

## Minor League Divisions

Based on player participation and the relative skills level as assessed during the skills assessment of the players not drafted in to the Major League division, MLL offers multiple division of play for minor league players;. In all Minor League divisions:

- “100%” of all players in each Minor League division are subject to re-draft each season
- Skills Assessment:
  - All league age 11(not already drafted in the Major League division) thru league age 7 players are required to participate in a skill assessment tryout prior to the draft
  - Skill assessment attendance does not guarantee placement in any specific Minor League division
- The number of teams formed in each Minor League division will be based upon the number of players available and the relative skill level of the players as judged during the skills assessment

## AAA Division

- A. Format: Preparatory (mix of competitive and instructional; 100% Player Pitch)
- B. Typically reserved for league age 9, 10, and un-drafted 11 year olds
- C. With the approval of the Player Agent, league age 8 players may participate in this division.
- D. In addition to the guidelines described above, the number of teams formed at the AAA Minor League division level will also be determined based on the number of anticipated open roster slots in the Major League division for the following spring season to accommodate the league age 11’s who are projected to be automatically included in the Major League division draft in the following season.
- E. All league age 11’s un-drafted in to the Major League Division must be drafted in to the AAA division unless extenuating circumstances exist as approved by the Board of Directors only.

## Local Rules

### General

- A. The home team shall occupy the first base dugout.
- B. Each team is responsible to clean out the dugout area and parents are responsible for the bleacher area after each game
- C. **Pitch Count Regulations.** MLL adheres to Pitch Count Regulations as defined by Little League International and are clearly defined within the Official Regulations. Managers must ensure they keep track of and can make available all pitching records to Umpires, opposing manager and League Officials, if requested. MLL officials reserve the right to audit pitching records and take appropriate action to ensure regulations are being followed. The punishment for not following the pitch count and/or innings rules are as follows:
  - 1st offense written warning by the Division Director
  - 2nd offense a 1 game suspension.
  - 3rd offense permanent suspension for the remainder of the season.
- D. Pitch Count Violation(s) are grounds for protest.

- E. Protests shall be made in accordance with Official Little League Rules. Reference Official Playing Rule: 4.19. Protests against violations or interpretations of the playing rules or the use of an ineligible player are to be submitted to the Player Agent within 24 hours. No protests shall be considered involving an umpire's judgment.
- F. Team equipment (catchers gear, batting helmets, first aid kit, etc.) are the property of MLL and must be returned at the conclusion of the season.
- G. Two adult base coaches may be used however managers are encouraged to utilize a player as one of the coaches.

## **Game Scheduling**

- A. Player unavailability (e.g., school events, birthday parties, etc.) is not cause to delay the start of a game, call off a scheduled game, or rescheduled game. If the team has nine players, the game must be played. When either or both teams cannot field nine players, the game will be recorded as a forfeit and the standings updated accordingly. After the forfeit has been decided, the managers may choose to utilize the field for scrimmage/practice for the duration of the allotted field time. Forfeited games are not eligible for makeup.
- B. Games shall not be called by the managers any sooner than ten (10) minutes after the scheduled game time.
- C. In severe weather situations, opposing managers **AND** any one of the following: the MLL Division Director, the MLL Player Agent, the MLL President, the Field Director can call a game no sooner than two (2) hours prior to game time. Every effort must be made to make fields playable when they are scheduled. Rescheduled games put a burden on MLL, teams, umpires, and especially managers –pitching eligibility rules are enforced for rescheduled games. If this process is not followed, one or both teams shall forfeit.
- D. If a game is suspended before the completion of the first inning, the partial inning is negated and the game is restarted when it is rescheduled. The inning in this instance does not count toward the weekly inning pitching limitations. Four games in a calendar week (Sun-Sat) shall not be scheduled. League identified blackout dates shall not be used for making up games unless both managers and the Division Rep agree.
- E. Both managers must notify the MLL Games Scheduler when a game has been called. The Games Scheduler shall reschedule the game and notify the affected teams, MLL Umpire -in-Chief, and the MLL Concessions Director.

### **F. Called Games:**

#### i. Junior/Senior and Major League divisions:

- Regular Season Play:

- Called games shall be rescheduled at the earliest possible date.
- Games shall be rescheduled in the same sequence they were originally scheduled (i.e., the first game called shall be the first game rescheduled).

- Championship Play:

- Games shall be re-scheduled the next available day including Sundays

#### ii. AA, A, Rookies and Tball League divisions: Called games shall not be rescheduled.

#### iii. AAA Minor League division:

- Games called during regular season play shall not be rescheduled.

- Games called during championship play shall be re-scheduled the next available day including Sundays
- G. Forfeits are allowed for refusing to play. Reference Official Playing Rule: 4.15 through 4.18.
- H. A manager whose team is ten runs or more behind once the game becomes an official game shall concede a game in accordance with the Ten Run Rule option. Reference Official Playing Rule: 4.10(e).

## **Supplemental Rules by Division**

### **AAA Minor League Division**

Official Little League rules are in effect unless otherwise modified below.

#### **Regular Season Play**

- Continuous batting order
- Home Team Responsibilities:
  - The Home team shall provide three (3) new baseballs for each game.
  - The Home Team is responsible for recording the official Start Time
  - The Home Team is responsible for keeping the official Score Book
  - The Home Team is responsible for the operation of the Scoreboard and returning the controller to the concession stand.
- Warm Up:
  - Juniors/Seniors and Major League Divisions shall have priority usage of the batting cage. In the event batting cage(s) become available, the managers must divide the time evenly for both teams.
- No new inning shall begin later than 1 hour and 30 minutes past the time the game begins on weekdays, and 1 hour and 45 minutes on weekends
- In no case shall a game extend past 8:45 PM.
- The home team shall provide 3 new baseballs for each game
- Coaches are responsible for reporting game score and pitch counts to the Division Director following each game.

#### **Local Rules for AAA Minor League Division Tournament**

- Tournament Play:
  - A designated number of games at the end of the regular season will be used to create a “Round Robin” tournament to name the Minor League Champion and championship rules shall be in affect
  - Win/Loss records shall be kept for each game.
  - Coaches are responsible for reporting the game score, and pitch counts Division Director.
  - The Division Director will maintain Win/Loss records and pitch counts in the “Round Robin” tournament.
  - Tie breakers – If tie breakers are required to determine the first and second place teams, the following tie breakers will be used:
    1. Results of head to head games during the tournament
    2. The runs-allowed ratio during the “Round Robin” tournament

- Make up games will only be rescheduled if they would have a bearing on naming the division champion as determined by the Player Agent and the President and will be rescheduled in accordance with the Called Games provisions herein.
- The 2 teams with the best records during the tournament will meet to play 1 game for the **AAA Minor League Division Championship**. In the event 2 or more teams tie, their names will be placed in a hat and the team name drawn will enter the championship game.
- The length of the championship game shall be 6 innings with no time limit. Extra innings shall be played only to the extent necessary to determine a champion.