# ROLANDO LITTLE LEAGUE LA MESA NATIONAL LITTLE LEAGUE

# 2025 JUNIORS DIVISION POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

#### **SECTION ONE – OVERVIEW**

Rolando Little League and La Mesa National Little League have introduced a shared division for Juniors players aged 13-14. This formation, approved by Little League pursuant to its Combined Teams policy, represents a new collaboration between two leagues which have their individual policies, rules and regulations. From a legal and insurance perspective, all registered individuals (players, volunteers and otherwise) fall within the governance of their heritage league – Rolando or La Mesa National. Registration costs will be consistent regardless of league entry.

In order to ensure all players, managers/coaches, parents and volunteers have a clear understanding of Juniors Division operations, the following document has identified key alignments agreed-upon by each League.

This comprehensive policy and procedure document is made available to each parent or guardian via both league websites to ensure their compliance. For any questions or further information stemming from the document, please contact your registering Little League directly.

#### **SECTION TWO – VOLUNTEERS**

Little League Baseball is a 100% volunteer-run non-profit organization. We rely on volunteers to ensure a positive and smooth experience for our ballplayers, and ask each participating family to find one or more roles listed below to support this division. The list below represents non-Board of Director roles and responsibilities, but rest assured each League's Board will be significantly involved and vested in the Division's success and operations.

Role	Responsibility	Capacity
Team Manager	Team operations and management	1 per team (5 total)
Team Coach	Team support and skills-building	2 per team (10 total)
Team Parent	Team culture, logistics, and uniform distribution	1 per team (5 total)
Scorekeeper	Gamechanger and pitch counting	2 per team (10 total)
Umpire	Game officiation (plate or base)	10-15 total
Grounds Crew	Field maintenance, setup, special projects	2 per team (10 total)
Concessions Crew	Snack bar management	10-15 total
Fundraising Committee	Sponsorships and revenue generation	3-5 total
Special Events Committee	Opening Day, Closing Day, Meet & Greets	4-6 total

All volunteer roles featuring repetitive access to players or teams will require background checks and training as provided by your registering Little League.

## **SECTION THREE - THE SEASON**

Spring 2026 will run from January-May, with postseason opportunities for the team (Tournament of Champions) and individual (All-Stars) at the District 33 level and beyond. Key dates outlined for the season are as follows:

- 11/24 full registration open
- 12/5 registration closes
- Wk 12/15 manager interviews
- 12/17 division-wide parent meeting
- 1/5 assessments
- 1/12 draft
- 1/13 teams announced

- Week of 1/12 practices to begin
- Week of 1/19 Meet & Greets across all teams
- 2/7 field cleanup day
- 2/14 Opening Day + games begin
- Week of 3/30 skills clinic
- Week of 5/2-5/9 final regular season games
- 5/11-5/22 Tournament of Champions
- 5/22 All Stars announced
- 5/26 D33 TOC
- 6/13 All Star Saturday
- 6/18 All Star Tournament begins
- 5/30 Closing Day

#### **SECTION FOUR - TEAM SELECTION**

Considering the variety of experience and skill sets possessed across Juniors Division players – as well as the dual nature of feeder Leagues – assessments will be required for all players prior to the division's draft. Assessments will be held the afternoon/evening of Monday, January 5<sup>th</sup> (1/5/26). Information will be provided to all parents and guardians prior to that date for specifics.

Each league's Board of Directors will appoint a Player Agent to oversee assessments and consult with managers during the draft. Draft order will be chosen at random and proceed in a serpentine format, with mixed teams from the leagues depending on manager draft preferences.

#### **SECTION FIVE – DIVISIONAL RULES**

All applicable gameplay rules will align with Little League International – for more information, download the free Little League Rulebooks app.

Notable rule departures from the Majors experience include:

- 'Big field' 60'6" mound and 90' base distances
- Leading off permitted
- Balks resulting in base advancement
- Cleats with metal spikes are permitted

# **SECTION SIX – CONDUCT**

While each respective league has established its own conduct enforcement policies, given the combined nature of this Juniors Division all players will abide by a Three Strikes Conduct Policy as outlined below.

#### **Severe Infractions**

Any players, managers/coaches, parents or volunteers who are observed committing a severe infraction will be assigned one or more strikes. Severe infractions are determined by the shared league governing board and include the following incidents:

- Verbal Abuse
  - Profanity
  - Racial/Ethnic slurs
  - Yelling at umpires, coaches, players, guests, other spectators or participants in a rude, derogatory or offensive manner
  - Threats of Physical Assault
  - o Taunting a member, guest, and other spectator or participant.
- Entering the Field of Play.
  - Managers and Coaches entering the field of play is defined as crossing onto the playing field in either a hostile manner, or in a manner that impedes the natural progression/fairness of the game.
  - o For all other members, guests, and other spectators or participants, it is defined as going onto

any part of the playing field, at any time without advance permission.

- Umpire Abuse
  - o Repeated or uncontrolled questioning of an umpire's ruling
  - Repeated heckling of the umpire during play.
  - Approaching an umpire after any game to discuss the umpire's performance.
  - Ejection by an umpire is not a requirement to establish umpire abuse, or any other violation of this disciplinary policy, but if an ejection does occur, it will by nature by considered a severe infraction and thus trigger one or more Strikes being issued.

**NOTE:** The umpire shall request that the coaches speak to the offender. If behavior continues, the offender shall be ejected.

Upon an incident being assigned a strike, the following chart details the minimum and maximum disciplinary actions that the league will enforce for each offense.

Offense	Minimum	Maximum
Strike #1	Warning	2 Game Suspension
Strike #2	1 Game Suspension	5 Game Suspension
Strike #3	Season Ejection	League Expulsion

The Conduct Review Committee will determine the level of discipline applied by the above table in accordance with the severity of the incident, which will be confirmed via a voting majority of the Board of Directors in closed session.

The League may enforce additional discipline measures in addition to those outlined Minimum & Maximum penalties if it deems necessary.

### **Zero Tolerance Infractions**

Rolando and La Mesa National consider all infractions under this section to be the most serious in nature and carry a season suspension or permanent expulsion from the league.

- Physical Assault: Physical Assault by any league member, guest, other spectator or participant toward
  any other member, guest, other spectator, or umpire will not be tolerated. Physical assault is defined
  as any physical action, or attempted physical action, participant, umpire. The offender shall be assigned
  3 strikes for the incident, and subject to the discipline and procedures for 3 Strikes as outlined in this
  document.
- **Child Abuse:** Child Abuse is a violation of state law. Anyone who observes what they believe may be child abuse should immediately report this to law enforcement authorities and league officials. The league will immediately take every necessary action to protect the children within this league.
- Sexual Harassment: Sexual Harassment will not be tolerated. All reports of sexual harassment shall be immediately brought to the President of the League and, after investigation, and an identified need, a hearing may be conducted. Sexual harassment includes, but is not limited to, the following: treating a player or adult member, guest, or spectator in a hostile manner because of his/her gender, making comments with a sexual connotation to any player or other child, making sexual advance to any player or any other child, making an unwelcome sexual advance to an adult member, guest, or spectator, touching any player or other child in the groin area, touching any female player or any female child chest, touching any player, other child, adult member, guest or spectator in any other manner that is unwelcome by the person being touched.
- **Discrimination:** Discrimination based on race, color, gender, ethnicity, national origin or sexual orientation will not be tolerated. All reports of discrimination shall be immediately brought to the President of the league and a hearing conducted under this Article. It is our pledge that no player, member, guest, or spectator shall be treated differently than another similarly situated person on the basis of his/her race, color, gender, ethnicity, national origin, disability, sexual orientation or age.

## Miscellaneous Infractions

The following are considered miscellaneous infractions:

• Interference: Interference with game or players – Members, guests, other spectators, or participants are prohibited from engaging in any actions which distracts the players or interferes with the game such as noises which are intended to disrupt pitchers, hitters, or fielders during the game. No member, guest, and other spectator or participant shall engage in actions that are intended to delay the game.

For infractions under this section as stated above, the following actions/penalties shall be taken:

- 1. The umpire shall stop the game and ask the respective coach to warn the member, guest, other spectator, or participant that any further infraction will result in ejection.
- 2. If the infraction continues the member, guest, and other spectator or participant will be ejected from the game.
- 3. The failure of the umpire to intervene and eject a spectator will not preclude the Conduct Review Committee from investigating an allegation of interference or issuing discipline for the same.

It is the expectation that the above will effectively resolve any miscellaneous infraction, however if such behavior should continue past one game, the Conduct Review Committee shall review the incident to determine if a Strike is necessary.

#### **SECTION SEVEN – THE POST-SEASON**

As registered members within each of our partnering leagues, we believe all Juniors Division players should have access to the exciting and rewarding post-season activities available through Little League.

Following the conclusion of the regular season, a Tournament of Champions will be conducted to identify the division's winning team.

- This double-elimination tournament will feature standard league rules with seeding determined by inseason record (not including interleague play).
- Tiebreakers are determined in the following order: head-to-head record, runs against, runs for, one game
  playoff if schedule allows, and then coin toss. Every effort will be made to play out any tie games,
  especially if the final standings might be affected.
- Tournament champion will have the opportunity to play against other leagues' strongest opponents in the District 33 TOC.

Eligible players will also have the opportunity to compete in the Juniors All Star Tournament. The combined division will select one (1) team to represent the top players across both leagues.

[ALL-STAR SELECTION PROCESS TBD — SECTION TO BE UPDATED ONCE CONFIRMED]