

# **Pinecrest Little League**

## **2016 By-Laws and Local Ground Rules**

### **Scope and Application**

These By-Laws and Local Ground Rules are in effect for the Pinecrest Sports Complex and any satellite location utilized by Pinecrest Little League (PLL). In addition, these same rules of conduct are in effect in regards to Pinecrest representatives when playing at other sports parks.

These By-Laws and Local Ground Rules should be reviewed and updated in December of each year. A copy shall be posted on the PLL website and a paper copy available for request in the Concession Stand.

All local rules of Pinecrest Little League (PLL) are sanctioned under the PLL Constitution and By-Laws, Article X - Section 3, and by Little League Regulations 3.12. These rules have been developed to further the objectives of Little League Baseball® Incorporated and Pinecrest Little League. The adherence to these rules is the responsibility of all Board Members, Managers, Coaches, Umpires, Players, Parents and Spectators. All parents will be offered a copy of these rules, and it is their responsibility to read them. Non-compliance of these rules by anyone involved in the activities of PLL may result in disciplinary actions as outlined in these guidelines, and if necessary, be brought before the Board of Directors for consideration of the appropriate consequences.

### **1-0 PARK RULES**

1-1 The following actions may be the cause for ejection or suspension from the park, pending review by the Board of Directors:

- Use of alcoholic beverages and/or illegal substances
- Fighting, harassing or bullying of others
- Unsportsman like conduct, actions or comments directed toward players, coaches and umpires
- Defacing or destroying property or equipment. The individual must pay or repair the damage; if done by a player, then they will be suspended from all games until the parents or guardians arrange for reimbursement of all damages
- Any action jeopardizing the safety and well-being of PLL or any member.
- Use of profanity, threatening or abusive language.

1-2 The following actions are prohibited:

- Throwing or batting balls into fences or structures.
- Climbing of trees, fences or any structure.
- Use of skateboards, bikes, scooters, or skates.
- Playing wall ball.
- Parking in front of emergency/field gates/driveways (vehicle will be towed).

- Glass containers
- Tackle football on premises
- Pitching - unless in designated areas.

1-3 Pets with the exception of service animals are not allowed in the park per the Hillsborough County Parks, Recreation & Conservation Department.

1-4 Smoking is not allowed at the park per the Hillsborough County Parks, Recreation & Conservation Department. This includes E cigarettes.

1-5 No tobacco products allowed on the playing field, in the batting cages, or in/around the bleachers.

1-6 Vehicles must park in designated areas and not driven in the complex area, except for delivery/maintenance vehicles or dropping off of large items to the concession, board room, or sheds.

1-7 Batting Helmets are required when batting at any time, including in the batting cages.

1-8 All Bats used in games will meet the USA Bat regulation as stated by Little League International guidelines

1-9 Coaches that are pitching in batting cages shall utilize pitching screens at all times.

1-10 Adults acting as base coaches in the Major and above divisions are required to wear base coach helmets.

1-11 All parents, players, spectators and visitors are expected to demonstrate good sportsmanship at all times. The focus should be on player development and player/team support.

1-12 All spectators and fans must wear appropriate dress.

1-13 Players, parents, managers and coaches should immediately report any safety hazard to the PLL Park Administrators, PLL Safety Officer or any PLL Board member.

1-14 Children under age 13 are not allowed in the concession stand food preparation area for any reason.

1-15 Children are not allowed in the board room unless a Board Member is present, or accompanied by their parent(s).

1-16 Children under age 15 are not allowed to use the field scoring controller.

1-17 Pinecrest LL will have a returned check fee for any check returned for insufficient funds. The returned check fee will be based on current banking practices at the time of the returned check.

- 1-18 Registration fees will be refunded up until uniforms are ordered. After that time, the refund will have the cost of the uniform deducted from the total. All refund requests must be made in writing or via e-mail to the Treasurer. Refunds will be paid within 30 days after the start of the season.
- 1-19 Teams that win District Tournament of Champion or All Star Tournaments may have a sign made and placed on their field in recognition of their accomplishment. Signs will be the 4' round baseball and the Board of Directors must approve and authorize the purchase of these signs.
- 1-20 All banners, plaques, and trophies that are awarded to Pinecrest Little League teams as a Champion/Runner-up in the District Tournament of Champions or any level of All Star tournament, must be returned to Pinecrest Little League. These items are the property of the league and should be displayed in the board room. Any Manager who does not turn in these awards will not be allowed to Manage/Coach at Pinecrest LL until the awards are returned.
- 1-21 All volunteer who have access to the players, whether on the field or in the dugout, must have a background check performed by Pinecrest Little League. Volunteer forms must be completed at the start of each Spring season. New volunteers that wish to participate in Fall ball will need to submit a volunteer form during Fall ball registration and again in Spring ball registration. Volunteer/back ground checks must be renewed yearly (Spring season to Spring season).
- 1-22 Registration- Registration must be complete before a player is eligible to be drafted/practice. "Complete" is defined as having completed the registration packet accurately, provided three proofs of residency, and all fees paid.

## **2-0. BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- 2-1. Members of Pinecrest LL may attend Board Meetings. Members are encouraged to attend and develop an understanding of park and League functions.
- 2-2. Members or guests who wish to speak at a Board Meeting must contact the President or Secretary at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting and be placed on the agenda. Attendees may be asked to leave the meeting, at the discretion of the President, if discussion concerns other league members or disciplinary actions.
- 2-3. Any member of the Board who misses three regular Board of Director meetings during the year, without just or sufficient reason shall automatically be resigned as determined by the President and a vote by the Board.
- 2-4. The on-duty Park Administrators are the only board members that may handle issues that cannot be resolved between Managers during games.

### **3-0. PROCEDURE OF COMPLAINTS**

- 3-1. All complaints or charges of misconduct against coaches, managers, players, Umpires, or any other person, group or team shall be received in writing to both the President and the Secretary. All such complaints must be signed and dated to be considered an official complaint. The name of the complainant may be withheld from the charged parties at the discretion of the Board of Directors, if the possibility exists of retribution towards the complainant's child. The complaint must state the date and time of the occurrence(s), list all parties involved, and a brief description of what occurred.
- 3-2. The President or Secretary (in the absence of the President), shall call a meeting of the Disciplinary Committee, to be held no later than three days from the receipt of the complaint. The Disciplinary Committee may be comprised of the President, Vice President, the Secretary (to record the meeting), and the Player Agent.
- 3-3. For Member disciplinary procedures:
- All parties named in the complaint must be notified within 24 hours of receipt of the complaint and 24 hours prior to the Disciplinary Committee's meeting on the matter.
  - At the disciplinary meeting, the charges are re-stated for the record.
  - The accused has the opportunity to respond.
  - The Committee may decide to take no further action, draft a warning or letter of reprimand or revoke all or part of a person's Membership privileges for a specific period of time, but not longer than the remainder of the current fiscal year.
  - The Committee's decision is forwarded to the Board of Directors and must be approved by a 2/3 vote of the Board.
- 3-4. For Player disciplinary procedures:
- The Manager of the team of which the Player is a member and the Player's parents, must be notified within 24 hours of the act.
  - Said Manager along with the division Player Agent, shall appear in the capacity of advisors with the Player before the Disciplinary Committee.
  - At the disciplinary meeting, the charges are re-stated for the record.
  - The accused has the opportunity to respond.
  - The Committee may decide to take no further action, draft a warning or letter of reprimand or can suspend or revoke such player's right to participate in the rest of the season or participate in any post-season tournaments.
  - The Committee's decision is forwarded to the Board of Directors and must be approved by a 2/3 vote of the Board.

### **4-0. LEAGUE STRUCTURE**

- 4-1. The following are the PLL league divisions with age ranges:

**Minor Softball 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12**

**Major Softball 9, 10, 11, 12** (If a child is drafted up but either the player or parent wants the player to stay down, he/she will lose their all-star eligibility with Board approval.)

**Junior Softball 13, 14, 15, 16**

**Senior Softball 14, 15, 16**

**Tee Ball Baseball 4, 5, 6** (LA 6 and 7 with one spring ball season of Tee Ball may opt to try out for Minor B; notify your Player Agent of this decision.)

**Minor B Baseball 7, 8** (LA 7 can request to move down to Tee Ball with Board approval.)

**Minor A Baseball 9, 10, 11** (LA 9 can request to move down to Minor B with Board approval.)

**Major Baseball 10, 11, 12** (If a child is drafted up but either the player or parent wants the player to stay down, he/she will lose their all-star eligibility with Board approval.)

**Junior Baseball 12, 13, 14** (Parents can request their LA 12 to play in Juniors with Player Agent approval.)

**Senior Baseball 13, 14, 15, 16**

**5-0. MANAGERS AND COACHES**

5-1. Selection as a Manager and/or Coach will be determined by:

- Coaching and playing experience
- Passing the mandated Pinecrest Little League background check
- Must be County certified
- Availability of coaching positions
- Nomination by the President to the Board

5-2. Managers and Coaches, or their representative, are required to attend Board designated league work days, unless excused by the Board of Directors.

5-3. Managers are required to notify and request that parents be available for concession stand duty, team parent, and other needed auxiliary personnel.

5-4. Managers and Coaches are responsible for attending Umpire clinics, if scheduled.

5-5. Managers and coaches are responsible for reporting player injuries as soon as possible to the PLL President, Safety Officer or Player Agent.

5-6. Managers will be responsible to ensure a completed Injury report form is completed and returned to the PLL President, Safety Officer or Player Agent.

5-7. Board Members will be issued keys as they are made available from Hillsborough County parks and Recreation Department. These keys shall be returned upon request from the PLL President or in their absence the Secretary.

5-8. Managers and Coaches are required to maintain a level of conduct that is above reproach at PLL, whether on or off the field.

5-9. As required by the Hillsborough County Department of Parks, Recreation & Conservation (HCDPR&C), all Managers and Coaches must be CPR certified and must have all other HCDPR&C requirements. The Safety Officer will provide information on times and places for CPR courses. Managers and coaches must pay for the CPR course themselves.

- 5-10. Each Manager is responsible for their entire ball team while on the playing field and for the conduct of their team coaches, players and parents off the field. Each team will comply with all rules and conduct as set forth in the Little League Baseball Official Rule book and by the Local Board for each division.
- 5-11. Official Little League Baseball/Softball Rule books will be supplied to each Manager and each Coach. Managers and Coaches are expected to read these rule books and have a working knowledge of the rules of baseball/softball, and the 2016 Local Ground Rules.
- 5-12. Managers will have their team ready to take pre-game infield warm-up as soon as the preceding game is completed. General warm-up exercises should be done before the preceding game is over and outside the field playing area, but not in the area of spectators.
- 5-13. It is mandatory that Managers report any player that leaves the team or is any way removed from the team, to the Player Agent. Notification must be in writing or via email, dated and received within 48 hours of the Manager knowing of the player's intentions. **PENALTY:** Manager will receive suspension for two games.
- 5-14. Managers must notify their division Player Agent of any player absence for three consecutive practices and/or games. **PENALTY:** Manager will receive minimum of one game suspension.
- 5-15. Managers must notify the division Player Agent prior to the enforcement of any player discipline that includes not playing the mandatory six defensive outs and one at bat of any game. **PENALTY: First Offense-** a One game suspension and **Second and more Offenses -** Two game suspension.
- 5-16. Managers may appoint a non-rostered substitute coach (with proper background check completed) prior to the start of a game. No coach may be replaced or designated during a game. Notify the plate Umpire of any replacements.
- 5-17. Managers, coaches and players must remain on the playing field or in the dugout for the duration of the game. Individuals may only be excused with permission from an Umpire (LL Rules 3.17 and 4.19b). **PENALTY:** Expulsion from the game. (**EXCEPTION:** Tee Ball and Minor B)
- 5-18. Each manager will keep an official roster book which includes the team roster and Medical Releases for all players. This book must be with the Manager at all practices, and home/away games.
- 5-19. Any equipment deficiencies must be reported to the PLL Equipment Manager. All Managers are responsible for assigned equipment.
- 5-20. All PLL owned equipment will be returned to PLL upon demand or at the conclusion of each playing season.

5-21. Managers and coaches are responsible for locking field gates and returning any field equipment after use.

5-22. Managers and coaches are responsible for field and dugouts clean-up after use.

## **6-0. PLAYERS**

6-1. Every player is expected to attend each scheduled practice and game. Any player missing three consecutive practices and/or games will be considered ineligible for game play until the Player Agent makes a determination on the reason for the missed practices or games.

6-2. Players are encouraged to maintain educational grades above a C or 2.0 level. Players that need additional time for study or educational preparation may request shortened practices from their manager. Managers are encouraged to review Report cards/Progress Reports.

6-3. If a player is ejected from a game, he or she must leave that game and is suspended for his/her next game. The player must leave the immediate field area for the suspended game,

6-4. All male players in all divisions must wear an athletic support with hard cup during all practices and games. Male catchers and plate umpires must wear protective hard cup, mask, shin guard and chest protector (LL Rule 9.01a).

6-5. Players utilized as base coaches must wear a helmet.

6-6. Any player under doctor's care must have a doctor's release before they will be allowed to participate.

## **7-0. PARENT ROLES**

7-1. Parents and spectators will conduct themselves properly at all times. Any parent or spectator who fails to conduct himself in an exemplary manner will be referred to the PLL Park Administrator. This behavior includes foul language, berating any player, coach, or Umpire, or baiting any opposing player or Umpire. The PLL Park Administrator has the authority to order an individual removed from the park, with or without prior warning, and refer the matter to the PLL Disciplinary Committee. Proper example of good sportsmanship is expected of all parents at all times.

7-2. Parents and guardians are encouraged to support the players during practice sessions and games.

7-3. Parents and guardians should guide players as to their conduct during League events.

- 7-4. Parents and guardians are strongly encouraged to develop and support the player during the “Ride Home” after practices and games. Adults should look for positive moments that occurred during practices and games and share positive comments about the player’s attitude and commitment.
- 7-5. In the event a player has demonstrated poor sportsmanship or other misconduct the parents and manager are encouraged to discuss the issue with the player before leaving the field and establishing a course of corrective action for the player.
- 7-6. Parents and guardians are responsible for the behavior of their children at all times while attending functions at PLL.
- 7-7. Parents and children (other than players) are not allowed on the fields during games. Only authorized and approved coaches are allowed in the dugouts for Major, Junior and Senior divisions. Team Moms are allowed in the dugouts for Tee Ball and Minors, as long as a background check is performed.
- 7-8. We REQUEST all parents work their scheduled date/time per player child in the concession stand or field maintenance during the season. All concession workers must be 15 years of age or older.
- 7-9. Parents and spectators are required to clean-up the spectator area around the bleachers after each game.
- 7-10. Parents are not to bring food to or converse with players in the dugout, Managers, or coaches during a game. This will be strictly enforced during the 2016 Spring and Fall season.
- 7-11. Team Parent(s) are responsible to act as a liaison between the parents and Managers, oversee team's fundraising for the league, plan team's party, and any other functions to better facilitate relationships between the Manager, players, and parents.
- 7-12. Team Scorekeeper(s):
- Are to attend scorekeeping classes (if held) at the beginning of the season.
  - Minor A, MAJORS, JUNIORS & SENIORS:** Must keep accurate scorebooks, including pitching records, pitch count, substitutions, runs, outs, and players that are absent from the game, in two separate score books; #1) an official book and #2) a team book.
  - Home team will provide the official scorekeeper.
- 7-13. Auxiliary Committees- Parents may be asked by the Board of Directors to help with the planning of Opening Ceremonies, park operations, team pictures, fundraising, uniform distribution, and other need committees. Please volunteer any amount of time you have.
- 7-14. Each team is allowed to collect donations from parents to provide trophies or other tokens of achievement

## 8-0. FIELD AND GAME RULES

- 8-1. The Home team is responsible for preparing the field before the game: Rake (drag) the clay, mark batter's box and base lines with chalk (**NOTE:** Do not use chalk in the outfield grass.) Foul lines beyond the clay are to be painted.
- 8-2. Both teams are responsible for trash cleanup in their respective dugouts, on the field, and against fence lines before and after practice and games.
- 8-3. There will be no use of tobacco products by any team participant, including Managers and Coaches, while on the playing fields or dugouts during games, practices, or warm-ups.  
**PENALTY:**
- First Offense** - Ejection from game  
**Second Offense** - Suspension for the remainder of the season
- 8-4. NO FOOD (e.g., gum, sunflower seeds, concession food) IS ALLOWED IN DUGOUTS or on the playing field. Waters and sports drinks are permitted in plastic or paper containers only. **PENALTY:** Expulsion from game.
- 8-5. During pitcher's warm-up, the catcher must wear at minimum a protective cup and a catcher's helmet and mask.
- 8-6. One coach should be in the dugout at all times to watch over the players. If there is only a Manager and First Coach on a team, one parent may be assigned the third coach duties, as long as that parent has passed a background check.
- 8-7. The League will follow Little League International rules for Pitch Count and required rest.
- 8-8. If lightning appears in the distance, the Park Administrators on Duty will stop all Park activities. After 30 Minutes has passed with no local lightning strikes the Park Administrator will give the ALL CLEAR to continue games. If lightning is still present after 30 minutes, the game will be cancelled. **Under no condition are players allowed to roam the park during lightning storms.**
- 8-9. After heavy rain fall the Park Administrator will inspect fields for standing water and other unsafe conditions and will determine if play can continue.
- 8-10. Home team is responsible for providing an official Scorekeeper. Official scorebooks, and a team scorebook, are to be kept by each team. The official Scorekeeper will keep and monitor the total pitch count for each pitcher, including foul balls beyond strike 2. Scorebooks are to be kept with the manager/coach at all times.
- 8-11. Any games that need to be rescheduled must be done with the permission of the PLL President, or Player Agent. The Concession Stand Manager and Chief Umpire must also be informed of the game change.

- 8-12. All rostered players must be listed on the line-up card, even if absent or injured. For absent players, notate "ABS" next to their name; for injured players, notate "INJ" next to their name.
- 8-13. PLL allows the replacement of players in any division during the last two weeks of the season. Replacement players are not eligible for All Stars in the higher division.
- 8-14. The Pinecrest LL issue uniform is not to be deviated from. Any Manager who allows his players to play out of proper uniform will be subject to disciplinary action by the Board. Uniform consists of league issued shirt and hat or visor.
- 8-15. Pinecrest Little League will establish individual division Ground Rules. These division rules will not change or conflict with Little League Rules and Regulations and will be approved by the Board of Directors. These division rules are described in the following sections.

#### **9-0. TEE BALL BASEBALL DIVISION GROUND RULES**

- 9-1. Game time limit is 1 hour, 15 minutes.
- 9-2. There is no scorekeeping.
- 9-3. The entire roster will bat each inning, whether or not three outs have been established.
- 9-4. The original batting order is maintained throughout the game.
- 9-5. Players shall not sit on the bench for more than one inning in any game, unless the player is benched for disciplinary reasons.
- 9-6. The Manager will decide the player positions. It is highly encouraged that all players have the opportunity to play both infield and outfield. Judgment should be used when positioning players at 1st base and pitcher.
- 9-7. There are no strikeouts or walks.
- 9-8. The hitting tee will be positioned in the front of Home plate, so that the long edge of the tee-base abuts the long edge of Home plate.
- 9-9. The pitcher must be positioned in the center of the pitcher's mound before the ball is put into play.
- 9-10. **Coach Pitch Format:** After the first half of the season, Coach Pitch format begins where a coach will throw three pitches to the batter. If the batter fails to put the ball in play after three pitches, the tee will be used for the remainder of the at-bat. Balls and strikes will not be called during Coach Pitch.

- 9-11. When the ball is hit fair, runners may advance until the ball is returned to an infield player and held up. Once the ball is held up, the Umpire will call time and no more runners may advance. If the runner has not passed the midway point marked in between the bases when time is called, the runner must return to the previous base.
- 9-12. On offense, adult coaches may occupy both coaching boxes; however, a minimum of one coach/adult is required to be in the dugout at all times.
- 9-13. On defense, a maximum of two coaches may occupy the field in fair territory for instructional purposes.
- 9-14. All players may play on defense at the same time. Defense may have up to seven infielders, to include: one catcher, one pitcher, and four infielders inside the outfield grass. The remainder of the defensive players will be positioned around the outfield.
- 9-15. On overthrows, the base runner may advance at his/her risk, but will be awarded a maximum of one extra base.
- 9-16. Protests are not allowed; disagreements encountered during games should be discussed and the ruling of the Umpire will be final.
- 9-17. Throwing of bats or helmets are not allowed. **PENALTY:** Batter is out.
- 9-18. Bats are only allowed to be handled with a coaches' supervision and must be outside of the dugout. This does not prevent a player from carrying a bat into or out of a dugout.
- 9-19. Players with a bat in-hand must be wearing a helmet at all times. Bats in-hand are not allowed in the dugout and no on-deck batters are allowed.
- 9-20. Each team may have up to two coaches in the outfield while their team is playing defense. All other coaches must remain in the dugout. There must be an adult in the dugout at all times. Additional adults may be identified to assist in the dugout for organization and control.
- 9-21. Players may be excused from the dugout by the team Manager or a designated coach; otherwise players must remain on the playing field or in the dugout for the duration of the game.
- 9-22. This division will use a volunteer umpire provided by the home team.

## **10-0. MINOR B BASEBALL DIVISION GROUND RULES**

- 10-1. All Minor B teams will play by the Little League Rule book unless covered herein.

- 10-2. Each team is encouraged to designate two parents to attend the PLL Umpire Clinic.
- 10-3. The visiting team will provide a volunteer Plate Umpire. If the Visiting team does not have an available Umpire, the Home team has the option of providing one.
- 10-4. The Home team will provide a volunteer base Umpire, if available. If the Home team does not have an available Umpire, the Visiting team has the option of providing one.
- 10-5. The pitching machine will be set-up prior to the game, with the pitch speed set at 42 mph; and must be returned to the Equipment Room at the end of the game. On Saturdays, the last team scheduled that day shall return the machine to the Equipment Room.
- 10-6. There will be official scorekeeping.
- 10-7. All teams may play with four outfielders.
- 10-8. Teams will bat the entire roster
- 10-9. There are no walks, intentional or otherwise.
- 10-10. If a batter refuses to bat for any reason other than illness or injury, then it will be counted as an out when that batter is due at bat.
- 10-11. Teams will adhere to the 10-run rule after the 4th inning (3<sup>rd</sup> innings if home team is ahead).
- 10-12. Teams will adhere to a 5-run rule per inning. NOTE: A team may score more than 5 runs per inning if the play has not stopped when the 5th run is scored. After play has stopped and the 5 or more runs have been scored in an inning, then the inning is considered over. Example: If the 5th run is on 3rd base and 1st and 2nd base are occupied and the batter hits the ball, and then all runs are allowed until play is stopped.
- 10-13. Game time limit is 1.5 hours. Home team will be allowed to bat, if needed. If the game is tied at the end of time allotted, the game will end in a tie.
- 10-14. No player will sit on the bench more than two innings in a row.
- 10-15. No player can play the same position for more than two innings during a game. **Exception:** Catchers can play for three consecutive innings.
- 10-16. Adult coaches may occupy the coach's box at 1st and 3rd base, provided there is an adult in the dugout.
- 10-17. Players with a bat in-hand must be wearing a helmet at all times. Bats-in-hand are not allowed in the dugout.

- 11-0. On-deck batters are not allowed. Players are not allowed outside the dugout between innings to swing a bat, until it is their time at bat.
- 10-18. Bats are only allowed to be handled with a coaches' supervision and must be outside of the dugout. This does not prevent a player from carrying a bat into or out of a dugout.
- 10-19. Throwing of bats and helmets will not be tolerated. **PENALTY:** Warning or expulsion from the game (Umpire judgment). Managers may choose to expel his/her player before an Umpire ruling.
- 10-20. Each player will be given a maximum of six pitches from the pitching machine or three swinging strikes, whichever comes first. The batter is out after the 6th pitch, if the batter fails to place a ball into play or fails to hit a foul ball on the 6th or subsequent pitch.
- 10-21. When the ball is hit fair, runners may advance until the ball is returned to an infielder and held up. Once the ball is held up, the Umpire will call time and no more runners may advance. For the quality of the game and proper base running skills, coaches are asked to advance runners when appropriate and not take advantage of the opposing team.
- 10-22. Each team may have up to two coaches in the outfield while their team is playing defense. All other coaches must remain in the dugout. There must be an adult in the dugout at all times. Additional adults may be identified to assist in the dugout for organization and control.
- 10-23. Runners may advance one base on each over thrown ball
- 10-24. Players may be excused from the dugout only by the team Manager or a designated coach; otherwise players must remain on the playing field or in the dugout for the duration of the game.
- 10-25. Protests are not allowed; disagreements encountered during games should be discussed and the ruling of the Umpire will be final. If a decision cannot be reached, then the managers may consult the Park Administrator or Division Rep (if available or on-site).
- 10-26. Pitching Machine Circle:
- a. For player safety, all players must stay outside the 10-foot circle around the pitching machine. A batted ball that comes to rest inside the pitching machine circle shall be declared dead. Players cannot field a ball or retrieve a ball inside the circle.
  - b. If a defensive player enters the circle with both feet, the Umpire shall immediately declare "dead ball" and the batter is given first base. This does not include a player stepping on the circle or inside the circle to make a throw.
  - c. It is the Umpire's judgment whether the defensive player has momentum towards the pitching machine, or has intent to move towards the pitching machine.

- d. If a ball is declared dead, any base runners that are forced to advance may advance to the next base. If a base runner is not forced to the next base, that base runner shall remain on the original base.
- e. If a defensive player steps inside the pitching machine circle with one foot while attempting to throw the ball, the ball is considered "live."
- f. The pitcher must be positioned behind a line parallel to 1st and 3rd base prior to the ball being pitched. Only after a ball is released from the pitching machine may the pitcher advance towards the plate (i.e., crashing in for a bunt).
- g. A batted ball that goes under, over or around the pitching machine and leaves the mound is a "live" ball.
- h. A batted ball that hits the pitching machine will be declared a dead ball by the Umpire, and the runners will advance one base on a force play.

10-27. Bunting is permitted during the 2nd half of the season. The pitcher must remain behind a parallel line from 1st to 3rd base until the ball has left the pitching machine. **PENALTY:** A warning will be given to the Manager on the first violation. Second violation will result in the runner being awarded the base. These offenses apply to the entire game-not to the pitcher playing the position in a particular inning.

10-28. There is no infield fly rule calls in this division.

#### **11-1. MINOR A BASEBALL DIVISION GROUND RULES**

11-2. This division will play by the Little League Rule book unless covered herein.

11-3. Teams will adhere to the 10-run rule after the 4th inning (3.5 innings if home team is ahead).

11-4. Teams will adhere to a 5-run rule per inning. NOTE: A team may score more than 5 runs per inning if the play has not stopped when the fifth run is scored. After play has stopped and the 5 or more runs have been scored in an inning, then the half inning is considered over. Example: If the 5th run is on 3rd and 1st and 2nd base are occupied; the batter hits the ball and all runs are allowed until play is stopped.

- 11-5. Game time limit is one hour 45 minutes. Home team will be allowed to bat, if needed. If the game is tied at the end of time allotted, the game will end in a tie and each team will be awarded 1/2 game in the standings.
- 11-6. This division will have two volunteer umpires; one from each team.
- 11-7. All substitutions must be made by the third inning.
- 11-8. No player shall sit on the bench for more than two consecutive innings.
- 11-9. Coach pitching is not allowed.
- 11-10. If a pitcher hits three batters in one inning or five batters in a game, he/she must be removed from the mound.
- 11-11. On-deck batters are not allowed. Players are not allowed outside the dugout between innings to swing a bat, until it is their time at bat.
- 11-12. Bats are only allowed to be handled with a coaches' supervision and must be outside of the dugout. This does not prevent a player from carrying a bat into or out of a dugout.
- 11-13. Adult coaches may occupy the coach's box at 1st and 3rd base, provided there is an adult in the dugout.
- 11-14. Intentional walks are not allowed; four pitches must be thrown.
- 11-15. The 10-run rule is adopted for this division (II rule 4.10e). (3% innings if home team is ahead).
- 11-16. Protesting a game is permitted. If a decision cannot be reached, then the Managers may consult the PLL Park Administrators.

## **12-0. MAJOR BASEBALL DIVISION GROUND RULES**

- 12-1. This division will play by the Little League Rule book unless covered herein.
- 12-2. Game time limit is two hours; an extra 30 minutes will be allowed for tied games. If the game is tied at the end of time allotted, the game will end in a tie and each team will be awarded 1/2 game in the standings.
- 12-3. This division will have one paid plate umpire. An additional volunteer field umpire can be utilized at the paid plate umpire's discretion.

- 12-4. Adult coaches may occupy the coach's box at 1st and 3rd base, provided there is an adult in the dugout.
- 12-5. Intentional walks are not allowed; four pitches must be thrown.
- 12-6. The 10-run rule is adopted for this division (LL rule 4.10e). (3.5 innings if home team is ahead).
- 12-7. Managers must notify their division Player Agent if any player quits, or is any way removed from the team. Notification must be in writing or by e-mail, dated and received within 48 hours of the Manager knowing of the player's intentions.  
**PENALTY:** Suspension for two games.
- 12-8. Managers will have one week to decide on moving up a player from the Minor division as a player replacement. If there is a player on the "wait list," the Player Agent will assign that player to fill the position before a player is pulled-up from the Minor division. Only the Player Agent will maintain the wait list, and players will be placed on the team in accordance as to when the date the player registered.
- 12-9. If more than three Major teams, a single-elimination PLL tournament will be conducted. If less than three teams, team with the best record at the end of the season will be league champion. Final regular standings will be used for tournament seeding and regular season rules will be used for the tournament. If the league champion does not win the post season tournament, a single game playoff will be held between the tournament winner and the league champion to decide the FL District 13 TOC representative.
- 12-10. All scheduled games will count toward the regular season Win-Loss record.
- 12-11. Throwing of bats and helmets will not be tolerated. **PENALTY:** Warning or expulsion from the game (Umpire judgment). Managers may choose to expel his/her player before an Umpire ruling.
- 12-12. Bats are only allowed to be handled with a coaches' supervision and must be outside of the dugout. This does not prevent a player from carrying a bat into or out of a dugout.

### **13-0. 50/70/JUNIOR/ SENIOR BASEBALL DIVISION GROUND RULES**

- 13-1. These divisions will play by the Senior League Rule book unless covered herein.
- 13-2. Game time limit is 2.5 hours. An extra 30-minutes will be allowed for tied games. If the game is tied at the end of time allotted, the game will end in a tie and each team will be awarded 1/2 game in the standings.
- 13-3. The 10-run rule is adopted for this division (LL rule 4.10e).

- 13-4. Adult coaches may occupy the coach's box at 1st and 3rd base, provided there is an adult in the dugout.
- 13-5. **Pool Players:** If a division has two or more teams, the Player Agent may create a pool of players that are willing to participate in extra games. Only the Player Agent can create this pool and assign players from this pool to a team in the same division that may need a replacement player for a game.
- a. The team roster must be below nine players for a game and can be brought up to ten using pool players.
  - b. Pool players are not allowed to pitch.
  - c. Pool players must play a minimum of nine consecutive outs and one at bat.
  - d. Pool players can only play outfield positions.
- 13-6. If more than two 50/70, Junior and or Senior teams, a single-elimination PLL tournament will be conducted at the end of the season to decide the league champion. Final regular standings will be used for tournament seeding and regular season rules will be used for the tournament. If the league champion does not win the post season tournament, a single game playoff will be held between the tournament winner and the league champion to decide the FL District TOC representative.
- 13-7. Throwing of bats and helmets will not be tolerated. **PENALTY:** Warning or expulsion from the game (Umpire judgment). Managers may choose to expel his/her player before an Umpire ruling.
- 13-8. Bats are only allowed to be handled with a coaches' supervision and must be outside of the dugout. This does not prevent a player from carrying a bat into or out of a dugout.
- 13-9. This division will have two paid umpires.

#### **14-0. SOFTBALL GROUND RULES**

- 14-1. For softball divisions that interlock with other leagues, the Interlock Rules will be used.
- 14-2. [Currently, all softball divisions at PLL interlock with other leagues; therefore, the Softball Interlock Rules will be followed.]
- 14-3. Major softball will have one paid plate umpire. An additional volunteer field umpire can be utilized at the paid plate umpire's discretion.

## **15-0. EJECTIONS**

- 15-1. Any Manager, Coach, Player, Member or spectator who attempts to intimidate or threaten any individual will be ejected from the park by the Park Administrator.
- 15-2. Any individual ejected for a second time may result in suspension for the remainder of the season from the PLL sports complex after Board of Director review.
- 15-3. Any Manager/Coach/Player ejected from a game must leave the PLL sports complex immediately and will be suspended for their next game. Suspension includes not being at the PLL sports complex for the game suspended.

## **16-0. BASEBALL/ SOFTBALL ALL STAR SELECTION**

- 16-1. Selection to All Stars is based on eligibility, availability, and playing ability.
- 16-2. The All Star team selection process will be as follows:
  - a. The 11/12 and 10/11 All Star teams will be voted on by the managers and first coaches of each age group for the first 10 spots. The final two or three spots for the roster will be selected by the All Star Manager.
  - b. The 9/10 All Star team will be voted on by the Minor division managers and first coaches for the first 10 spots; the All Star Manager will select the final two or three roster spots.
  - c. The Juniors Baseball and Majors Softball All Star team will be voted on by the division managers and first coaches for the first 10 spots; the All Star Manager will select the final two or three roster spots.
- 16-3. The Player Agent will determine through a letter handed out to all parents, which players will be available for All Star selection. Any player who will miss more than two All Star practices or games will not be considered to participate in All Stars.
- 16-4. All Star players will be selected from a field of all eligible players in their respective tournament age group by a balloted vote from the Managers and First Coaches as described above. The players with the most total votes will comprise the All Star Team.
  - a. The Player Agent will notify each Manager/First Coach of the time and date of the Manager/First Coach All Star Vote Meeting, by phone or e-mail at least one week before the meeting date. Ballots listing all eligible players for that division, by team, will be passed out to the Managers/First Coaches. Voting will be done by secret ballot. It is the sole responsibility of the Manager to see that his/her team is appropriately represented at this meeting. Each Manager may verbally present who

they feel should be the All Star candidates from his team and why. The President and Vice President may also be present at this meeting.

- b. If the approved First Coach has vacated his position for any reason, then the second team Coach may attend in the First Coach's place to vote for All Stars.
  - c. If a Manager/First Coach cannot attend the All Star vote meeting, the Player Agent can fax or e-mail the ballot to the Manager/First Coach before the meeting. The Manager/First Coach must return his marked ballot by fax, e-mail, or handwritten in a sealed envelope to the Player Agent before the All Star vote meeting.
  - d. The Player Agent, with the assistance of the Vice President, will tally the ballots. The Player Agent, Vice President and President will be the only League representatives to know the results of the voting until the official announcement day of All Stars in June, as mandated by District 13.
  - e. In the event of a tie for the last spot on the All Star team: For the 9/10, 10/11, and 11/12 teams, the selected All Star Manager of that team will select the player. For the JUNIOR and SENIOR teams, all regular season Managers will vote to break the tie.
- 16-5. All players elected to All Stars must confirm with the Player Agent within 48 hours of the official announcement whether they intend to participate or not. Failure to notify the player Agent within 48 hours forfeits that player's place on the All Star team to the next player on the list with the most votes.
- 16-6. Any player that drops out of All Stars after confirming they will participate with the Player Agent must still pay for their portion of the uniform:
- If the uniform has already been ordered and cannot be cancelled; or
  - If that uniform cannot be worn by the alternate player selected for the All Star team.
- 16-7. The All Star Team Manager of each age division shall be the League Champion Manager, based on the regular season standings, upon board approval. If he/she chooses not to manage the All Star team, the position will be offered to the second place Manager. The Manager positions shall be assigned as follows:
- First Place Major Division - 11/12 All Star team
  - Second Place Major Division - 10/11 All Star team
  - First Place Minor A Division - 9/10 All Star team
- 16-8. The approved All Star Team Manager(s) will appoint his/her coaches, which are also contingent upon board approval.

16-9. The Player Agent announcement of the All Stars selectees will be made the morning of the day mandated by District 13 for such announcement.

16-10. A portion of the All Star uniform fee will be paid by PLL. There will be a charge of at least \$40 per All Star player paid when you submit your eligibility letter.

**17-0. VOLUNTEER UMPIRE PROGRAM**

17-1. The Volunteer Umpire Program will be made up of persons over the age of thirteen.

17-2. PLL may hold clinics, classes, and meetings to ensure the highest quality officiating possible. PLL will encourage all volunteer Umpires to become District 13- certified.

17-3. PLL will provide all protective equipment required by the Umpires to call a game.

17-4. The Chief Umpire will schedule Umpires (whether volunteer or paid) for all games.

17-5. The Chief Umpire must be notified by e-mail or phone of any trading for an already scheduled umpiring duty.

**Approvals**

These By-Laws and Local Ground Rules were reviewed and updated on December 28, 2015.

Approved by League President: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved by League Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Reviewed by Little League District Administrator: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Pinecrest Little League Board Approval

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Results of vote: For \_\_\_\_\_ Against \_\_\_\_\_

Final Result: Passed \_\_\_\_\_ Failed \_\_\_\_\_