



Winthrop Little League Local

Operating Rules

2025

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I. Introduction

Winthrop Little League (“WLL”) is chartered under Little League Baseball (“Little League”) and operates under the rules and regulations of Little League except where specified here.

Established in 1954, WLL has operated regular season and all-star teams annually since inception. WLL is operated by a Board (“Board”) dutifully elected each year by the previous year’s members based upon need and interest.

A. Mission Statement

Winthrop Little League’s mission is to provide a safe, fun, and inclusive environment where young athletes can develop their baseball & softball skills, learn the value of teamwork, and build lasting friendships. We are committed to fostering a love for the game while promoting sportsmanship, respect, and integrity both on and off the field. Through our programs, we aim to positively impact our community and help our players grow into confident and responsible individuals.

B. League Structure

WLL is broken into eight divisions based on age and ability. Each division is intended to develop a player’s knowledge of the game and their skill level. The divisions are broken down based on a player’s age as of August 31st of that year (see Appendix) based upon Little League Baseball Rules:

- Tee Ball—Tee Ball is an entry-level introduction to the fundamentals of baseball. Tee Ball begins for players at Little League age 4 and continues until they reach Little League age 6.
- C Division – C Division is for beginner-level players, introducing the fundamental development of baseball knowledge together including the basics of throwing, catching, fielding, base running, and batting. C Divisions begin at Little League age 7 (or 6 years for those that have completed at least one year of Tee Ball) and continue until Little League age 8. (Note: due to years with higher than average numbers of registered players, division may be split into an upper division and a lower division at the discretion of the Board)
- B Division – B Division builds on the fundamentals learned in C Division and adds a competitive level to the game by introducing players to the rules of fielding, scoring, and batting as well as oversight of gameplay by an umpire. B Divisions begins at Little League age 8 (or 7 years old based upon participation numbers, for those eligible and that have participated in scheduled tryouts) and continues until Little League age 11.
- A Division – A Division elevates the level of competition by introducing additional rules and opportunities for competitive play to players while developing their skills and knowledge

further. A Division begins at Little League age 10 (or 9-year-olds are eligible to play depending on participation numbers and ability) and continues until Little League age 12.

- Spring Travel Softball Minors – The Spring Travel Softball Minors is for beginner-level players, introducing the fundamental development of softball knowledge together including the basics of throwing, catching, fielding, base running, and batting. Little League age begins 7 and continues until Little League age 9.
- Spring Travel Softball Majors – The Spring Travel Softball Majors elevate the level of competition by introducing additional rules and opportunities for competitive play to players while developing their skills and knowledge further. Little League age begins at 10 (or 9-year-olds are eligible to play depending on participation numbers and ability) and continues until Little League age 12.
- Summer Softball Minors – The Summer In-town Softball Minors is for beginner-level players, introducing the fundamental development of softball knowledge together including the basics of throwing, catching, fielding, base running, and batting. Little League age begins 7 and continues until Little League age 9.
- Summer Softball Majors – The Summer In-town Softball Majors elevates the level of competition by introducing additional rules and opportunities for competitive play to players while developing their skills and knowledge further. Little League age begins at 10 (or 9-year-olds are eligible to play depending on participation numbers and ability) and continues until Little League age 12.

II. The Board Overview

A Board operates Winthrop Little League. The WLL Board is composed of thirteen members, six of which hold officer positions – President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Players' Agent, and Safety Officer (See Appendix for current Board and Officer positions). The members of the Board are proposed and voted on annually before the commencement of the season. The season runs by the fiscal year – October 1 through September 30th. The Board is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the league within the rules, regulations, and policies of Little League, as well as those promulgated in these local operating rules. The Board is allowed to enhance said rules, regulations, or policies as long as they do not conflict with Little League's rules.

The Board has the authority to discipline, suspend, or remove any board member, manager, coach, or player of the league who fails to adhere to and/or repeatedly violates the rules.

III. Volunteers

A. Background Checks (CORIs)

Only individuals approved by WLL via the WLL volunteer and CORI process are allowed to serve on the Board, Manage/Coach, Umpire, or otherwise interact with a player. An approved CORI by any other organization, school district, or association does not transfer or replace WLL approval process. Anyone not approved by WLL should not be in the dugout or assisting at practices. Anyone not approved by WLL can still attend practices and games, but as a spectator only.

IV. General Local Regulations – Baseball & Softball

A. Registration

WLL will conduct player registration each year in advance of the season. The fee structure, including late fees and deadlines, will be determined and approved by the Board before registration. Registration information should be communicated via the local newspaper, email distribution, WLL website, elementary and middle schools, and social media in advance of the deadlines and tryouts.

B. Tryouts

WLL will conduct tryouts in advance of the season, ideally at the end of registration. Tryouts will be communicated as part of the registration announcements via email distribution, WLL website, elementary and middle schools, and social media. Tryouts shall be conducted by both Little League and local operating standards and rules.

C. Manager/Coach Selection

Anyone interested in Managing in WLL must submit their request in writing to the President or any member of the Board of Directors, during registration and prior to tryouts. The President will present candidates to the Board for approval by a majority vote at the meeting prior to tryouts. Once Managers have drafted their teams, the Manager will present their selected Coaches to the Board, for approval by majority vote, in accordance with Section III.E. below.

All Managers and Coaches must submit the appropriate documentation – a completed Volunteer Application and Massachusetts CORI form. CORI forms must be approved prior

to a Manager or Coach acting in either capacity on behalf of WLL. Please note that new forms must be submitted each year as they expire on September 30th of that year.

D. Division Rosters

Prior to the season and draft, the Board will approve the roster size for each division team for both baseball and softball. The roster size of each team will be determined by the number of registrations and the number of volunteer Managers approved at the time teams are formed.

E. Draft Process

1. Teams

Returning Managers will draft in order of their prior season's finish – from the top, down. New Managers will draw for the remaining positions. Only those players who try out are eligible to be drafted to the next division of play, except:

- Little League age 12 players must play in the applicable A division or Majors Softball unless their skill level, safety, and development are determined, by the Players' Agent in agreement with the A Division, B Division, Majors Softball, and Minors Softball Commissioners, to be a concern.
- A player is injured at the time of tryouts and submits a note from a medical professional indicating their inability to try out at the time.

Returning players to A division, B Division and Major Softball players are not required to try out however are encouraged. Minors Softball players are required to try out regardless of what division they are trying out for. However, the Board has the discretion to amend tryout requirements for returning players if logistics and timing are an issue.

Drafts are conducted using the following rules:

- 1) Managers are not required to select their child first however, based upon their age and the breakdown of players, the Players' Agent will determine by which round each Manager must draft their child.
- 2) Drafts are conducted using the "snake" method (ex. 1,2,3,4,4,3,2,1, etc.).
- 3) Siblings must be drafted together and will count as two draft choices.

Trades are only allowed at the end of the draft before Managers leave the meeting. No trades will be allowed after the conclusion of the draft meeting.

2. Player Replacement

If at some point in the regular season, an A Division, B Division, Softball Major or Softball Minor team loses a player putting them below the minimum approved game-time roster requirement, they must replace the player. That team's manager must contact the Player Agent, impacted Division Commissioners, and Vice President requesting a replacement, within 48 hours of notification. The Players' Agent alone determines who from the lower division is the best fit to be pulled up. Only the Players' Agent may contact the parent/guardian of the Player being considered. If the first-choice player declines the offer, the next Player considered is contacted until a Player accepts. At that time, the Players' Agent will contact the Team Manager with the Player's contact information. Immediately after their approval, the Manager is expected to contact the Player and welcome him/her to their new team. Note that "game-time" roster requirement is different than regular season roster requirement "game time" is the amount of players decided upon by the board that is recommended for an individual game.

Some exceptions/requirements to replacing a player are:

- Players from B Division cannot be added to an A Division team during the last two weeks of the season.
- When replacing a Player in B Division, the team must select an eligible Little League age 8 year-old from C Division, if any are available then move on to eligible 7 year olds.
- Replacements are at the discretion of the Player Agent only.
- Replacement players are NOT allowed for playoffs unless a playoff team will fall under 9 players for a game. If so, a replacement player from the lower division (who is not playing in a concurrent lower division playoff game) may be used. That player must bat at the end of the lineup and can only play outfield.

Note: If a Player is injured and misses, or expects to miss, six (6) future regular season games from time of notification that the player will be out for an extended time (playoffs and past missed games do not count towards this number), his/her position MUST be filled by another Player. Upon clearance and in compliance with existing Little League rules, the Player may return to his/her team with the replacement Player remaining on the team.

3. Coaches

Only Managers are pre-approved, not Coaches. A Managers must select a Coach from the players drafted to their team. As such, only Managers are allowed to be present at the draft, no coaches. B division managers can pre-select ONE coach prior to the draft with the caveat that the selecting manager's child and the selected coach's child would not both be considered top 5 picks. Coaches who do not have children of their own on their team are allowed to select up to TWO coaches ahead of time again with the caveat that those two selected coaches to not both have children that would be a top 5 draft pick.

Once the Board approves Managers and Coaches, they are expected to familiarize themselves with the Little League and WLL Local Operational Rules and abide by the rules, regulations, and policies. Additionally, Managers and Coaches are expected to:

- Notify players of team practice and game schedules.
- Conduct at least one practice each week during the season.
- Pick up, maintain, and return all equipment provided to your team by WLL.
- Clean in and around the dugouts after each game, including disposing of any trash.
- The Home Team Manager (or assigned Coach) must communicate, via a preapproved process, the required statistics of the game (score, pitch count, etc.) within 48 hours of the completion of the game.
- Any adult (parent, guardian, volunteer) assisting players on the field, in the dugout, or during a team practice, must have an approved CORI with WLL.
- Only the acting Team Manager is allowed to question the Umpire's decision.
- Any issues should first be reported to the Division Commissioner and follow the chain of command.
- All accidents must be reported to the Safety Officer; the acting Team Manager must complete an Accident Report and provide it to the Safety Officer and Division Commissioner within 48 hours of the incident.
- Meet all Player Playing Time requirements as outlined in the respective division.
- Ensure that no player handles a bat in or around the dugout until it is their at-bat.
- Players are required (Per Little League National Rule) to warm up pitchers between innings. Coaches are not permitted to warm up pitchers at any time.
- Pregame Warm-Ups: Home - 30 minutes before the game; Visitors - 15 minutes before the game.
- Ensure appropriate on-field behavior at all times by players, parents, coaches, and managers.

- Notify players of WLL events (i.e. Opening Day, Pitch-Hit-Run, Picture Day, etc.)
- Always follow the Chain of Command:

Coach → Manager → Division Commissioner → Board President → Board of Directors →

District Liaison → District Administrator → Bristol, CT → Williamsport, PA

F. Uniforms

Each player is supplied with a game jersey, and uniform socks. A hat is provided for baseball players and at the discretion of the softball coaches. Uniforms and team hats must be worn at all games. Player's uniforms must be neat at all times with shirts tucked in. Pitchers are not allowed to wear long sleeve white or gray shirts or sleeves. Regular season uniforms are not to be turned in and are kept at the end of the season by the players. Post-season, tournament, and All Star uniforms are to be returned at the end of the season to the team Manager.

G. Other Administrative Items

Injuries - No Player may participate in any League activity (game or practice) with ANY form or type of cast per Rule 1.11 k, regardless of a Doctor's letter.

Pitching Machine - The pitching machine is not to be taken from the "A" Field without permission and is to be operated ONLY by adults, not players. Players must wear helmets whenever they are having batting practice. Batting Practice is NOT allowed during a game on the A field.

V. Playing Local Regulations A.

Division specific playing rules

A DIVISION

A Division consists of Little League ages 10, 11, and 12-year-olds and will play in accordance with current Little League rules and regulations with the following exceptions:

- Each team will field a minimum of nine (9) defensive outs per game.
- All Players will bat a minimum of once per game.
- A Division will use a Continuous Batting Order.
- The 10 Run Mercy Rule after 4 Innings will be used.

- The dropped 3rd strike rule will be in effect.
- Stealing will be prohibited if the home team has a 10 run lead after 3 1/2 innings, or if the visiting team has a 10 run lead after 4 innings.
- Pitch Counts DO NOT reset between the conclusion of the regular season and the start of the playoffs.
- If a team will have less than 7 players for a game and would like to reschedule, 48 hours notice must be given to the opposing manager. However, in the event a reschedule is requested during the final week of the season, the team requesting will be forced to play or forfeit the game.
- In the event a team can only field 7 or 8 players, the vacant batting order slots will be recorded as automatic outs. Players from the opposing team will be used to fill the vacant outfield positions.

B DIVISION

B Division consists of Little League age 8, 9, 10, 11 and on occasion 12-year-olds (or 7 year olds if numbers need it), and will play in accordance with current Little League rules and regulations with the following exceptions:

- There will be free substitution allowed during the game so long as every Player plays three (3) defensive innings in the field of which two (2) must be within the first four (4) innings.
- Runners cannot lead off the base.
- Runners can only steal once the ball has crossed the plate.
- Runners are allowed to advance 1 base on an overthrow out of play.
- For the first 2 weeks of the season, there is no stealing of home. This includes on a wild pitch, passed ball, thrown ball back to the pitcher from catcher, or any ball thrown by the catcher to a base after a pitch. For example, a runner stealing third base may NOT advance home on an overthrow of 3rd from the catcher. After the first 2 weeks, runners attempting to steal 3rd Base CAN advance home on an overthrow or an errant throw from the catcher. However, such advancements will count toward the maximum number of steals allowed per inning. If it is determined that this level of play is not congruent to the talent level in B division, the B commissioner can consult coaches on reverting the rule back to the rules of the first 2 weeks of season. Coaches and parents will be notified of as needed
- A maximum of 3 steals per inning, per team, is allowed.
- A continuous batting order will be used utilizing all eligible Players.
- Four (4) outfielders will be used during the game, when available.

- A game may be started with less than nine (9) Players, but every effort must be made to field a full team at all times.
- A maximum of five (5) runs per inning will be allowed if three (3) outs have not been made, except for the last inning where the five (5) run rule does not apply. B division plays 4 innings. The last inning is assumed to be the 4th inning. However, if due to the pace of the game it becomes obvious that there will only be 3 innings played in the allowable time, the 3rd inning becomes the last inning and therefore the 5 run rule would not apply. Both sets of coaches will need to confer at some point during the top of the 3rd to decide the 3rd inning will be the last.
- Any player arriving after the lineups have been exchanged, MUST be placed at the bottom of the order but MUST be placed on the field in accordance with above rule #1.
- Stealing will be prohibited if the home team has a 10 run lead after 3 1/2 innings, or if the visiting team has a 10 run lead after 4 innings.
- Infield Fly Rule does NOT apply.
- A new inning cannot start after 7:00PM prior to June 1st. After June 1st, the cut-off is 7:15PM.
- No head first sliding.
- The Dropped 3rd Strike Rule will NOT be used.

In addition to these rules, each team should have a person per game designated as the pitch counter. This person will count the pitches of both their own team and the opposing team. After each half inning or pitching change, pitch counters on each team confer to establish how many pitches were thrown that half inning or pitching change. If there is a discrepancy, the count will be the average of the two counts. After the game, the home team is responsible for emailing out the counts to the B division commissioner and coaches.

C DIVISION

C Division is intended to be a transition level for players coming out of Tee Ball and for those preparing for B Division level competition. We encourage children to have fun while instilling the fundamentals around a structured baseball team. C Division consists of Little League age 6*, 7, and 8-year-olds and will play following current Little League rules and regulations with the following exceptions:

- A minimum of 2 innings or 1 hour of play is required.
- A continuous batting order will be used utilizing all eligible Players.

- Every Player bats during the inning – there is no 3 outs to end an inning.
- Players will begin the game pitching from the mound and be assisted by a Coach. Players will pitch 4 balls to the batter and the Manager/Coach will step in to provide a maximum of 8 reasonable pitches to the batter. If the batter cannot make contact after that, they will return to the dugout.
- If a pitcher hits 3 batters during his appearance on the mound, he must be removed.
- A player can be tagged out if the team in the field makes the play off the hit ball.
- Scores/standings are not kept.
- No advancing on pass balls, no stealing, leading off base, or bunting.
- The baseball used for C division will be a high-compression safety ball. This is for both games and practice.

NOTE: It is highly recommended that Managers field the infield with 5 Players and, if possible, a catcher; all other players should run drills in the outfield with coaches to keep the Players engaged, at least during the first half of the season.

TEE BALL

Tee Ball is a non-competitive program focused on fun, fitness, and fundamentals where players Little League ages 4–7 are first introduced to the basics of baseball and softball. Little League® International strives to provide a Tee Ball experience focused on teaching the fundamentals of the game in a fun environment while incorporating a high level of physical activity. An overview of the rules is below:

- A maximum of 1 hour of play or 3 innings.
- A continuous batting order will be used utilizing all eligible Players.
- Rosters of 6-10 players are ideal however rosters are based on the number of Manager/Coach volunteers available.
- Scores/standings are not kept.
- Each kid hits off a tee and takes/advances only one base each batter.
- The last batter is declared the “Home Run Hitter” and will round the bases to complete the inning. The opposing team should NOT clear the field until that runner has crossed home plate.

NOTE: It is highly recommended that Managers field the infield with 5 Players; all other players should run drills in the outfield with coaches to keep the Players engaged, especially if rosters exceed 10 kids.

Summer Softball Majors

Summer Softball Majors consists of Little League ages 10, 11, and 12-year-olds and will play in accordance with current Little League rules and regulations with the following exceptions:

- Each team will field a minimum of nine (9) defensive outs per game.
- All Players will bat a minimum of once per game.
- A Division will use a Continuous Batting Order.
- The 10 Run Mercy Rule after 4 Innings will be used.
- The dropped 3rd strike rule will be in effect.
- Stealing will be prohibited if the home team has a 10 run lead after 3 1/2 innings, or if the visiting team has a 10 run lead after 4 innings.
- If a team will have less than 7 players for a game and would like to reschedule, 48 hours notice must be given to the opposing manager. However, in the event a reschedule is requested during the final week of the season, the team requesting will be forced to play or forfeit the game.
- In the event a team can only field 7 or 8 players, the vacant batting order slots will be recorded as automatic outs. Players from the opposing team will be used to fill the vacant outfield positions.
- In the event a team can only field 7 or 8 players, coaches may ask other teams who are not playing tonight, if they have any players who would like to play that evening.

Summer Softball Minors

Summer Softball Minors consists of Little League ages 7, 8, 9, and 10, , and will play in accordance with current Little League rules and regulations with the following exceptions:

- There will be free substitution allowed during the game..
- Runners cannot steal a base. Unless agreed upon by both coaches during the game.
- A continuous batting order will be used utilizing all eligible Players.
- Four (4) outfielders will be used during the game, when available.
- A game may be started with less than nine (9) Players, but every effort must be made to field a full team at all times.
- A maximum of five (5) runs per inning will be allowed if three (3) outs have not been made, except for the last inning where the five (5) run rule does not apply.

- Any player arriving after the lineups have been exchanged, MUST be placed at the bottom of the order..
- Infield Fly Rule does NOT apply.
- A new inning cannot start after 7:15PM.
- No head first sliding.
- Players will begin the game pitching from the mound and be assisted by a Coach. Players will pitch 3 called balls to the batter and the Manager/Coach will step in to provide a maximum of 8 reasonable pitches to the batter. If the batter cannot make contact after that, they will return to the dugout and be recorded as an out.

B. Practice Schedules

Managers must schedule practices based upon field availability, referencing the calendars available through WLL website, Winthrop High School Athletics website (specifically, Varsity Baseball & Softball schedules), as well as Winthrop Parks and Rec. In addition, WLL uses a shared Google Calendar to schedule field use for practices. Coaches access to the calendar should be requested from the coach to the league commissioner.

C. Umpires

The Umpire-in-Chief, a board-voted position, is responsible for securing a District Association Certified Umpire to officiate scheduled A Division, B Division, Softball Majors and Softball Minors games. Based upon the schedule they are provided at the beginning of the season, every effort must be made to schedule a Certified Umpire. There may be occasions when a Certified Umpire is not available and in that event, the Home team Manager is required to umpire or provide a volunteer/in-town umpire to officiate these games. The Umpire-in-Chief will make every effort to notify you in advance of the situation. A few administrative notes:

- If a game is called off, the Umpire in Chief must be notified at least 1 ½ hour prior to game.
- The Home Team Manager is required to pay the Umpires in advance of the game. Based upon the division schedule at the beginning of the season, each Manager will be given the necessary amount to compensate the umpires.
- Any complaint against an umpire must be made to the Board.
- Only the Winthrop Little League Board of Directors is allowed to request an umpire not being assigned.

- If no District Association Certified Umpire is available, the Umpire-in-Chief or team Managers may select an In-Town umpire for the game; the individual selected must have an approved CORI with WLL.

The Umpire has the right to eject a Player, Manager, or Coach from the game for abusive language or actions, which are not deemed appropriate for participants in the Little League program to exhibit. This will result in the automatic suspension of the individual involved for the next scheduled game.

D. Makeups/Reschedules

The Safety Officer, in consultation with the Division Commissioners, will determine if a game is to be postponed due to inclement weather or poor field quality. The determination must be made at least ninety (90) minutes prior to the start of the game and within one (1) hour of the scheduled start of a C Division or Tee Ball game. As the schedules for the season are typically structured to allow for weekend make-up games, Sundays then Saturdays should be first proposed.

If a game is suspended due to inclement weather by the Umpire, the game must be completed before the playing teams' next scheduled game against each other. If the Managers cannot agree on a time, the Division Commissioner and Vice President, or the League President in his absence, will decide by using the first open time slot available.

If a team would like to reschedule for any other reason, a minimum of 48 hour's notice must be given to the Division Commissioner, by the Manager, for approval, along with the opposing team manager. No reschedules are allowed the final week of the regular season, the team requesting will be forced to play or forfeit the game. Managers should not make it a habit of rescheduling games due to personal conflict or shortage of players. If more than two games are requested to be rescheduled for reasons other than inclement weather by the same Manager, the Vice President – or President if the Vice President is the Manager - must also approve.

Note: Any changes to the game schedule must be communicated to the website administrator and for A and B Divisions games, and to the Umpire-in-Chief.

E. Start of the Game

At the beginning of the game, the Home Team manager will provide the Umpire with two game balls. The Umpire will, typically, address both teams Managers to ensure alignment of playing rules.

Managers should ensure that coaches are aware of their duties for the game (i.e. pitch counter, base coach, scorekeeper, etc.).

(A and B Division Only) Weekday games start at 5:30 pm and end after 6 innings. Prior to June 1st, a new inning cannot start after 7:00 pm (7:15 pm after June 1st). Managers must agree that the last inning is being played before or during the top of the inning.

F. Pitching

After the game, the Home Team Manager must report the pitch count in the agreed-upon method, to the President, Vice President, Division Commissioner, and Division Managers. Managers are responsible for ensuring that all pitchers abide by the limits and restrictions set forth by Little League based on the player's age. Violations of this rule, whether accidental or intentional, will be reported and subject to disciplinary action. Pitch count rules are outlined in Appendix C and disciplinary actions are outlined in Appendix D.

G. Official scoring

The Home Team Manager is responsible for communicating the game statistics using the preapproved process. This communication must include the final score, pitcher count for both teams, and any team member (Player, Manager, or Coach) missing from each team. Prior to submitting the statistics, each Manager must agree to the information. No Manager will be allowed to manage the next game unless the game statistics for the previous game has been submitted.

Protests (postgame)

Protests shall be conducted in accordance with Rule 4.19 of the Little League rules and regulations. Failure of a team Manager or Coach to follow the correct procedure may result in the automatic rejection of the protest.

Protests shall be automatically rejected if they:

- 1) Are based on a judgment decision by an Umpire, rather than on a matter of technical interpretation of the rules and regulations.
- 2) Are based on a situation which could have been, and should have been avoided, prior to its occurrence (i.e. the protesting team allowed the other team to use an known ineligible pitcher, and only protested after the fact.)

H. Playoffs

All A and B Division teams will make the playoffs. Playoffs will be determined by double elimination play. For A division, if there are more than four teams but less than seven in either division the 1st and 2nd place teams will get a bye. Games will be scheduled back-to-back with every effort being made to conclude the Championship before District All Star Tournament play. If there are 5 teams in B division, teams 4 and 5 will play in a play-in game with the winner getting the 4-seed in a 4 team double elimination playoff. The A commissioner and board are also able to use this style of playoff format for 5 teams if decided prior to the season.

A Division specifics:

- Two umpires will be used for the playoffs.
- Games will be six (6) innings of play.

B Division specifics:

- One umpire will be used for the playoffs.
- Games will be a minimum of four (4) innings and maximum of six (6) innings however will be predetermined based upon the number of innings completed on average during the regular season.

Playoff schedule:

All efforts will be made to start on a Sunday with Game 1 and Game 2 to ensure equitable start. Each game will be played back-to-back days from that point on (see Appendix E). In the event playoffs cannot start on a Sunday, the schedule will be approved by the Board. In the event that a game is postponed due to inclement weather or poor field conditions, the entire schedule will shift one day.

Tie Breaker Rules

In the event of a tie, the rules will be:

1. Best overall record
2. Head-to-head record
3. Head-to-head run differential
4. Total runs allowed
5. Runs scored overall

6. Coin toss

VI. Discipline

The Discipline Rules will be strictly adhered to and are in addition to the rules outlined in the Official Little League rulebook. Several of these rules have been enhanced, not deleted or diminished, as a local option. A violation of the Little League or WLL Local Operating rules will result in disciplinary action (see Appendix for details). In addition to previously stated rules, other instances that will result in disciplinary action include but are not limited to:

- A Manager using an illegal pitcher – knowingly or unknowing.
- Violation(s) of the Code of Conduct.

No Player can be suspended by an acting Manager from playing a league game without the prior approval of the President or the Board of Directors, unless:

- The Player is involved in a verbal or physical altercation, or an incident of unsportsmanlike conduct, at the game site. That player can be sat or ejected by acting Manager for the remainder of the game. *Notification of such actions must be immediately communicated to the Division Commissioner, Safety Officer, President, and Player Parent/Guardian.*

A Player, Manager or Coach ejected from a game due to physical contact will be suspended from all League activities until they appear before the Board of Directors. The Board will decide the length of the suspension to be served or permanent dismissal from the program.

VII. Field and Equipment

It is the responsibility of the Manager and Coaches to provide a safe environment while their team is playing or practicing. Other Players not involved in said practice or game should not be allowed on the field, in the dugouts, or in the batting cage area.

No alcoholic beverages are allowed on the Winthrop Little League property, or at any other location being used by the program for either games or practices. The penalty for such a violation is immediate dismissal from the program.

A. Field Usage Policy

The following policies, in regards to the use of the Little League Field on Cross Street and the Little League fields located on Veterans Field, are in effect through a long-standing

agreement between the Winthrop Little League and the Winthrop Public Schools. They are as follows:

Little League Field (aka A Field) -The Little League Field's primary use is for practices and games conducted by the Winthrop Little League. It is also used by the Winthrop High School Girls' Varsity Softball team and Winthrop Parks and Recreation sponsored programs. No players or coaches are permitted on the field until the School players have left.

Veteran's Field - WLL has the permission of the School Department to conduct its Minor League program on what is known as the "B" and "C" Division fields which are located in the right and center field on Veteran's Field. Before the beginning of the season, the Athletic Director will provide the League with the High School Varsity Baseball and JV Softball teams' schedules. WLL will adjust their game schedules so as not to interfere with

the School programs. No teams shall practice or play games on the fields while a Varsity game is in progress. In addition, the WLL will be responsible for preparing and maintaining these fields for their games, and will leave it in proper order after the game.

B. Priority scheduling

Each Division has its own designated field. As such, a division should not schedule a divisional game (or make-up game) on another field prior to June 1st and without the approval of the Division Commissioner, Players' Agent, and Vice President.

C. Field maintenance

Before each game, it is the responsibility of the Home team to ensure that the infield is raked, dragged, and chalked. No team is allowed to practice on the "A" field once the field has been prepared for a game or is in the process of being prepared [can we do warm ups?]. Each Manager must assign players to pick up trash in and around the dugout/bench area. It is the responsibility of the Manager to ensure that the field(s) and dugouts are picked-up after each practice or game.

VIII. Player equipment

Each Manager is responsible for the equipment and uniforms issued to their team at the beginning of the season. Once the season ends, it is expected that each Manager will return their equipment for inventory, repair, and/or replacement. Failure to return will impact their ability to Manage or Coach in the WLL program. The current regular season uniforms are kept by the players and are not turned back in.

IX. Post-Season Play

A. State Tournament.

The Division playoffs and Town Championship Series will be played in accordance with the Williamsport Regular Season Rulebook.

1. District 16 Williamsport/State Tournament:

The Board will approve the involvement/registration of all teams to either district or tournament play prior to enrollment. Similar to regular season, a manager submits their interest in holding the responsibility to the President and the President presents the candidates for voting by the Board.

The District Team Manager is subject to all Little League Rules including “An individual who manages or coaches in another youth baseball program is not eligible to be appointed to manage or coach a tournament team in the Little League program as defined in Regulation 1(a) unless a waiver is granted by the appropriate regional director.”

Both Baseball and Softball District Team shall be selected by the following process:

The Board of Directors, in consultation with the appointed district manager, shall create a Tournament Selection Committee consisting of the District Manager, A Division Managers / Softball Majors Managers, Softball Minors Managers, the President, and Players’ Agent.

- 1) Managers will nominate 12-14 players and give them to the Players’ Agent. Using the Tournament Player Voting Form (Appendix F). All votes will remain confidential and will not be shared outside of the WLL Board.
- 2) Any player receiving a unanimous vote during manager nominations will be placed on the Tournament roster.
- 3) The Players’ agent will provide the Tournament Committee with a list of the other nominations. The Tournament Committee under the supervision of the Players’ Agent shall select the number of players needed to fill the roster.
- 4) The nominations and the committee itself are kept confidential until after the final roster is selected.
- 5) All coaches selected for the tournament team must be approved by the President and the Board of Directors and subject to all Little League rules.
- 6) Tournament managers and coaches must be currently participating in the League.

7) All players will be voted to the tournament team by the Board. **B. Baseball and**

Softball Summer Travel Teams:

The number of teams to be included in the Summer Leagues will depend solely on volunteers willing to Manage and Coach these teams. There can only be two (2) teams at any age level. The teams will be selected in a manner similar to the District 16 Williamsport Tournament team. If there are two (2) teams at a particular level, League officials and managers will balance the teams to the best of their ability. In a one (1) team format, the team will be selected exactly as the District 16 Williamsport Tournament team. It is important to note that these teams are NOT ALL-STAR TEAMS, rather they are a Summer Recreational League to allow children the opportunity to play baseball and softball during the Summer months.

All teams shall be filled with age specific players, if available, but players one Little League age year younger may fill the rosters where necessary. This does not apply to the District 16 Williamsport Tournament team. Exceptions will be made if the person(s) selected to Manage and/or Coach the team has a child who is one (1) year younger than that level. A player may NOT move down an age level unless approved by the Tournament Selection Committee.

NO WINTHROP LITTLE LEAGUE SPONSORED TEAM, UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES, MAY PARTICIPATE IN ANY TOURNAMENT OR LEAGUE NOT SANCTIONED BY LITTLE LEAGUE. NO TEAM MAY REPRESENT WINTHROP LITTLE LEAGUE IN A SANCTIONED TOURNAMENT, WITHOUT THE FORMAL CONSENT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS. VIOLATION OF THESE ITEMS WILL RESULT IN IMMEDIATE REMOVAL FROM THE PROGRAM.

Conclusion

It is important to note that the above-mentioned rules and penalties do NOT supersede the Official Williamsport Rulebook, but are addition to it. It is extremely important to familiarize yourselves with the rulebook every year since there are usually several rule changes made which can directly affect your team during the season.

NOTE: THESE LOCAL RULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS IF, IN THEIR OPINION, SUCH A CHANGE IS IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE CHILDREN AND THE LEAGUE.

X. Appendix

Appendix A

2025 Little League® Age Chart



Match month (top line) and box with year of birth. League age indicated at right.

JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	AGE
2021	2021	2021	2021	2021	2021	2021	2021	2020	2020	2020	2020	4
2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	2019	2019	2019	2019	5
2019	2019	2019	2019	2019	2019	2019	2019	2018	2018	2018	2018	6
2018	2018	2018	2018	2018	2018	2018	2018	2017	2017	2017	2017	7
2017	2017	2017	2017	2017	2017	2017	2017	2016	2016	2016	2016	8
2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	2015	2015	2015	2015	9
2015	2015	2015	2015	2015	2015	2015	2015	2014	2014	2014	2014	10
2014	2014	2014	2014	2014	2014	2014	2014	2013	2013	2013	2013	11
2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	2012	2012	2012	2012	12
2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	2011	2011	2011	2011	13
2011	2011	2011	2011	2011	2011	2011	2011	2010	2010	2010	2010	14
2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2009	2009	2009	2009	15
2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2008	2008	2008	2008	16

NOTE: This age chart is for BASEBALL DIVISIONS ONLY, and only for 2025.

2025 Little League® Age Chart



Match month (top line) and box with year of birth. League age indicated at right.

JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	AGE
2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	4
2019	2019	2019	2019	2019	2019	2019	2019	2019	2019	2019	2019	5
2018	2018	2018	2018	2018	2018	2018	2018	2018	2018	2018	2018	6
2017	2017	2017	2017	2017	2017	2017	2017	2017	2017	2017	2017	7
2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	8
2015	2015	2015	2015	2015	2015	2015	2015	2015	2015	2015	2015	9
2014	2014	2014	2014	2014	2014	2014	2014	2014	2014	2014	2014	10
2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	11
2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	12
2011	2011	2011	2011	2011	2011	2011	2011	2011	2011	2011	2011	13
2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	14
2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	15
2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	16

NOTE: This age chart is for SOFTBALL DIVISIONS ONLY, and only for 2025.

Appendix B

2025 Board of Directors and Officer Positions

Officers

President

Matthew
Emanuelson

Vice President Baseball

Anthony Sorrentino

Vice President softball

Christina Marengi

Secretary

Matthew
Emanuelson

Treasurer

Stevan Blamer

Players' Agent

Anthony Sorrentino

Safety Officer

Chris Evans

Board Members

Kim Griffin

Anthony Williams

Anthony Ferullo

Chris Bauer

Tyson Graygor

Karl Rogowicz

Frankie Ciampa

Mike Triant

Christina Marengi

Board Officers' Roles and Responsibilities (as per the Little League Rulebook):

President: Presides at league meetings, and assumed full responsibility for the operation of the local league. The president receives all mail, supplies, and other communications from Little

League International. The president must see to it that league personnel is properly briefed on all phases of rules, regulations, and policies of Little League. The league president is the contact between the local organization and Little League International.

Vice President: Presides in the absence of the president; works with other officers and committee members; is ex-officio member of all committees and carries out such duties and assignments as may be delegated by the president.

Secretary: Maintains a register of members and directors; records the minutes of meetings; is responsible for sending out notice of meetings, and maintains a record of league activities.

Treasurer: Signs checks co-signed by another officer or director; dispenses league funds as approved by the Board of Directors; reports on the status of league funds; keeps local league books and financial records; prepares budgets and assumes the responsibility for all local league financials.

Players' Agent: Conducts annual tryouts, and is in charge of player selection, assists president (or responsible officer delegated by the president) in checking birth records and eligibility of players; serves as a member of the Board of Directors of the local league and generally supervises and coordinates the transfer of players to or from other Divisions according to the provisions of the regulations of Little League.

Safety Officer: The Safety Officer is responsible for creating awareness through education and information, of the opportunities to provide a safer environment for players and all participants of Little League® Baseball. The Safety Officer shall develop and implement a plan for increasing safety of activities, equipment, facilities, companies, and reporting.

Non Board Positions - Roles and Responsibilities:

Fundraising Coordinator:

Player Development:

Equipment Manager:

Picture Coordinator:

Umpire-in-Chief:

[Field Manager:]

[Scheduler:]

Appendix C

Pitching Restrictions by Age

- Maximum Pitch Counts by Age
 - a) 7/8 Year Olds – 50 Pitches,
 - b) 9/10 Year Olds – 75 Pitches,
 - c) 11-12 Year Olds – 85 Pitches
- Days of Rest Thresholds
 - a) 0-20 Pitches (No Days Rest)
 - b) 21-35 Pitches (1 Day Rest)
 - c) 36-50 Pitches (2 Days Rest)
 - d) 51-65 Pitches (3 Days Rest)
 - e) 65+ Pitches (4 days Rest)

A pitcher who delivers 41 or more pitches in a game cannot play the position of catcher for the remainder of that day. Any player who has played the position of catcher in four (4) or more innings in a game is not eligible to pitch on that calendar day. Refer to the Little League Rules and Regulations book for complete guidelines.

Appendix D

Disciplinary Actions

The penalties for violation of Little League or local operating rule are as follows:

First Violation: At the discretion of the Board, a Manager can be disciplined up to a one game suspension.

Second Violation: The Manager is automatically suspended from the next scheduled game and must appear before the Board of Directors.

Third violation of this rule **will be considered intentional** and the Manager will automatically be dismissed from the program.

A suspended Player must serve his/her suspension on the bench and in uniform.

Appendix E

Baseball Playoff Schedule

Four team division:

Sunday – Game 1: #1 seed vs #4 seed

Sunday – Game 2: #2 seed vs #3 seed

Monday – Game 3: Game 1 Loser vs Game 2 Loser

Tuesday – Game 4: Game 1 Winner vs Game 2 Winner

Wednesday – Game 5: Game 3 Winner vs Game 4 Loser

Thursday – Game 6: Game 4 Winner vs Game 5 Winner

Friday – Game 7: replay Game 6 if Game 4 winner loses Game 6 (Championship)

Appendix F

Winthrop Little League
Tournament Player Voting Form

	Player Name:	Player D.O.B	Manager A	Manager B	Manager C	Manager D	Player Average
1							
2							
3							
4							
5							
6							
7							
8							
9							
10							
11							
12							
13							
14							
15							
16							
17							
18							
19							
20							

* Managers will rank each player using a scale of 1 - 5. With a 1 being a low ranking and 5 being a high ranking