the League determines that the Manager of record is not actively managing the Team.
- c) If a new Manager is named during the season, this temporary manager will be appointed for the remainder of the season only, by the Board of Directors.
- d) Up to four team coaches may be selected by the Team Manager with the approval of the Board of Directors. Only four total coaches can be on the field or in the dugout coaching during a game. Manager must choose two team coaches to be on the Little League International roster.
- e) The B.O.D. must approve all coaches and managers at the beginning of each season. Managers and Coaches may be listed on the rosters of both the Majors and Minors Leagues. One person cannot be named Manager of both a Major League team and a Minor League team. A Manager of one team can help coach (Not manage) another team as long as a son/daughter is on the team.
- f) In the case of a team having one listed Manager or coach available for a game, that team may ask for a temporary listed coach or Manager from any other League roster for one game only. This will be done on an emergency basis only.

7) Player playing time-

- a) Every Player on a team roster will participate in each game for a minimum of three complete innings, game conditions permitting. Any infractions of this rule will result in disciplinary action. The innings are not required to be continuous and (as long as there is a continuous batting order) free defensive substitution may be used.



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- b) A player shall be considered as having entered the game when he/she assumes a defensive position, becomes a batter, takes a position on the pitcher's rubber, and throws one warm-up pitch to the catcher, or takes the place of a runner.
- c) The name of any player being withheld from action for disciplinary reasons shall be given to the V.P. and the opposing team Manager prior to the game.
 - i) i. Superseded rule 3:07 of the Little League rules.
- d) Courtesy runner will be allowed in the case of injury to a player.
 - i) The new pinch running rule 7:14 will not be used in Bridgewater Little League
 - ii) The runner will be the person that made the last out for that team.

8) Practice Sessions (before games)

- a) The home team will have the field up to 25 minutes prior to game time for batting practice and/or infield/outfield. The visiting team will have the field up to 10 prior to game time for infield/outfield. Home team will have 10 min for field prep.
- b) Practice sessions will be scheduled by the Vice President of the respective league.

9) Player and Coach Etiquette-

- a) Unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated. All Managers, Coaches and players are subject to review by the Board of Directors in any case of unethical behavior. Including, but not limited to, profanity, gestures, or abusive language toward anyone associated with the game. Any infraction of this rule must be submitted to the Board of Directors. **Anyone ejected from a game will be suspended for at least the succeeding game.**
- b) Any physical violence shall be grounds for a minimum of one full season's suspension.
- c) Any swearing, vulgar or abusive language, the penalty shall be immediate suspension for the remainder of the game in question, and at least the following game, and any other games, as determined by the B.O.D.
- d) All managers and coaches are responsible for knowledge of the rules. Ignorance of the rules is subject to penalties as determined by the B.O.D.
- e) If the winning team has violated the pitching rule, the game will be replayed from the point in the game when the violation occurred. The number of pitches for the violated game will count in the players pitch count, as per Rule 6, Opon 2d(d).

10) Sliding-

- a) The runner will be called out, if he does not slide or try to avoid contact with a fielder in the process of fielding a batted or thrown ball at any base. This is intended as a safety rule when a fielder and a runner come together at the base. Any flagrant violation of this rule will result in ejection from the game and a review by League Officials.

11) Postponing games:

- a) A determination will be made by at least two of the following Board members of Bridgewater Little League; President, V.P., V.P. Seniors, V.P. Majors, V.P. Minors, V.P. Instructional, V.P. T-Ball, Safety Officer, and the Umpire in Chief. Notifications will be communicated and available on the league's website, via email and/or social media.



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- b) A League Official shall be the sole judge as to when play shall be suspended during a game, because of unsuitable weather conditions or unfit condition of the playing field.
- c) The umpire(s) during the game shall determine when play shall be suspended during a game because of darkness. All games must end immediately when the light and alarm sounds, with the outcome of the game being determined under section 4:00 of the Little League Rule book
- d) All postponed games shall be rescheduled by the V.P. of the League on the next available date following the date of the postponement, as determined by the respective League Vice President.
- e) All postponed games shall have regular starting times unless prior arrangements have been made with League V.P.'s. Each League V.P. shall be responsible for posting a make-up schedule.

12) Field Preparation and Maintenance

- a) The home team will be responsible for raking/dragging and lining the field before the game. They will have 10 min prior to the game to complete.
- b) The home team is responsible for raking/dragging the field after the game. Home plate, pitcher's mound and around each base must be raked.

13) Tie Breaker Designations

- a) The following tie breaker designations apply to end of regular season play for playoff seeding and determination of the draft order for the following season:
 - i) Head-to-head record
 - ii) Lowest runs allowed
 - iii) Flip a coin

14) Miscellaneous-

- a) Player movement, the Senior, Major, and Minor Draft, must be approved by the Player Agent, President, and League V.P.
- b) When 2 games are scheduled for the lighted fields, the first game will end at 8:00pm regardless of the inning or score. The second game will not have an inning start after 10:00pm.
- c) Only rostered Managers, Coaches, or Players will be allowed on the field or in the dugouts both for the game warm-ups and the games. No parents or other parties may take part in the game for any team.
 - i) The first (1st) violation of this will result in a verbal warning for the offending team's manager.
 - ii) A second offense in the season (and any subsequent offense) will result in an automatic 1 game suspension and an appearance before the Board of Directors.

15) All Star Selection Overview



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- a) BLL makes an effort every year to provide summer All-Star opportunities for players at all levels from 8 to 16 years of age. This is a summary of how BLL navigates these opportunities in general. As with any policy or structure in BLL, if you have any questions we encourage you to reach out to the appropriate volunteer in charge for clarifications, a ruling or escalation.
- i) Players must play in the BLL spring season to be eligible for summer All-Star teams of that year
 - ii) Players must play at least 8 games of the regular season to be eligible for potential selection per Little League International guidelines. In case of injury , waivers can be submitted with appropriate doctors note
 - iii) Only rostered Managers and Coaches of the applicable year are eligible to Manage an All-Star team
 - iv) Emails and social media announcements are sent out to the Managers and Coaches that are eligible to apply for positions
 - v) The BoD reviews and votes on those applicants for available positions - Applicants may be asked to attend a face to face interview with BOD.
 - vi) Each managerial spot is open every year as return applicants are not guaranteed a spot
 - vii) Applicant Managers should be certain that their player is well within the talent range of the level applying for. BLL feels Managers follow players, players do not follow Managers
 - viii) Approved managers are allowed to submit their coaches for BoD approval
 - ix) BLL currently allows managers to select their own teams. It is expected that they select and build the best team for their appropriate division. Teams are not only selected based on raw ability, but on the construction of all the appropriate positions to field a deep and competitive group
 - x) Managers submit rosters to the BoD for approval
 - xi) Payment – All players must be in good standing with payment on their spring season and paid in full for the all star season prior to receiving uniforms and first official game
- b) BLL has a multi-tiered evaluation system for managers to formulate their teams for approval
- i) Regular season observation. This has been, and always will be, the majority of the information gathering. Since All-Star managers must be coaches or managers during the regular season, they have the opportunity to see players in real game situations



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- ii) Managers evaluations. Every year, a written form goes out to all the regular season managers for them to fill out. Categories such as hitting, baserunning, pitching, fielding and attitude/leadership are all commented on by their spring ball manager
- iii) Official tryout dates (age group dependent). Attendance is a declaration by a player that they would like to be considered for an All-Star team. During these evaluations, players are typically scored on fielding, throwing, pitching and hitting. A summary of those scores is included in the packet for selection consideration. Every effort is made to ensure independent evaluators get a chance to weigh in
- iv) BLL makes every effort to provide managers with a wide variety of opportunities and data points to make their own objective selections. Each manager builds their team based on the principles and talent they value the most
- v) Positional skills, coachability, game availability and attitude are just some of the factors taken into account during the selection process

16) Rules Committee

- a) This committee is set up to review the Bridgewater Little League rules and to discuss any improvements or adjustments that may be approved by the Board of Directors.
- b) Members are as follows:
 - i) Rules Chairman, Player Agent, Safety Officer, Umpire in Chief, Field Chairman, Senior/Intermediate V. P., Majors V.P., Minors V.P., Instructional V.P., and T-Ball V.P. & any other BoD member invited by the President.

17) Bridgewater Little League Membership

- a) To be considered as a General Meeting member of the Bridgewater Little League you must meet the following criteria: All active members of the previous year, with a minimum of 10 hours of substantiated service to the league and have filed for membership for the next year. This includes all members of the Board of Directors, active managers and coaches, adult umpires, concession stand workers, and field maintenance workers. All members of the league must have an approved CORI / Volunteer Application form on file. Anyone not meeting all the above criteria may be considered a member without voting privileges.

18) E-Board and Scholarship Committee

- a) The E-Board shall consist of the President, Vice President, Player Agent, Secretary, treasurer, and/or V.P. of League in which the issue occurs & any other BoD member invited by the President.



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- b) Scholarship Committee shall consist of the President, Vice President, Player Agent, Secretary, Treasurer and V.P. of League in which the player plays & any other BoD member invited by the President.

19) Prohibited Use Policy

- a) There shall be no use of tobacco (including smokeless tobacco products), alcohol, or vaping devices during all Little League activities.

20) Policy on official rostered coaches and coaching in different divisions during the summer season

- a) Summer Season (District All Stars)
 - i) A Coach or Manager cannot be an official rostered Coach or Manager on two District All Star teams.
 - ii) A Manager cannot be a Manager for two All Star Teams regardless of age or divisions.