



# *Plymouth Little League*

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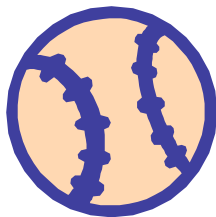
## PLYMOUTH LITTLE LEAGUE

### RULES

### POLICIES

### EVENTS SCHEDULE

### *THE 2003 SEASON*



Overview

This information packet was put together to answer the most commonly asked questions regarding the rules and policies which Plymouth Little League abides by. All managers, coaches, umpires, and members of the Executive Board are **volunteers**. These people help to make our program a success! The facilities which we use during the season (fields, snack bar, restrooms, bleachers) are owned and maintained by Plymouth Township. Our League assists the Township in caring for and maintaining these areas during the season. Fields that are located at the local schools (Plymouth Elementary; Colonial Middle, etc) are owned and maintained by the School District. If you have any questions regarding the information included in this packet, please call the League Hotline at 610-292-1992. Messages are picked up daily, so your call will be returned promptly. Thank you for participating in Plymouth Little League!

## **Rules**

While all of the rules pertaining to your player's division can be found in their respective Little League Rule Book (each manager will have a copy), the ones listed below are the most common:

**Minimum Playing Time Requirements** - all eligible players must play for six (6) consecutive outs and bat at least once in each game they attend.

**Pitching** - pitching rules regarding number of innings permitted to pitch, etc, differ by division. Please refer to your division's Little League Rule Book.

## **Game Time Limits**

Senior Hardball - no new inning should start after two (2) hours from starting time.

Major Softball, Minor Softball, Minor Hardball, Rookie Hardball, M-Ball, T-Ball - no new inning should start after one hour and forty-five minutes from starting time.

## **Other than M-Ball and T-Ball, exceptions to the limits above are:**

- the game is tied after an even number of innings are played; tie games are continued until there is a winner.
- the game is the last scheduled game on that field.

Major Hardball, Junior and Senior Softball - there are no time limits in these divisions; however, there is a ten (10) run rule in Junior and Senior Softball.

**Five Run Rule** - this applies in the Major Softball, Minor Softball, Minor Hardball, and Rookie Hardball Divisions. Each half inning shall end when either five (5) runs have scored or three (3) outs have been made, whichever occurs first. The sixth inning, as well as any extra innings have no limits on the number of runs that can score.

**General Rules** - for insurance purposes, no adult is permitted to act as a catcher to warm-up a player either during a game or practice. Umpires and members of the Executive Committee will strictly enforce this rule.

## **General Rules (cont'd)**

Only the manager, two (2) adult coaches, and the players on that team are permitted in the dugouts during a game. If you wish to discuss an issue with your child's manager, please do so after the team has left the dugout and IN AN ADULT MANNER.

## **Policies**

**Tryouts** - all participants between the ages of eight (8) and fifteen (15) for hardball, and sixteen (16) for softball must attend one of the tryouts that have been scheduled on March 18 and March 25. **The EXCEPTION to this rule is if a player played last year and is returning to a team in one of the major divisions or is returning to the Junior or Senior Softball program. In the Senior Hardball division, all players, either returning or new are required to attend a tryout, as all teams in this division will be redrafted.**

**Team Drafts & Balances** - all teams with players between the ages of eight (8) and sixteen (16) will be assembled by a draft based on past knowledge of the player and the players' tryout. For all other age groups, teams in their divisions are assembled by a balance.

**Inclement Weather** - teams scheduled to play **MUST** show up at the field regardless of the weather conditions, **UNLESS** either a league official has notified the team managers that the game has been canceled, **OR** a postponement message has been left on the League Hotline. Game cancellation messages will normally be placed on the hotline at least one (1) hour prior to game time.

**League Hotline** - Plymouth Little League has a hotline to keep everyone informed of league events, to announce game cancellations and to receive messages from anyone having a question or concern. **The Hotline number is 610-292-1992.** or the web is **www.PLYMOUTHLITTLELEAGUE.org** Please keep them handy!!

**Snack Bar Duty** - every team will be assigned snack bar duty at least three times during the season. At least two adults are necessary to properly run the snack bar. **Failure of a scheduled team to supply the necessary help will result in that team's game being forfeited.**

**Uniforms & Equipment** - the League will supply playing equipment, hats, shirts and socks to teams in all divisions. Pants are supplied to all divisions, other than M-Ball and T-Ball. We request that parents and players take care of the equipment and uniforms supplied as replacement costs for such items are high. Please return your uniforms to your team manager when the season is completed, preferably the day of your final game.

**Tournament Team Procedures** - the League fields several tournament teams which play other leagues in our district after the regular season has been completed. This year's tournament play begins on or about July 5<sup>th</sup>. The following are the teams, which PLL may send to tournament:

- Minor Hardball (9 - 10 year old)
- Major Hardball (11 - 12 year old)
- Junior Hardball (13 - 14 year old)
- Senior Hardball (14 - 15 year old)
- Minor Softball (9 - 10 year old)
- Major Softball (11 - 12 year old)
- Junior Softball (13 - 14 year old)
- Senior Softball (14 - 16 year old)

All active players of the divisions shown on the previous page are eligible to be selected onto the tournament teams provided they:

- have attended at least 50% of their team's scheduled games up to the time of voting, which is the first week of June.
- are of proper league age.
- will be available to participate in tournament practices and games (mid-June to mid-July).

Selection of the tournament teams will proceed as follows:

- All players and managers will be given an opportunity to vote for five players on their team who they feel are tournament team candidates during the first week of June.
- The League President will count ballots.
- The top twenty-four (24) players as voted by their peers will make up the pool of players eligible to be selected for that division's tournament team manager.
- The four- (4) players receiving the most votes are automatically placed on the team. In case of a tie, all such players will be placed on the team. The remainder of the team will be selected by the tournament team manager from the original pool of 24 players.
- **THE PARENTS OF THOSE PLAYERS SELECTED TO PLAY ON TOURNAMENT TEAMS WILL BE REQUIRED TO HELP WITH THE TASKS ASSOCIATED WITH HOSTING SUCH GAMES AT OUR FIELDS. THIS INCLUDES GAMES IN WHICH THEIR CHILD'S TEAM IS NOT PLAYING.**

### **M-Ball, Rookie Hardball & Minor Hardball and Softball All-Stars**

All-Star games will be held on Saturday, June 17<sup>th</sup> starting at 10 AM. (Rain date is Sunday, June 18<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon.)

Selection of the teams will be performed as follows:

- All managers in the division will vote for the thirty (30) participants.
- The managers and administrators of the division will balance teams.

To be eligible for all-star selection, the player must have attended at least 50% of their team's scheduled games up to the time of voting.

### **Awards**

The following awards will be distributed at the end of the 2002 season:

- All players league age 12 in both the hardball and softball division as well as 15 year old hardball players and 16 year old softball players will receive a sweatshirt with their name embroidered on the front. A letter will be sent to the eligible players during the summer informing them of how to order and pick up their award.
- Teams winning their division in the Rookie Hardball, Minor Softball, Minor Hardball, Major Softball, and Major Hardball divisions will receive trophies at Championship Awards Night,
- All Rookie Hardball, Minor Hardball, Minor Softball, M-Ball, and T-Ball players will receive plaques.

### **Fundraising**

The raffle tickets you received at registration have already been paid for; therefore, any money you receive from selling them is yours to keep. **ALL TICKET STUBS CAN BE TURNED IN AT THE SNACK BAR ANYTIME UP TO SATURDAY, MAY 10 AT 4PM. The drawing will be held later that same day. Your support of these fundraisers is appreciated.**

Little League has maintained the age groupings for the Junior and Senior Divisions of hardball and softball, which they established in 1999. While Plymouth LL softball will follow this age grouping, hardball will return for the 13-16 age groups. We will play interleague play with surrounding little Leagues. **This will require all teams to be redrafted; therefore ALL players must attend a tryout.** For softball, depending on registration numbers, we MAY have enough players to field 2 teams in the Junior Division (age 13-14). If not, we may have to hold tryouts for this division. In the Senior Division, unless we have a registration of 14-15 players in the age 14-16 grouping, we may not be able to field a team at all. But again, registration figures will determine what direction we will take. We will advise all registered players of their status by the end of February.

### **Divisions & Ages**

T-ball - 5 & 6 years old

Rookie Hardball – 7 & 8 years old

Minor Hardball - 9 & 10 years old

Major Hardball - 11 & 12 years old

Junior Hardball – 13 & 14 years old

Senior Hardball – 15 & 16 years old

Minor Softball – 7, 8 & 9 years old

Major Softball - 10, 11, & 12 yrs. old

Junior Softball - 13 & 14 years old

Senior Softball - 15 & 16 years old