

# LINGLESTOWN BASEBALL ASSOCIATION

May 11, 2009

## **PONY AND MIDGET LEAGUE RULES**

The Pony and Midget levels will follow the rules of the Official Rulebook of Little League Baseball 2000 along with the following exceptions, amendments and changes.

1. Any violation of the exceptions, amendments, or rule changes to the Pony or Midget rules will result in forfeiture
2. Pony league may not exceed a 20 game schedule
3. There will be no post season game permitted without LBA Board approval
4. No balk rule in the Pony league
5. No infield fly rule in the Pony league
6. Pitching distance for all ages will be 46 feet.
7. 10 year olds can only pitch the first 3 innings of a Pony game
8. All players of league age 8 and under are required to wear a helmet with a protective face mask to bat and run the bases.
9. Pony league games shall last no longer than 2 hours. At the end of 2 hours the game will be declared a regulation contest regardless of the number of innings played:
  - If the home team is winning in turn at bat they are declared the winner.
  - If the visiting team is winning in this turn at bat they will revert back to the last full inning
  - In the case of a tie at the end of two hours or 6 innings a game may continued at the discretion of the umpire and with enough daylight.
10. If an inning starts 10 minutes prior to the 2 hour time limit the inning will be completed with proper daylight
11. No inning will begin after 10 minutes before the 2 hour time limit
12. Pony games that end in a tie are considered a complete game. Each team will be given a half point in the standings
13. With 2 outs a pinch runner is required for the catcher in the Pony league. The runner must be a player from the bench who is not in the game. This doesn't mean you have to replace the catcher it is so the catcher can get the gear on to speed up the time between innings
14. A half inning shall be ended when the team at bat has scored 4 runs or 3 outs in the Pony league
15. All players wearing protective face masks may NOT slide headfirst at any time. Any headfirst slide and the runner will be called out.
16. No Pony player may pitch more than 6 innings in a week.
17. A weeks runs from Sunday thru Saturday
18. One ten yr old gets 3 additional innings if their team has 3 games in a week in the Pony league as long as the pitcher has proper rest

19. Proper rest must be taken into consideration for all pitchers

- 7, 8 and 9 year olds:
  - A. 7, 8, and 9 yr olds get 60 pitches per game and are allowed to finish pitching to the batter they are facing when the 60<sup>th</sup> pitch is thrown
  - B. If a 7, 8, or 9 yr olds throws 59 pitches or less or 3 innings or less in a game then they need one day of rest and can pitch on the 2ed day and have 3 innings of eligibility left to pitch along with 59 pitches  
**Example:** The pitcher pitches 3 innings on Monday and throws 59 pitches, that pitcher is eligible to pitch on Wednesday
  - C. If the pitcher throws 60 pitches or pitches in 4 inning in a game than the pitcher has to have 3 days rest and can pitch on the 4<sup>th</sup> day and will have 2 innings of eligibility left along with 59 pitches  
**Example:** The pitcher throws pitches in 4 innings or 60 pitches on Monday than that pitcher is eligible to pitch on Friday
- 10 year olds:
  - A. 10 yr olds get 75 pitches per game and are allowed to finish pitching to the batter they are facing when the 75<sup>th</sup> pitch is thrown
  - B. In the Midget league a 10 yr old has a 6 inning limit per week and any 10 yr old gets an additional 6 innings if their team has 3 games in a week as long as proper rest is followed
  - C. In the Pony league a 10 yr old my only pitch in the first 3 innings
  - D. If a 10 yr old throws 60 pitches or 3 innings or less in a game, then they need one day of rest and can pitch one the 2ed day and have 3 innings of eligibility left to pitch along with 60 pitches  
**Example:** The pitcher pitches 3 innings on Monday and throws 60 pitches or less, that pitcher is eligible to pitch on Wednesday
  - E. If a 10 yr old pitcher throws 61 or more pitches or pitches in 4 innings in a game than the pitcher has to have 3 days rest and can pitch on the 4<sup>th</sup> day and will have 2 innings of eligibility left along with 60 pitches.  
**Example:** The pitcher throws pitches in 4 innings or 61 pitches on Monday than that pitcher is eligible to pitch on Friday
- 11 and 12 year olds:
  - A. 11 and 12 yr olds get 85 pitches per game and are allowed to finish pitching to the batter they are facing when the 85<sup>th</sup> pitch is thrown
  - B. 12 yr olds get 6 innings per week and one 12 yr old gets an additional 6 innings if their team has 3 games in a week as long as proper rest is followed.
  - C. 11 yr olds have a 6 inning limit per week and any 11 yr old gets an additional 6 innings if their team has 3 games in a week as long as proper rest is followed

D. If an 11 or 12 yr old throws 74 pitches or less or 3 innings or less in a game, then they need one day of rest and can pitch on the 2ed day

**Example:** The pitcher pitches 3 innings on Monday and throws 74 pitches or less, that pitcher is eligible to pitch on Wednesday

E. If an 11 or 12 yr old throws 75 pitches or throws pitches in 4 innings in a game, then they need 3 days of rest and can pitch on the 4<sup>th</sup> day

**Example:** The pitcher pitches 4 innings or throws 75 pitches on Monday that pitcher is eligible to pitch on Friday

20. A batter may be ejected from a game for throwing equipment and this is a judgment call by the umpire
21. A player or a coach thrown out of a game will be suspended for one week. A second incident will either be a two week or permanent suspension. A coach may ask for an appeal by contacting the president
22. In the Pony league there are no base appeals. If an umpire sees a runner miss a base he will call the runner out when the play has been completed. Normal base running rules will apply for runners on base
23. All runners must slide or avoid contact with the defensive player when there is play at a base or home plate. If the runner contacts the defensive player without sliding, the runner is out
24. Offensive time outs are not limited to two. The umpire can deny a time out if he thinks the coach is trying to make a mockery of the game
25. The president will reschedule all games that are rained-outs. The home team must notify the president who will reassign the game. The home team will also notify the umpires and the visiting team. A rescheduled game will usually be scheduled for the first Saturday following the rain-out. If either team plays that Saturday or has a lack of players the game can be played earlier that week under the lights.
26. It is possible for both Pony and Midget teams to have to play 4 games in a week
27. The use of an illegal pitcher or not play all of your players will result in a forfeit. The umpire will be informed of the violation and will make the call. There is no appeal
28. If a coach knows the above mentioned pitching or play rule is about to be violated and doesn't step in to try to stop the violation to avoid the forfeit that coach will be suspended for 1 week
29. The balk rule is for the Midget league only. A balk is when a pitcher goes to his mouth while on the mound, drops the ball while on the rubber, or starts his windup and stops. The balk rule goes into affect the 2ed Monday in May. The balk rule also may be lifted by the LBA board before the season starts
30. The ten run rule applies anytime after the 4<sup>th</sup> inning or after 3.5 innings if the home team winning. The game may continue with the approval of the losing team and if there is no night game
31. The third trip to the mound per pitcher per game and that pitcher will be replaced

32. The second game on the midget field is an official game after 4 innings. Curfew begins at 9:50. The inning in progress may be completed.
33. In the case of light failure the game will be continued from the point of light failure with all records counting including pitching.
34. All pitching records count even if the game is called before completion. An inning will count with one pitch to a batter
35. With a scheduled 2ed game, if the first one ends prior to 8:00, the second game needs to start within 15 minutes. If the game ends after 8:00pm either team may exercise their right not to play the game at that time.
36. Final standings: The last place team is responsible for field maintenance during the Susquehanna Valley and Haps Boyer Central Penn all star tournaments. The next to last place team is responsible for the concession stand during the two all star tournaments, this includes finding people to work the concession stand
37. In both the Pony and Midget levels if the pitcher hits 4 batters they must be removed from the mound
38. An air attack bat, any bat not Little League approved, or any bat not a -9, -8, or -7 are illegal. If a fair ball is hit with one of these bats the batter will be called out.
39. Pony players called up to for a midget game will wear their Pony uniform. Pony players may not enter the game until all Midget players are in the game
40. Pony league games will be rescheduled for a lack of players
41. Pony and Midget players must play 3 innings and bat once if possible. If the game is completed before 6 innings it is suggested to start any player shorted on playing time. Pony teams having 14 players present for a game may use the play 2 innings bat once rule.
42. Coaches or adults are not allowed to use tobacco inside the fenced playing area
43. An umpire can call time out when an injury on the playing field occurs
44. All players must wear the same helmet when batting or running the bases
45. All player coaches must wear a batting helmet when on the field
46. If a player arrives late and is not in the dugout by the first pitch of the 3<sup>rd</sup> inning the coach is not obligated to play that player
47. The home team shall have the field until 20 minutes prior to game time
48. The visiting team shall have the field from 20 minutes to 5 minutes prior to game time
49. No team before a game or during practice shall take batting practice on the Midget field
50. Adult coaches are permitted in both coaches boxes
51. A player may not be in uniform for two games in the same day
52. If a Pony player plays in 3 or more Midget league games he is now considered a Midget player and can not play in any further pony games. This rule may be adjusted year to year due to the number of players in the league
53. A starting player may reenter the game if his replacement has batted at least once and played 2 innings (Pony 3 innings) in the field. The starting player must reenter the line-up in the same batting position or if a player is injured and no other eligible player is available any player may reenter the game

54. A batter who throw his bat and does not hit either the catcher or the umpire will be warned the first time, the second time the batter throws the bat he will be called out. If the batter throws the bat and hits either the catcher or the umpire he will be called out without warning
55. The catcher must wear headgear at all times when on the field or when warming up a pitcher off the field
56. When a runner slides headfirst into a bag or home plate the runner is out. Going headfirst back to a bag is a legal play. A player wearing a protective face mask on their helmet may not slide headfirst at any time
57. In the case of a tie in the standings at the end of the season the first tie breaker is head to head competition. The second tie breaker is the record against the top 4 teams. The third tie breaker will be a one game tie breaker
58. Pitchers are allowed 5 warm-up pitches between innings and a relief pitcher who comes into the game is allowed 8 pitches
59. The official scorer is the home team
60. A batter must take signs with one foot in the batters. The umpire will give the batter one warning, and after that the umpire will instruct the pitcher to pitch and every pitch will be a strike
61. Only the head coach will have dialogue with an umpire when a discrepancy occurs. The umpire will warn assistants and if it continues the assistant coach will be ejected from the game.
62. A courtesy runner may be used if the batter/runner gets injured. The player must not be in the game
63. No player may play in more than one league. If a player is he must honor his commitment to LBA first
64. A child will be assigned to the same team as his father if the father was assigned by the board by opening day. The team will pay \$5000 for the player if they so desire
65. No player off of an expansion Pony team can be sold or traded to another team. All players must go up for bidding. The father rule does not apply here. During bidding each team may call a one minute time out per age group
66. Any coach who tells a player or the parent of a player to deliberately do badly during tryouts will be removed from the league. The player will be placed in the player pool to be bid on again next year. If the player is a 12 yr old he will be placed on a different team by the LBA board. The team in violation of this rule will receive no compensation
67. A special runner may be used for any runner one time per batting position per game. The special runner must be a player not in the game
68. Extra Hitter: In the Pony League the use of an EH is permitted. The EH is in that position for the entire game and not in the field. A player cannot be the EH 2 games in a row or more than 3 times in a season. If a team has 11 players or less than they may not us an EH