

**LOWER CAPE MAY LITTLE LEAGUE, INC.
BY-LAWS**

ARTICLE I - ORGANIZATION

The name of this organization shall be Lower Cape May Little League, Inc. (LCMLL)

ARTICLE II - STATEMENT OF PURPOSES

- (a) The objective of the Local League shall be to implant firmly in the children of the community the ideals of good sportsmanship, honesty, loyalty, courage and respect for authority, so that they may be well adjusted, stronger and happier children and will grow to be good, decent, healthy and trustworthy citizens.
- (b) To inspire youth regardless of race, creed, gender or color.
- (c) To encourage adults to behave in an exemplary manner when supervising youth and to keep the welfare of the youth foremost and free from any adult compulsion for power and glory.
- (d) To acquaint boys and girls with such baseball and softball fundamentals as throwing, hitting, fielding and to maintain a sound physical, mental and moral condition.

ARTICLE III

The Lower Cape May Little League, Inc (LCMLL) will be governed and abide by all rules and regulations established by Little League International. Where allowed, LCMLL may modify rules established by Little League International to accommodate the local league but shall never be in contrast to the rules established by Little League International.

ARTICLE IV - PLAYER DIVISIONS

Age requirements will conform to those specified in the current Little League Official Regulations and to the structure of Lower Cape May Little League as allowed by the Official Regulations. Players will be divided into the various divisions listed below based on age, ability and the number of players registered in each age bracket. The Board of Directors will make a final determination of the age brackets prior to the start of the season and may make exceptions to the age divisions based on individual circumstances.

- (a) **Instructional Tee Ball** - Available to boys and girls league age 4. This division will promote a developmental approach by utilizing small groups to practice hitting, fielding and throwing with a shortened game.
- (b) **Tee Ball** – Available to boys and girls league age 5-6. Games are 4 innings with a 1 hour time limit and will allow for a modified “Coach Pitch” as the season progresses. Players who fall outside of the stated age range may be admitted to this level based on league or individual needs provided it is allowed under little league rules.
- (c) **Minor League Coach/Machine Pitch Baseball** – Available to boys league age 6-8. Games are 4 innings with a 1 hour 15 minute time limit and will allow for a modified “Kid Pitch” as the season progresses. 6 year olds must play one year of Tee Ball to be eligible. Players who fall outside of the stated age range may be admitted to this level based on league or individual needs provided it is allowed under little league rules. 6 year olds may not pitch and coaches/machine must pitch at all times to 6 year olds.

- (d) **Minor League Coach/Machine Pitch Softball** – Available to girls league age 6-8. Games are 4 innings with a 1 hour 15 minute time limit and will allow for a modified “Kid Pitch” as the season progresses. 6 year olds must play one year of Tee Ball to be eligible. Players who fall outside of the stated age range may be admitted to this level based on league or individual needs provided it is allowed under little league rules.
- (e) **Minor League Baseball** – Available to boys league age 8-10. The number of 8 year olds (if any) will be determined based on the need for players after registration and will be chosen through a try-out process. Players who fall outside of the stated age range may be admitted to this level based on league or individual needs provided it is allowed under little league rules.
- (f) **Major League Baseball** – Available to boys league age 10-12. The number of 10 year olds will be determined based on the need for players after registration and will be chosen through a try-out process. Players who fall outside of the stated age range may be admitted to this level based on league or individual needs provided it is allowed under little league rules.
- (g) **Minor League Softball** – Available to girls league age 8-10. The number of 8 year olds (if any) will be determined based on the need for players after registration and will be chosen through a try-out process. Players who fall outside of the stated age range may be admitted to this level based on league or individual needs provided it is allowed under little league rules.
- (h) **Major League Softball** – Available to girls league age 10-12. The number of 10 year olds will be determined based on the need for players after registration and will be chosen through a try-out process. Players who fall outside of the stated age range may be admitted to this level based on league or individual needs provided it is allowed under little league rules.
- (i) **Senior League Baseball** – Available to boys league age 13-16
- (j) **Senior League Softball** – Available to girls league age 13-16

Article V – Team & Player Requirements

- (a) The Board of Directors shall, at least 10 days prior to the start of the season, establish the number of players per team. Teams will be divided evenly based on the number of registrants in each division and will conform to the Little League Official Regulations.
- (b) All players in Minor League and below are required to wear helmets with a face mask. All players in the Major Level and above are required to wear a helmet (facemasks are optional).
- (c) No new players can be added to replace a lost player after the draft without player agent & board approval.
- (d) All new Major League Baseball & Softball and Senior League Baseball & Softball players are required to attend at least one of the scheduled tryouts unless an exception is made by the Board of Directors for a valid excuse.
- (e) The method of drafting a player to a team will be determined by the board prior to the draft each year. If no vote is taken then the method used the prior year will be used again.
- (f) Players are to be in full uniform for all games.
- (g) Players who want to play extra games may opt to be placed into a “Player Pool”. If a team is not able to field enough players for a regular season game, the manager shall select a player from the “Player Pool” to complete their roster. Any player used from the “Player Pool” must play 9 consecutive defensive outs,

bat once and may NOT pitch. The "Player Pool" may not be used during the playoffs unless special board approval is received.

- (h) The President will recommend and the Board will approve managers for the tournament team. The method of player selection for the tournament team will be decided by the President, Player Agent and Managers at their respective levels.

Article VI – Manager, Coach & Umpire Requirements

- (a) All managers and coaches are required to complete a Little League Volunteer form so LCMLL may run a background check.
- (b) Managers and coaches are required to be 18 years old or over.
- (c) Managers will refrain from running up the score on opponents.
- (d) Managers and coaches are expected to show respect for an umpire's decision or may be disciplined as stated in Article IX.
- (e) Umpires may be paid based on need and experience at a rate determined by the Board of Directors.

Article VII – Game & Practice Schedules

- (a) Managers are expected to comply with all practice and game schedules.
- (b) Practice shall not exceed 2 hours in length for Major, Minor and Senior leagues, 1 ½ hours for Coach Pitch and 1 hour for Tee Ball.
- (c) All games are to be played as scheduled. Cancellations without the approval of the league President or other league official authorized to make that decision are not permitted.
- (d) Any games cancelled due to inclement weather or other reason must be rescheduled regardless of the games effect on the standings.

Article VIII – League Rules

- (a) The playing week will run from Monday to Sunday.
- (b) Only team members and coaches are permitted in the dugout.
- (c) The umpire may, in his or her judgment, stop a game prior to completion if players, coaches or spectators behave in an unruly manner.
- (d) All teams will use a continuous batting order for the regular season. If there is a differential of 2 or more players during the playoffs, the team with more players may opt to use the substitution rule.
- (e) If a player is injured, a coach or manager must accompany the player by ambulance to the hospital if a parent is not available.
- (f) An Injury/Incident Report must be completed whenever a player or spectator is injured.

- (g) Both teams are responsible for putting out the bases, raking and lining the field prior to the start of the game and raking the field and putting away bases after the game.
- (h) Championships will be held at the Minor, Major & Senior League levels only.
- (i) Minor League Baseball will have a 5 run per inning maximum except in the last inning and a two hour time limit except during the playoffs.
- (j) Major League Softball will have a 5 run per inning limit except in the last inning.
- (k) Major League Baseball will have a 10 run limit after the 5th inning.

Article IX – Manager, Coach, Player & Spectator Conduct

Everyone associated with the LCMLL is expected to conduct themselves in a manner that promotes sportsmanship and allows everyone to enjoy the games in a fun and relaxing atmosphere. Anyone who behaves in an unacceptable manner will be subject to the following depending on the nature of the infraction:

- (a) Written warning from the Board
- (b) Suspension from attending games, practices or league events for a defined period as determined by the Board
- (c) Termination from involvement with the LCMLL

Unacceptable behavior includes but is not limited to:

- (a) Aggressively challenging an umpire's decision
- (b) Use of profanity
- (c) Confronting anyone in a physical manner
- (d) Making threats of violence
- (e) Throwing equipment
- (f) Smoking and pets are prohibited at all game and practice locations.
- (g) Taunting or provoking players or spectators from an opposing team

Article X – Fall Ball

- (a) The fall baseball and softball program will place players in divisions based upon their league age for the following spring season.
- (b) Local league rules will be adopted to coincide with other teams we play through inter-league play.

Article XI – Board of Directors

- (a) Only Regular Members in good standing as of 9/30 are eligible to be elected to the Board of Directors.
- (b) Board members may vote electronically on items when they are not able to attend meetings or when items need approval between regularly scheduled meetings.