



LaCenter Little League

League ID # 447-04-02

PO Box 192
LaCenter, WA 98629

Local Rules

Revised May 14, 2018 by the LCLL Board of Directors



2017/2018 Board of Directors

President..... Pete Rasmussen

Vice-President Baseball..... Jon Taylor

Vice President Softball..... Robert Regis

Secretary..... Alicia Budke

Treasurer..... Charis Watson

Safety Officer..... David Normine

Player Agent - Baseball..... Harvey Butterfield

Player Agent - Softball..... Harvey Butterfield

Umpire in Chief..... Paul Mairose

Equipment Manager..... Marc Simmonds

Scheduler..... Jon Taylor

Coaching Coordinator..... Quinn Sanders

Field Manager..... vacant

Assistant UIC..... vacant

Volunteer Coordinator..... vacant

Fundraising Coordinator..... vacant

Concessions Coordinator..... vacant

Sponsors Coordinator..... vacant



GUIDING PRINCIPLES

LaCenter Little league (known here after as LCLL) will provide a safe and positive environment in which children can participate, learn the fundamentals of sportsmanship and team play, along with developing their physical skills and appreciation for the games of baseball and softball.

LCLL will strive to maintain a positive and constructive atmosphere to provide our children with skills, both physical and social, from which they can learn and grow.

LCLL rules and regulations stated in this document are done so for the express purpose to provide additional safety to all participants and supply uniform fairness through-out the league. Any rule, regulation or question of procedure or law specifically addressed within the LCLL By-Laws and Ground Rules defers to the Official Regulations and Playing Rules of Little League Baseball Inc., Operating Manual provided by Little League Baseball, Inc. and Washington District #6, District Policies, as authorized and issued by the District Administrator, incorporated herein by reference.

LOCAL REGULATIONS and PLAYING RULES

All baseball and softball games shall be played strictly by the Official Regulations and Playing Rules of Little League Baseball, Inc., as established for the current playing year. The priority of rules and regulations for this league shall be as follows:

- Official Regulations and Playing Rules of Little League Baseball, Inc.
- Current OPERATING MANUAL for Little League Baseball, Inc.
- Washington District #6 District Policies as authorized and issued by the District Administrator.

(1) LCLL Rules and Policies. “Local rules establish the league’s policies in certain areas where leeway is allowed by Little League Baseball Rules, Regulations and Policies. No league’s Local Rules can conflict with the published Rules, Regulation,



Policies or Principles of Little League Baseball, Inc. without expressed written permission from the Charter Committee in Williamsport, PA”

(1) Little League Baseball, Western Regional Headquarters Policy Statement, grnuls.doc12/ 02

THE LEAGUE

- A. A board of directors governs the LaCenter Little League as specified in the Little League Operations Manual and as governed by the LCLL Constitution, approved by Little League.
- B. The League is comprised of baseball and softball teams in the following age divisions:
 - 1. T-Ball: Age 4-5 (coed)
 - 2. Coach Pitch: Age 6 - 7
 - 3. Minor 2: Age 8
 - 4. Minor 1: Age 9 - 10
 - 5. Major League: Age 11– 12
 - 6. Intermediate Age 11- 13
 - 7. Junior League: Age 13 – 14
 - 8. Senior League: Age 14 – 16
- C. Children must participate in the tryout for the division petitioned. If a player wishes to advance a division to an age group above their league age, the player must complete a separate tryout for that division which shall be attended by the Player Agent, Safety Coordinator, and Coaching Coordinator for evaluation.
- D. Board members are elected per Little League rules. Any board member that misses 3 unexcused board meetings in succession may forfeit their position



on the board. A replacement may be selected according to Little League rules as defined in the LL Operations Manual and the LCLL Constitution.

- E. Actual paid registrations will be used to determine the number of teams at each division. The Player Agent(s) will determine the number of teams based on the number of children registered during sign-ups. Children can be placed on teams based on skill, age, parental requests; and to balance team numbers if needed, for Coach Pitch Division and below.
- F. Each team is to be staffed as follows
 1. One (1) Manager
 2. Two (2) Coaches
 3. Team Parent
 4. Team Scorers (not required for T-Ball or Coach Pitch)
 5. Team Pitch Count Keeper (Minors and above).
- G. All divisions will be governed by the current year edition of the Official Regulations and Playing Rules of Little League Baseball / Softball, unless otherwise specified in these General Operating Instructions. In cases where the Rulebook is referenced, quoted, or paraphrased, the wording in the current year version of the Little League Baseball Inc. Rulebook shall be the ultimate reference.
- H. LCLL boundaries closely approximate the LaCenter School District boundary, but are not solely defined by those boundaries, as some exceptions do exist.
- I. The Board of Directors may, as specified in the Little League Operations Manual and with the approval of the parents of the player involved, continue as a player, any individual whose residence changes or lives outside the league's boundaries because of a revision of such boundaries.
- J. As dictated in the Little League Operating Manual, the local league shall determine the boundaries from which players will be selected. Annually, the Presidents directed by the Board of Directors will:



1. Review and update the league boundaries with the District Administrator.
 2. Resolve any boundary conflict with neighboring leagues.
 3. Bring any waiver request from player's parents to the Board of Directors for approval and upon approval/denial follow procedures as detailed in the Little League Operations Manual.
- K. LCLL Board of Directors states no alcohol will be consumed by any league official, manager, coach, player or volunteer at least eight (8) hours prior to a practice or game. Any consumption or use of illegal controlled substances or public intoxication will not be tolerated by any LCLL official, manager, coach, player, volunteer, parent or spectator. Any such use could result in police action and/or disciplinary action by the LCLL Board of Directors.

OPERATIONS

A. General

1. Unless a concessions operator has been selected by the LCLL Board of Directors, all teams will be required to provide staffing of up to two (2) people per night per game day for the week assigned to the team for the concession stand. Failure to fill assigned slots will result in disciplinary action to be taken by the LCLL Board of Directors.

B. Team Managers

1. Managers for each team in LCLL will be subject to approval by the LCLL President. The Manager has the ability to conduct the affairs of his or her team with the LCLL Board of Directors' approval.
2. The Manager must provide the LCLL Board of Directors with a list of no more than two coaches (three coaches in T-Ball) who will be assisting with the team for the season. The Manager is responsible to ensure that all coaches know and understand all LCLL local rules and abide by them. All team officials are subject to approval of the LCLL Board of Directors.
3. The Managers are responsible for ensuring that background checks are filled out and turned into the LCLL Board of Directors for all



coaches, parents, and other adults that assist, help, or otherwise come into contact with any player or team during the season as per the Rules and Operating Manuals of Little League Baseball Inc. The LCLL Board of Directors shall have discretion as to whether to waive the exclusion on a case by case basis. It shall be the sole discretion of the LCLL Board of Directors to judge the fitness of that person to serve as a volunteer. Under no circumstances shall a waiver be granted to any volunteer who has been excluded based on the guidelines set forth by Little League Baseball, Inc.

4. Each Manager will designate a team parent for the team. This person will coordinate the administrative needs of the team.
5. The Manager is responsible for the proper use, care, and return of all equipment issued by the LCLL. All equipment and uniforms must be returned on the date as directed by the LCLL Equipment Manager. Managers assume financial responsibility for the same and the LCLL Board of Directors will review any discrepancies with equipment.
6. No LCLL owned equipment or uniforms may be used for any other activities or non-LCLL sanctioned events.
7. The Manager will make sure that medical release and concussion forms are filled out and signed by parents of every player. The Manager will make sure that these signed forms are present at all practices and games in case of injury to a player that requires medical treatment.
8. The Manager will be responsible for ensuring that all players wear adequate and appropriate equipment at all times. Manager is also responsible for ensuring that all coaches enforce LCLL rules.
 - a. All bats, gloves, helmets, catcher's equipment and other safety equipment must meet Little League Baseball, Inc. guidelines and specifications (for the specific level of play). The equipment must be routinely inspected and in proper working condition. Any equipment not in proper working condition will be removed from the playing field no matter of ownership of said equipment.



- b. As specified in the Little League rulebook, no player will warm up a pitcher in the squatting position without a catcher's helmet and throat guard at practice or games.
- c. All male catchers will wear an athletic supporter and protective cup to all practices and games. If a supporter/cup is not worn, the player must be benched until the situation is corrected.
- d. At all practices and/or games, any player shagging balls during infield practice will wear a catcher's helmet with throat protector no matter what level of ball played.
- e. All players in possession of a bat during any kind of batting practice, training, or drills, will have an approved batting helmet on.
- f. Violation of any provision of the above rules will result in a warning issued. Any further violations will lead to LCLL Board of Directors suspension or removal as a manager or coach.

C. Players

1. Drafts

LCLL will use the Draft Method as detailed in the Little League Operations Manual. As stated in the Little League Operations Manual, players in T-Ball and coach pitch shall not be drafted. Parental request for specific coaches for their children in T-Ball and coach pitch divisions will be taken into consideration. The player agents will assign T-Ball players to a team.

- a. Players in the minor, major, junior, and senior divisions will be drafted using the Plan as defined in the 2018 Little League Operations Manual. Each player registered for a given year that played on a major division team the prior year shall remain on the team originally drafted for the duration of their major Little League career, unless subsequently traded or released. Exceptions to this method will be made on an annual basis if expansion or contraction of teams is necessary. The player agents will present the Draft method to the Board of Directors for approval annually.



- b. If the player agent deems a player to be unqualified and at risk of injury playing a division, the player may be drafted to a lower division per rules and operation manual of Little League Baseball Inc.

2. Teams

- a. Team rosters shall not exceed 14 players. However, Player Agents and the Coaching Coordinator shall strive to maintain the team roster balance at 12 players per team.
- b. All teams should have the same number of players unless approved by the Board of Directors.
- c. If a manager needs a replacement player, that manager has 7 days to make that request in writing to the appropriate player agent. Tee ball and coach pitch managers shall not have any authority to replace players. Only the player agent can make roster changes at these levels.
- d. A manager will have 5 days to comply with the selection of a replacement player for any player that was lost from the team roster during the current season due to injury, illness, change of address or other justifiable Board approved action.
- e. No replacement for minor or major divisions within the last two (2) weeks of the regular season without Board approval.
- f. When necessary, minor league players will be reassigned at the discretion of the Player Agents in order to provide balanced teams with a balanced training program in mind.
- g. Player Agents will maintain a player pool list in each division from minors and up. The player pool list will be made up of players willing to play extra games **within their division.**
 - i. A pool of players from existing regular season teams will be created with players that are willing to participate in extra games during the regular season when teams face a shortage of rostered players for a regular season game. Players called up will be in order from the list on a rotational basis. If players are not available when the Player Agent calls, that player will be by-passed and the



next player on the list will be contacted. The Player Agent will note that contact was attempted, but not made on those players.

- ii. Managers and coaches will not have the right to randomly pick and choose players from the pool.
- iii. Players used from the pool will play in their own team uniform. The pool player will not be allowed to pitch, except during the player's own regularly scheduled game.
- iv. Pool players that are called and show up at the game site must be played at least nine consecutive defensive outs and bat once, no matter the total number of regular players showing up.

3. Disciplinary Actions

- a. All disciplinary actions or ejections of players, managers, coaches, or LCLL official must be reported in writing or email within 24 hours to the President. Reporting must include name and the reason for disciplinary action or ejection.
- b. All disciplinary actions of players by managers or coaches must be reported in writing or email within 24 hours to the Player Agent. Reporting must include player name, reason for discipline, and action taken.
- c. Any team or manager having disciplinary problems with a player should bring such information to the attention of the LCLL Board of Directors for action.

D. Operating Rules – Teams and Fields

1. Fields

- a. All fields are the property of the City of LaCenter and leased by the LCLL. When conditions exist that make it necessary to close a field, the LCLL or City of La Center will post a sign at the closed field. If fields are closed because of weather, the notification may be left on the rainout hotline that all or some of the fields are closed. The closed field or fields MAY NOT BE USED until the



LCLL Board of Directors or the City of LaCenter has reopened the field. A manager or coach WILL BE SANCTIONED for knowingly violating this rule. Additional violations may lead to suspension or removal as a manager or coach.

- b. Home teams will be required to line the fields before the game. After the game, home teams will be required to clean up the field area and rake the fields after the game. All field equipment (rakes, shovels, etc.) will be put away in the appropriate area and locked up upon completion of the game. All tarps and protective coverings will be replaced before leaving.
- c. Any field or batting cage area will be cleaned up and fields will be raked at the conclusion of each teams practice. All field equipment (rakes, shovels, etc.) will be put away in the appropriate area and locked up upon completion of practice. All tarps and protective coverings will be replaced before leaving.
- d. All managers are required to report any field problems to the Field Manager when discovered. If the problem is a possible safety issue, then notify an LCLL Board Member as soon as possible.
- e. Keys are the property of the City of LaCenter. Loss of a key will result in a service charge of \$300.00 paid by the LCLL. Any person that loses a city key will make restitution for this sum and/or not be able to coach or manage the following year. The LCLL Board of Directors has sole authority to waive any disciplinary action if it so deems.

2. Practices/Games

- a. Managers are responsible and held accountable for the conduct of players and coaches during practices and games.
- b. **Player Injuries**
In the case of injury during Little League activities, the Manager will see that the injured player is given appropriate treatment and will notify the Safety Manager and President within 24 hours in writing and/or email if a player is forced to leave a game or practice. If medical attention was needed, then the player must have a written release from the attending physician.



Violation of this rule will result in disciplinary action by the LCLL Board of Directors.

c. Definitions:

A "WEEK" begins on Sunday and ends on Saturday.

A "PRACTICE" is a gathering of six (6) or more players from the same team.

A "PRACTICE GAME" is a practice held under game-like conditions that does not have to satisfy the exact requirements of 1.01.

d. Practices

1. Practice schedules will be made at the annual coaches meeting before the start of the season. Teams may practice twice per week and may decrease that amount to once per week when the season starts.

2. At no time will games and practices total more than three (3) in a week or three (3) in a 5-day period. Any exceptions should be brought to the LCLL Board of Directors for authorization.

3. Managers may disqualify a player, subject to Board approval, from a team for the season for missing the majority of practices and games. Players are only required to participate in a minimum of two practice sessions or six (6) hours per week without penalty.

4. Players missing practices because of school functions or family business are excused.

5. Any additional practices or changes in practice times (beyond that which is assigned by the LCLL) must be approved by the Player Agent and Field Scheduler.

e. Games

1. The Manager who has his team listed as "Home Team" will supply the official scorekeeper, supply game balls, line the field, rake, set up bases, and other preparations for the game.

2. Game Schedules



- a. All League games will be played only on the field indicated on the official schedule, unless otherwise directed by an LCLL Board Member. All games will be completed at the time indicated in the published schedule, except if one or both teams have an insufficient number of players at the scheduled start time. The umpire shall allow a delay of no more than 15 minutes to see if additional players arrive.
- b. When more than one game is scheduled on a calendar day, a time limit will be imposed on all games that day by the field scheduler. No new inning may start after this time limit has been reached and the score will be determined in accordance with Little League Baseball Inc. rules for defining a regulation game. If for some reason that game has not ended within 30 minutes of the next scheduled game, then all play stops and final score will be determined by Little League Baseball, Inc. rules for an incomplete inning.
 - i. Game times for days with more than one game on a field:
 - A. T-Ball – no longer than 1.5hours or three innings
 - B. Coach Pitch through Majors – 2 hours
 - C. Intermediate, 50/70, Jr. and Sr.– 2.5 hours
- c. Games will be played on the date, time, and field assigned by the District 6 schedule. The only reasons for cancellation or rescheduling of games are:
 - i. Weather (rainouts, lightning, etc.)
 - ii. Field conditions (set by LCLL Board of Directors of City of LaCenter)



- iii. Insufficient number of players due to school functions
- iv. Insufficient number of players for other reasons. The Player Agent must be notified of the reasons and the players' names unable to make the game.
- d. Each team shall be allowed one (1) cancellation or rescheduling because of insufficient number of players during the regular season. However, for any subsequent occurrences of the same team being unable to field a sufficient number of players, the postponed game may be rescheduled only with the LCLL Board of Directors' approval. If the Board does not approve the rescheduling, the team who failed to field a sufficient number of players shall forfeit the game.
- e. Guidelines for rescheduling games
 - i. Weather cancellations
 - ii. Field condition cancellations
 - iii. School functions cancellations
 - iv. All other cancellations
 - v. No more than three (3) games in a pitching week Junior division baseball and below, and no more than three (3) games in a five (5) consecutive day period for the same divisions.
- f. Inter-league cancellations
 - i. If, for some reason, an LCLL team is having trouble rescheduling cancelled games with a team from another league, the Manager shall notify the Player Agent of LCLL with this information. The LCLL Board of Directors has courses of action in regard to this problem.
- g. The Field Scheduler will determine if and when a game can be rescheduled or completed. If a



rescheduled game cannot be played, then the game may be rescheduled one additional time. At this second rescheduling, any team unable to field a team will lose the game by forfeit. If neither team is able to field a team, then both teams will receive one loss by forfeit, which will be added to their record.

- h. Managers must be prepared to play all cancelled or interrupted games at the time and location rescheduled by operation of these rules. Failure to abide by this rule may result in suspension or dismissal of the manager and/or forfeiture of the game by LCLL.
 - i. All rescheduled games will be coordinated with the Umpire in Chief at least 48 hours prior to the game.
- f. Playing rules
- i. Pre-Game
 - A. The visiting team will have the field of practice rights from thirty-five (35) to twenty (20) minutes prior to the scheduled game start time.
 - B. The home team will have the field of practice rights from twenty (20) minutes to five (5) minutes prior to the scheduled game time.
 - C. The home plate umpire shall halt all practice time five (5) minutes prior to the scheduled start of the game. Home plate umpire will have the plate meeting at this time if deemed necessary.
 - D. If the field is not available thirty-five (35) minutes prior to scheduled game time, the time available will be equally shared between the two teams.



- E. If no time is available prior to the scheduled game time, no practice will be allowed.
 - F. Home team manager is responsible for notifying visiting team of the time schedules.
 - G. Under no circumstances will “LIVE BATTING PRACTICE” be allowed on, or in the vicinity of, the playing field prior to a game. Batting practice will, however, be allowed when using plastic ‘waffle’ balls. Batting helmets must be worn during batting practice.
 - H. Each team shall provide to each other and the official scorekeeper a copy of the starting line up at the start of infield practice. The **original lineup card** for each team will be provided to the plate umpire at the plate meeting.
- f. Game time
- i. A continuous batting order shall be used for minor and major divisions, which includes all players on the roster present for the game per Little League Baseball, Inc. rule 4.04 and District 6 interleague rules.
 - ii. Minimum play requirements
 - a. All players will play in each game a minimum of six (6) defensive outs and bat at least one time. Exceptions:
 - 1. Any game shortened by darkness, weather, or mercy rule 4.10
 - 2. Any player not meeting minimum play requirements, no matter the reason, will start the next played game. This player will fulfill the missed requirements of the last game plus the minimum play requirement for the existing game.



- iii. After entering the batter's box, the batter must remain in the box with at least one foot throughout the at bat except for 8 exceptions noted below (Rule 6.02(c)):
 - a. On a swing, slap, or check swing
 - b. When forced out by a pitch
 - c. When the catcher does not catch the pitch
 - d. When a play has been attempted
 - e. When time has been called
 - f. When the pitcher leaves the mound or the catcher leaves the catchers box
 - g. On a 3-ball count that is a strike that the batter thinks is a ball.
- iv. In both baseball and softball, a player who has met the mandatory play requirements, and is a pitcher at the time she/he is removed, may be removed for a substitute batter and re-enter the game as a pitcher once, provided the pitcher was not physically replaced on the mound per Rule 3.03.
 - a. Baseball – Minors and Majors - pitchers once removed from the mound may not return as pitchers – Intermediate and above – pitchers may return to pitch if they remained in the game, but only once in the game.
 - b. Softball – Minors or Majors – a pitcher remaining in the game but moving to a different position can return to pitch any time but only once in the same inning she was removed. A pitcher removed from the game as a pitcher may not return to pitch. – Juniors and above – a pitcher may be withdrawn from the game, offensive or defense, and return as a pitcher anytime in the remainder of the game but only once in the inning she was replaced.
- v. Pitcher visits for majors and above are limited as follows: (Little League Congress 2018)



- a. Visits to the pitcher are limited to ONE (1) per inning without pitcher removal; 2nd visit to the same pitcher in the same inning, that pitcher must be removed/replaced as pitcher.
 - b. Limits two (2) visits to the same pitcher in a game, but the 3rd visit to that same pitcher in a game, that pitcher must be removed/replaced as pitcher.
 - c. Minors continue to use old rule (one more visit per inning and per game)
- vi. Players, managers, and coaches of the participating teams shall not address, or mingle with spectators, nor sit in the stands during a game in which they are engaged (Rule 3.09).
 - vii. Managers or coaches must not warm up a pitcher at home plate or in the bull pen or elsewhere at any time. They may, however, stand by to observe a pitcher during warm-up in the bull pen (Rule 3.09).