

# **CONSTITUTION**

**{2025 EDITION}**

Article I      This organization shall be known as the Seneca County Little League (SCLL)

Article II     **OBJECTIVE:** The objective of the SCLL shall be to implant firmly in the boys and girls of the communities the idea of good sportsmanship, honesty, loyalty, courage, and reverence, so that they be finer, stronger, and happier boys and girls, and will grow up to be good, clean, healthy adults.

Article III    **GOVERNMENT:** The government of the SCLL shall be under the direct supervision of the President of the managing personnel, composed of all the coaches, supervisors, and other appointed by the President and ratified by the managing personnel. At the annual meeting, the managing personnel shall elect from its own membership, a President and Secretary/Treasurer. The officers shall hold offices for one year but may be re-elected or volunteer for continuance years. All matters concerning the policy of the SCLL shall be decided by vote from the majority of the members of this body.

Article IV    **MEETINGS:** A meeting of the managing personnel shall be conducted each calendar year on an agreed date for the reading of reports and election of officers. The Secretary/Treasurer will send the report to the managing personnel at the time of the agreed upon date. This report shall contain all financial obligations of the league and shall contain meeting dates for the sub-committees to organize reports for the managing personnel to consider at the agreed meeting date. Additional meetings may be called by the President or upon written request of at least three (3) members of the managing personnel. A majority of the members of the managing personnel shall constitute a quorum at any meeting and the majority vote of those present shall govern, except when otherwise provided.

Article V     The coach is responsible for managing personnel of the community he or she represents and is responsible for the conduct of his or her team on the field.

Article VI    **MEMBERSHIP:** Any boy or girl meeting the requirements as to age and residence as set forth in the rules, shall be eligible to active membership in the league. Any adult who has an active interest in SCLL may be invited by the managing personnel to become an associate or honorary member. The managing personnel shall have the authority to suspend any member or coach whose conduct is considered detrimental to the best interests of the league. The managing personnel shall also have the authority to suspend any community from participating in the league if that community shows lack of respect for the league and its members. The managing personnel shall also have the authority to suspend any player from the league if there is any evidence of misconduct by any member, boy or girl, members of the managing personnel, as selected by the President,

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shall notify the coach of the team of the member indicated, within 24 hours of the act committed. Within three (3) days of the act, the coach of the members indicated, along with the member in the capacity of an advisor, shall have a hearing before at least three (3) members of the managing personnel.

Article VII **AMENDMENTS:** This Constitution or any section thereof may be amended or repealed by a two-thirds vote of the managing personnel present at any stipulated meeting; provided that written notice of such proposed change(s), over the signature of the Secretary/Treasurer, shall be mailed to each member of the managing personnel at least five (5) days prior to the meeting at which proposed change(s) shall be submitted to vote.

Adopted April 1977

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***\*\*Current year revisions indicated in red. \*\****

Revised March 2025

## **GENERAL RULES**

1-A A child must reside in or attend school in the district he or she represents. A child who resides with a parent for the summer will be eligible to play in that district. All of Tiffin City Schools are the eligible area for Big Sticks Little League Baseball.

Requests for exemptions are to be submitted to the Rules Committee (Revised 1993). Any exempted player will not be allowed to pitch at any age/division level if playing down a league (Ex: at the age for "B" League but exempted to play down to "C" League). No additional exemptions will be allowed (Revised 2024).

Players on the borderline of communities must be turned in prior to the organization meeting to be voted on for eligibility no later than the next meeting when balls are picked up. Any submissions after this meeting are not eligible to play for that year (Added 1995). A copy of the registration card of the player(s) must be submitted to the Secretary prior to the last scheduled meeting prior to vote on player(s). Only a limit of two (2) players per team roster will be allowed (Added 1996).

***STARTING 2025: If a player from an outside community is exempted to play for a community in the league, that player has the right to pitch as long as they are playing in an age-appropriate division.***

1-a Any player(s) who at 5 years old are granted an exemption will not be voted on each year, **UNLESS:** they leave the league and come back **OR** change to play for another team in the league (Revised 2021).

1-B Each player must complete a registration form with their local community, which must be completed and signed by a parent/guardian, and returned to the coach of the team before the player will be eligible to compete in any league event.

1-C Any player on a community roster at the start of the season, can move up to a higher division and play a **MAXIMUM** of three (3) combined games for any

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team in their community before being permanently placed on a higher division team.

Example: A “C” League player can play in three (3) “B” League, three (3) “A” League, three (3) “Pony” League or a combination of one (1) “B” League and two (2) “A” League games per season.

These players can only move up to replace an injured/sick player **AND/OR** cover players that are on vacation and the team has less than **nine (9)** original rostered players. Any coach using a lower division player must notify both the League President and opposing coach before the start of the game in which a lower division player is used to play.

**1-D** No team can play with less than eight (8) players. An automatic out will apply for the ninth (9<sup>th</sup>) player whenever that player is scheduled to bat. If a team starts with eight (8) players, they may add an additional player if they arrive, however, if a team starts with eight (8) players, and a player becomes sick/injured and can no longer play, the game must be forfeited (Added 1990).

**1-E** During batting warmups while a team is at-bat, players are allowed to cross behind the catcher/umpire to warm up in the opposite batting circle. This applies to all divisions **EXCEPT** Pony Division (Added 2024).

**1-F** The coach has the option to bat their entire roster, and they may play any defensive position at anytime providing they remain in the same spot in the batting lineup. This is an option only! The coach is not required to bat their entire roster **BUT** must declare that prior to the start of the game. The coach may also have a standard nine (9) player lineup. If a coach has the entire roster lineup and a player(s) are injured or unable to play, no out will be issued for that position(s) in the lineup unless they have only eight (8) players remaining then the first player in the lineup that exited the game shall be recorded as that out **ONLY**.

**“A” & “B” LEAGUES ONLY:** Any coach batting only nine (9) players may use an extra hitter (EH) to have a batting order of ten (10).

**“PONY” LEAGUE ONLY:** A nine (9) player batting lineup is allowed to use a designated hitter (DH) for any player position, not just the pitcher. If the DH enters the field for the player that is DH’ing for, that player is ineligible for the remainder of the game. Roster batting is only allowed for regular season games and cannot be used during tournament play. If a team is roster batting, they must use all available uniformed players in the dugout. If a team is disciplining a player

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but forces them to sit in the dugout, then that player must not be in uniform of any kind for the game.

1-G All league games must be played by the first tournament game. All games not finished by this date will be counted as a loss for both teams. If, however, late season weather is the determining factor, the President can allow games to be played after this date. The President may also rule that if it is the fault of only one team, the game isn't played on time, the team at fault will be charged with a forfeit loss and a win would be awarded to the other team. The President may allow the Rules Committee to decide these matters.

1-g Make-up game time limits: Home team coach must contact the visiting team coach within 2 weeks of the original canceled game and the game must be made up within 3 weeks of the initial date (weather permitting) or either team will take the forfeit loss.

1-H Whenever schedule conflicts occur with other activities, the coaches of the team or teams involved shall rearrange their schedules for that game or games. However, the rearrangement must not conflict or cause undue hardship on any other team(s) and must be agreeable to both coaches. Vacations of players and/or coaches are not considered schedule conflicts.

1-I The umpires will be furnished by the home team with the home plate umpire acting as the official umpire for the game. Two (2) umpires are necessary. The visiting team will provide the first base umpire unless the home team already has provided the base umpire. If the home team can't supply the base umpire, they are to contact the visiting team to bring an umpire (Revised 2014).

1-J The home plate umpire shall notify the coach or representative(s) of the visiting team concerning the rules pertaining to the playing field.

1-K Umpires who start the game, must finish the game unless in case of an injury or called away due to an emergency. Substitute umpires must be agreed upon by both head coaches. (Added 1995).

1-L Each home team will provide **TWO (2)** game balls for each game. The home team is required to provide **THREE (3)** game balls for **PONY League**. All league balls will be bought by the league, which will be included in each team entry fee (Revised 1987).

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1-M All rules pertaining to the safety of the players must be honored, such as helmets, supporters, no jewelry, etc. Face shields will be allowable (not mandatory) as a legal part of the uniform (Revised 1992).

1-N All batters and base runners **WILL** wear a helmet! This includes the on-deck batter and any player in the coach's box.

1-O Any player who deliberately removes his batting helmet while running the bases shall be called out by the umpire after the play has been completed. If the out occurred before a run scored, that run would **NOT** count, if it was the third out. The umpire will be the judge in determining whether the helmet was removed deliberately.

**NOTE:** *A player who adjusts their helmet or who removes their helmet during a “dead ball” situation is not considered to be removing their helmet deliberately.* (Revised 1990).

1-P If a batter in the judgment of the umpire throws their bat while hitting, the umpire shall give both benches a warning. The next time any batter from either team throws a bat a dead ball will be called, and the batter shall be called out. There is no limit on batters that can be called out after bench warnings are issued in the game. Throwing of the bat constitutes towards the backstop, first or third base fences, or into the catcher, umpire, or mound areas. (Added 2010).

1-Q No courtesy runners are allowed unless for an injured player and the last player to make an out or a player that has not been in the lineup may be inserted. (Added 2010). However, a substitute runner will be allowed for the catcher that is catching the next inning and is on base with 2 outs in the inning. This substitution must occur right after the 2<sup>nd</sup> out occurs, a dead ball situation has occurred, and before the pitcher throws another pitch to a batter. The player replacing the catcher on base must be in the current batting order and must be in the batting order batting directly before the catcher (if catcher is 5<sup>th</sup> in lineup, he can only be replaced by 4<sup>th</sup> batter unless that batter is also on base then it would be the 3<sup>rd</sup> batter, etc.). This allows the let the catcher get equipment on in order to keep the game moving.

1-R Any team failing to be on the field and ready to play **THIRTY (30)** minutes after the designated scheduled time of the game, shall forfeit the game.

**NOTE:** *This rule does not apply if a game is scheduled on the field earlier and goes over the scheduled time of the games.*

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1-S All lineup cards for games must contain the following: Every player's **FIRST** name, **LAST** name and jersey **NUMBER** (Added 2024).

1-T In case of rain, darkness, or curfew in a regular season game, the team ahead after four **(4)** or more completed innings will be the winner. The decision of the umpire shall be final. If it does not go four (4) completed innings, the game will resume at the point where it was. Any tournament game that must be stopped for any reason, the game will resume at the point where it was stopped.

**NOTE:** *Run rules apply to tournament games* (Revised 2016).

1-U The infield fly rule will be called. (Added 1989).

1-V An intentional walk can be requested by a coach to the umpire where the batter will automatically be sent to first base. (Added 2010).

1-W A coach will be permitted no more than one **(1)** conference per **inning** while on offense to confer with his batters or runners. Any subsequent conference the umpire will deny and call to resume play immediately. (Revised 1991).

1-X If a coach(s) crosses the foul line into fair territory twice in the same inning to confer with the pitcher, then on the second **(2<sup>nd</sup>)** meeting, the pitcher must be replaced with a new pitcher. Any injury to the pitcher will **NOT** count as a defensive visit. (Added 2010).

1-Y When a relief pitcher is substituted in the middle of an inning, that inning shall constitute a full inning of pitching for either pitcher. If the beginning pitcher brought back in to pitch, in the same inning, no inning may count more than the one **(1)** inning. (Revised 1985).

1-Z Base runners are not allowed to steal any base unless a **definitive** move to do so has been made before the pitcher returns to the pitching rubber to make the next pitch.

1-AA Any player using excessive body contact (body blocks, plowing into, tripping, extra hard tags, etc.), will be ejected immediately from the game for unsportsmanlike conduct. If a player verbally attacks an umpire, coach, or another player, that player shall be given a **three (3)** game suspension from the league, starting with the next game. The opposing coach will notify the league President to report the incident. The league President will then notify the next three (3) coaches to be played by player to enforce the "unsportsmanlike" rule.

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**NOTE:** *A player who accidentally uses “slang” words will not be included to be verbally attacking, therefore, not unsportsmanlike conduct. A player who deliberately uses “slang” words will be affected by this rule.* (Revised 1990).

1-BB If a coach attacks an umpire physically (arguing is not sufficient), an immediate forfeit of the game will be called. The coach will be suspended from the league for an entire year. (Added 1987). If any coach is ejected from any game, an inquiry board of at least three (3) Rules Committee Members and the President of SCLL as the moderator, the coach involved, and or a representative from the team, witnesses to the incident, shall meet no more than a week after the ejection. The board shall hear **ALL** evidence and rules on the matter. If the coach is found to be ejected for just causes, he/she shall be suspended for the next three (3) scheduled games. If the coach is ejected anytime again in the same season, he/she shall be suspended for the remainder of the season after a hearing in front of the board is completed. If a violation occurs in the post-season, he/she shall be suspended for two (2) games the following season, depending on the Rules Committee board. This also carries a probationary period of not more than two (2) years for the community involved, as well as the possibility of no post-season games for that period. (Added 2006).

1-CC No “tobacco use” allowed on the field by players, coaches, umpires, etc. They must be removed from the playing area. If an adult must continue this habit, they must go to an area away from the field. (Added 1990).

1-DD Sliding is allowed at all bases. **Unless otherwise noted in specific division rules.** (Added 1995).

1-EE If it is necessary for a collection from any Seneca County baseball little league tournament for league expenses, the monies are to be turned over to the SCLL secretary.

1-FF The rules of the Seneca County baseball league will be official at all tournaments and all-star games.

1-GG In a league double elimination tournament, any team that forfeits its first game will be eliminated from the rest of the tournament. (Added 1983).

1-HH The tournament shall be set by seeding all teams by using their regular season standings with the following provisions:

1. 81% of regular season games must be completed a week prior to the tournament draw.

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2. The tournament draw date shall be given at the time the schedules are given out.
3. The first (1<sup>st</sup>) seed team will play the last seed team. The second (2<sup>nd</sup>) seed team will play next to the last seed team and so on.

**NOTE:** *Second (2<sup>nd</sup>) seed team will be the other division winner with the 2<sup>nd</sup> best record.*

At tournament draws for “A” & “B” league coaches shall have the choice by majority vote whether to have all of the seeds mixed according to records **OR** to have divisions only top part of the bracket division one (1) and bottom part of division two (2) play out the brackets to the end. (Added 2006).

If byes are required in tournament brackets, the team with the best record shall receive a bye and be placed at the top of the second round, upper bracket. If two byes are needed, the second-best team record will be placed at the top of the second-round lower bracket and all other byes shall be placed in the center of the bracket. The third best on the bottom center and the fourth best team on the center top bracket. This is for first round byes only. All other teams will be paired with the next best record, playing the next worse record. See appendix A for a sample bracket. (Revised 1996).

1-II A \$180 entry fee will be charged for each “C”, “B”, “A”, and “Pony” League teams (Revised 2023). A \$150 entry fee will be charged for each Coach Pitch team.

**NOTE:** *This fee helps to cover the following: all game balls for both the regular season and postseason games, all regular season and postseason awards, administration costs (i.e. paper, ink, etc.), and salary of positions listed in the later rule “1-YY”.*

1-JJ All league fees must be in the hands of the league secretary by the first regular season game.

1-KK All teams will submit a team roster with their entry fee. All games played before the entry fee and roster is turned in must be forfeited. If circumstances prevent a roster from being turned in, arrangements must be approved by the secretary.

1-LL The league secretary must be notified in advance of any changes in team rosters. The secretary will provide all team roster changes at the tournament draw.

1-MM Roster changes cannot take place after June 1<sup>st</sup> unless a player moves up from a lower division within the community organization. (Added 1983).

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1-NN No roster changes will be permitted after the first scheduled game of the tournament. (Added 1989).

1-OO Violation of any rules or any part of the Constitution By-Laws can result in a team being disqualified from the league and tournament play.

1-PP Any coach claiming such violation must register a protest with the official umpire of the game at the time of such violation.

The coach after filing a protest with the umpire, must within 24 hours, notify the President of the league by phone, then in writing, claiming such violation.

The same rule applies in filing a game protest.

The President, after receiving in writing the coach's claim of such violation, must call a meeting of the Rules Committee of the league within five (5) days. The Rules Committee then has the authority to decide if any violation has been committed. If a violation has been committed, the committee may require the game or games to be forfeited or to continue the game at the protested spot of the game.

1-QQ The **Rules Committee** will be a group of six (6) individuals selected by the coaches at the organization meeting and the President. The Rules Committee shall not have more than one member from one community. If a member of the Rules Committee can not finish a term, the President shall select someone to finish the term. A majority vote of at least five (5) members of the Rules Committee is how a protest is determined. If a member of the Rules Committee is involved in a situation that is protested, they must recuse themselves from voting on the matter.

1-RR Starting players only, may re-enter the game once and must return to the same batting position. ***Unless otherwise described under a specific league rule.***

1-SS No team player may occupy more than one (1) position in the batting order. (Added 1979).

1-TT The exception to **Rule 1-SS**, is when a player is injured. If all substitutes have played in the game, any previous player that was substituted for may replace the injured player on the field and in the batting order. (Revised 1993).

1-UU If a division ends in a tie, regardless of the number of teams, a tie breaker system will determine the division winner. If the same occurs for second place, the same tie breaker will be enforced in order as listed below for tournament seedings. (Revised 2006).

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For tournament seeding, the following format will be enforced in the following order:

1. Head-to-head record
2. Divisional record
3. Record versus other division.
4. Best away record
5. Best home record
6. Best away record versus other division
7. Best home record versus other division
8. Coin flip (this is to eliminate unnecessary playoff games). (Revised 1997).

1-VV	There are <b>NO</b> appeals. If a runner misses a base or leaves early on a sacrifice fly, the runner shall be declared out by the umpire. The umpire must see the runner miss the base or leave early. If the third out is the result of a batter/runner missing first base, no runs will score. (Added 1988).
1-WW	<b>IF/WHEN</b> a play is occurring at home plate, it is <b>MANDATORY</b> for the runner(s) to slide or be called “out”. (Added 2022).
1-XX	All players will have numbers displayed somewhere on their jerseys or uniforms. (Added 1983).
1-YY	The league will give a salary of \$150 to the Secretary/Treasurer and \$25 to the President. If one (1) person is doing the job of both positions, the total yearly salary will be \$175. (Revised 2004). The salary of the Vice-President will also be the same \$25 as the President. (Revised 2016).
1-ZZ	<b>ALL</b> winning coaches shall text or email the President (A, B, & C divisions) within 48 hours of completion of a game to give the results. A composite standing shall be kept for A, B, C, and Pony divisions the entire season. Standings shall be recorded on the league Facebook page and emailed weekly. (Revised 2018).
	<b><i>TeamLinkt will be the recording and reporting platform for game scores and standings starting in 2025.</i></b>
1-AAA	For tournament play, an umpire for home plate will be furnished by the home field for all preliminary games. The opposing team will furnish the field umpire. The league will supply both home plate and one (1) base umpire for the tournament finals. The league will pay up to \$65 per umpire in the finals and must be licensed umpires. Home plate umpires for preliminary tournament games will not be paid by the league. (Revised 2013). <b><i>STARTING 2027: League will provide umpires for the semi-finals games.</i></b>

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**PONY ONLY:** The league will furnish the umpires for behind the plate and in the field for all tournament semi-final and finals games.

1-BBB 15 minutes before every game, the coaches are to gather all bats and display them for the umpires and opposing coaches to inspect. If a player shows up late to a game, his or her bat must be inspected and approved by the home plate umpire before he or she can hit. If an illegal bat is found to be used in a game, the umpire shall take it out of play and a warning will be issued and reported to the league President, Secretary, or a member of the Rules Committee after the game. If the same team is caught using another bat or the same bat that is illegal, a dead ball foul will be called, and the batter will automatically be called out. If a team is caught using illegal bats in other games, it may constitute a forfeiture of the game **and/or** games where the illegal bat was used, after a hearing is held with the Rules Committee. (Added 2018).

1-CCC Birth certificates and/or grade cards may be requested by the league office.

1-DDD All umpires should be given new rules for the season before games begin.

1-EEE ***STARTING 2026: ALL teams must have a game changer account and be used for all games with the potential of recording pitch counts. (A, B, C, & PONY).***

1-FFF Any other rules not listed will follow [www.baseball-almanac.com/rulemenu.shtml](http://www.baseball-almanac.com/rulemenu.shtml) (Revised 2013).

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## **COACH PITCH RULES**

CP-1 Starting in the 2025 season, 2 5/8" big barrel bats will be allowed. They must be USA Baseball stamped and still be a single piece aluminum bat, **NO COMPOSITE!** (Revised 2024)

CP-2 The roster that is submitted at the start of the season must be played in the tournament. If they batted and played during the season, they do the same for the tournament, regardless of age.

CP-3 **NO** base stealing is allowed.

CP-4 **NO** sliding allowed. The first offense is a general warning. The second offense the player will be called out.

CP-5 **NO** leading off the bases. A runner cannot leave the base until the pitched ball has reached the batter. If the base runner starts early for the next base, an umpire will rule him/her out after one **(1)** warning has been issued.

CP-6 A base runner may advance only one **(1)** base at his/her own risk, on one **(1)** overthrown ball per batter/runner whether the ball goes in either fair or foul territory, after the ball is hit. **No advancement on any overthrown balls to first base.**

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CP-7 There are six **(6)** innings in a complete game. If for any reason, such as rain, a game must be called, at least four **(4)** full innings must have been played before the game is official.

CP-8 In the event of a tie score at the end of the sixth inning, the game will go into overtime and the team, which outscores the opponent at the end of any full inning, **with a 5 run limit**, is the winner, **ONLY FOR TOURNAMENT!**

CP-9 All players on any team must play at least two **(2)** innings per game on the field. The batting order is everyone on your roster, and each player in the game must be on the roster unless injured. Any player injured during the game, can return to play in that game after notifying the umpire and opposing coach.

CP-10 Ten **(10)** players make a full team. Because of absenteeism, a team can play with as few as seven **(7)** players. Outs will be placed in the lineup for missing players before the game starts. If a player arrives late, he/she will be placed in one of the previously placed outs, **ONLY FOR TOURNAMENT!**

CP-11 The pitching distance from home plate is **32** feet, and the pitching rubber should be located at that distance. There should also be a **10'-12'** circle around the rubber. The youth pitcher has to at least have one foot inside the circle until the ball is hit.

CP-12 The player age limit is seven **(7)** years old, and a player may turn eight **(8)** on or after May 1. The starting age for Coach Pitch is five **(5)** years of age. (Revised 2016).

CP-13 The underhand pitch delivery may be used, but there is no restriction on the speed of the delivery. Overhand pitching will be optional, by the adult pitcher.

CP-14 No more than five **(5)** runs per inning, except for the sixth **(6<sup>th</sup>)** inning, are allowed. The sixth **(6<sup>th</sup>)** inning will have a run limit of ten **(10)**, not unlimited runs.

CP-15 The infield fly rule does **NOT** apply.

CP-16 Any player throwing his/her bat will be called out, by the plate umpire, after one **(1)** warning.

CP-17 The team coaches shall flip a coin before the game and the winner gets his/her choice of home or visitor and choice of dugout. **This rule is in effect for all tournament play.**

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CP-18 Free substitution is allowed in the field. The team roster remains constant from beginning to end of the game for batting order. Each team will exchange rosters before the game starts.

CP-19 As long as an umpire witnesses a base runner not touching a base while advancing, a fielder may put his/her out by taking the ball and touching the missed base. This play must be made on an errant runner before the pitcher delivers the next pitch. A runner that discovers that he/she missed touching a base while advancing may return to that base via the baseline, no cutting across the infield, and tagging the base.

CP-20 A fair catch is defined as any ball, which is caught in the air before it touches the ground. The ball does not need to be caught directly in the player's glove to be considered fair. Control of the ball as applies to a forced out, etc., will be decided by the umpire.

CP-21 Bunting is not allowed.

CP-22 Bases shall be sixty (**60**) feet apart. Beginning in the 2024 season, **ALL** fields must have a safety base installed at 1<sup>st</sup> base for all games including tournament play. (Revised 2023).

CP-23 Stepping out of the batter's box on the plate is **NOT** an out.

CP-24 Coaches will schedule make-up games for their teams.

CP-25 Unless because of weather or inability to secure a field, a make-up game must be played prior to the date set for the tournament playoff, if possible. If coaches cannot establish a make-up game, the game will be forfeited by both teams.

CP-26 The actual pitcher will be a non-team member. He/she can coach while the ball is in play.

CP-27 If the ball touches the coach/pitcher in any way, the play is dead. The batter must return to the batter box with the same pitch count as before the ball was hit.

CP-28 Any appeals will be ran through the SCLL Rules Committee.

CP-29 Batters and runners may advance a maximum of two (**2**) bases per batter. Batters and runners may advance at their own risk until the ball is **SECURED** on the infield (**DIRT**). There will be lines marking half-way points between bases, and if a runner has not passed those lines before the ball is secured, he/she must return to the previous base. **Any player can secure the ball on the infield whether they play in the infield, or an outfielder runs with the ball into the infield.**

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CP-30 Coaches can be on the field to coach players but must **NOT** block anyone's view of the play.

CP-31 During regular season play only, all batters will bat in the sixth (**6<sup>th</sup>**) inning. If the defense makes three (**3**) outs, the inning will pause until the bases are cleared and then play will resume. Tournament is regular baseball inning in the sixth (**6<sup>th</sup>**). (Revised 2023).

CP-32 There will be seven (**7**) pitches allowed per player and on the seventh (**7<sup>th</sup>**) pitch, if the ball is foul, the player will get another pitch, or three (**3**) strikes, for which you would be out. No walks allowed.

CP-33 Tournament seeding is determined by a blind draw. Participation medals will be handed out to all teams, except for 1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> place teams will receive their respected place trophies.

CP-34 All game balls will be provided by the league and will contain a soft core.

CP-35 Ten (**10**) fielders are to play on defense, six (**6**) infielders and four (**4**) outfielders. All four (**4**) outfielders must play on the grass or behind a **20'** chalk line placed behind 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> bases on a large field and during tournament play. All infielders are to play in the infield or in front of the chalk line on larger fields.

CP-36 The child pitcher **MUST** stand on the same side as the batter (Added 2022).

CP-37 Any other rules not listed will follow [www.baseball-almanac.com/rulemenu.shtml](http://www.baseball-almanac.com/rulemenu.shtml) (Revised 2013).

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## **“C” LEAGUE RULES**

C-1

**The “C” League Age group is 8-9 years of age.**

Rosters should include players who are eight (8) – nine (9) years of age before April 30, but no older than ten (10) years of age by August 1<sup>st</sup>. However, if unusual circumstances prevent a ten (10) year old from playing “A” or “B” league, the player may play if granted an exemption.

Any player who is under the eight (8) year old deadline of April 30<sup>th</sup> of that year must have a parent or guardian sign a voucher stating that the player can play “C” league, if all league responsibility for injury is waived. **Two (2) vouchers must be signed by the parent or guardian**, one (1) copy goes to the coach and the other copy will be sent to the league Secretary for league records. (Added 1996).

**NOTE:** *It is the intent of the league to let all youngsters play.* (Revised 2016).

C-2

No ten (10) year old will be allowed to pitch. If a player turns ten (10) after April 30<sup>th</sup>, he/she will be allowed to pitch. (Revised 2016).

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C-3 The pitching distance will be forty-two **(42)** feet. (Revised 1994).

C-4 All games will be played on a diamond with **60** feet base paths.

C-5 Starting 2019 the barrel of 2 5/8 inch will only be legal if the bat has the “USA Baseball” stamp imprinted on the bat. **(NO STICKERS ALLOWED)**. After the 2019 season, only bats with the “USA Baseball” stamp will be allowed in the league, and all other bats will be illegal.

C-6 No pitcher can be called for a balk.

C-7 A coach will take it upon themselves to remove a pitcher if it becomes obvious the pitcher has no pitching control.

C-8 All players shall bat in turn. This includes players not playing defense. Coaches shall exchange batting lineups of all players before the game.

C-9 If a player is late for the game, the player will be placed at the bottom of the batting order, no matter where the team is in the batting order at the time of the game.

C-10 A team may have as many players on their roster as they wish, but no matter how many attend the games, they must all bat.

C-11 Free substitution is allowed. Any player can play any position in the game at any time. We encourage all coaches to play their players in defense in equal amounts. Once a player is taken out of the game on defense, the player may re-enter at any time.

C-12 Four **(4)** outfielders will be used. A maximum of ten **(10)** players can play on the field at one time. Coaches will only use six **(6)** infielders and four **(4)** outfielders.

C-13 If a team only has nine **(9)** players available, there is no automatic out for the tenth player. However, if a team has ten **(10)** players available, all then **(10)** must play. (Revised 1990).

C-14 There will be up to six **(6)** innings per game. A maximum of five **(5)** runs per inning is allowed. The last official inning {6<sup>th</sup> in non-time limit game and last declared inning in a time limit game, 4 minimum for an officially scored game} shall be an unlimited amount of runs for that inning. In the regular season only a **2** {TWO} hour time limit will be set for each game. No new inning may start after the 2-hour time limit, however, if an inning starts prior to the 2-hour time limit, it must be completed. In a regular season game if it is at a tie after the 2-hour time limit and the inning is completed, the game shall remain a tie. However, in a post-

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season game, a winner must be determined even if extra innings are needed, which are allowed. (Added 2021).

**The 2-hour time limit is not in effect during post-season games. (Revised 2008).**

C-15 No shorts are allowed. Sliding is permitted.

C-16 No infield fly rule will be enforced (Revised 1994).

C-17 Umpires for the “C” Division will be no younger than Junior High age both behind the plate and in the field with both umpires having baseball knowledge.

C-18 The home team will supply two **(2)** new balls for each home game. The baseballs should be Little League approved baseballs. The communities are obligated to purchase baseballs for all league games.

C-19 A base runner at 3<sup>rd</sup> base can only advance to home plate when the ball is put into play by the hitter or when a play is made at 3<sup>rd</sup> base. If the baseball is thrown to a player covering 3<sup>rd</sup> base, (ex: thrown by a pitcher on the mound area as a pick off or by the catcher in a pick off move or if the ball is overthrown to the pitcher and an infielder or outfielder retrieves the ball and throws it to 3<sup>rd</sup> in an attempt to get the runner out at 3<sup>rd</sup> base).

Stealing of 2<sup>nd</sup> base and 3<sup>rd</sup> base is allowed on a passed ball by the catcher, however, only one **(1)** base may be taken per passed ball (at runner’s risk) in all the above situations. If runners are at 1<sup>st</sup> base and 2<sup>nd</sup> base or at 1<sup>st</sup> base and or just 2<sup>nd</sup> base and the ball is put into play by the hitter and a throw is made at 3<sup>rd</sup> base in an attempt to get the runner out, if the ball gets away from the fielder at 3<sup>rd</sup> base, the runner from 3<sup>rd</sup> base may advance home as this is a continuous play. Also, once a base runner reaches a base after the steal, a dead ball play will be declared. Passed ball is defined as the following: *When a catcher leaves the catcher’s box area completely to retrieve a passed ball to the front, rear, or the sides of the catcher’s box, this would therefore be considered a passed ball.* (Revised 2009).

Base runners are allowed one **(1)** base per overthrow even at 1<sup>st</sup> base itself.

C-20 Regulation baseball will be played regarding balls and strikes. Four **(4)** balls are a walk, and three **(3)** strikes are an out.

C-21 At **NO** time will a player be allowed to participate in a game if a player is wearing athletic shoes that have steel cleats or spikes.

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C-22

No player may play in “C” league if he/she is playing in “A” or “B” league. Any player on a community roster at the start of the season can move up to a higher division and play a maximum of three (3) combined games for any team in their community before being permanently placed on a higher division team.

Example: A “C” League player can play three (3) “B” League or three (3) “A” League or a combination of one (1) “B” League and two (2) “A” League games per season. These players can only move up to replace an injured/sick player or cover players that are on vacation and the team has **less than 10 roster players**. Any coach using a lower division player must notify both the League President and opposing coach before the start of the game. “A” and “B” League teams may bring up “C” League players during the “C” League tournament only if **ALL** of the following expectations are met:

1. The “C” League team the player was involved with has been eliminated from the “C” League tournament,
2. The player is not on the “C” League All-Star team roster, **AND**
3. A limit of three (3) players per team can move up for the postseason roster.

Players may be brought up to conclusion of “A” and “B” League tournament.

C-23

The league will be divided into two (2) divisions with a maximum twelve (12) game schedule. The top two (2) teams in each division will earn trophies or plaques (maximum of fifteen (15)). (Revised 2009). ***If quadrant divisions used as below, the top team in each division will earn a trophy or plaque. (Revised 2025)***

The divisions will be as follows:

Division 1: Bascom-Burgoon-Fostoria-New Riegel-Scutch-Tiffin Catholic-Carey-\*Clyde was voted out of the league in 2012.

Division 2: Big Sticks-Green Springs-Melmore-Old Fort/Bettsville-Seneca East-Sycamore-Upper Sandusky-Buckeye Central (Added 2024).

**NOTE:** *In the event communities have two (2) more teams, which would leave an unbalanced number of teams per division, an adjustment may be necessary in the division.* (Revised 2004).

***STARTING 2025: Change to the divisions if there are (16) or more teams in the league would be as follows:***

***There will be 4 divisions: northwest, northeast, southeast, and southwest. The divisions will be divided by geographical location of where a community plays for the respective league. The divisions will be split equally with communities***

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*on a dividing line of Seneca County (east/west OR north/south) having the potential to be split up between divisions to make division numbers as close to equal as possible.*

*Big Sticks & Tiffin Catholic (as they are central to Seneca County) will be evenly divided to help facilitate an even number of teams across all divisions. This will be randomly drawn based on how many teams any specific division may need.*

*\*\*\* The All-Star teams in this event will be divided by splitting Seneca County as follows: Even number years would be north/south & Odd number years would be east/west. \*\*\**

C-24 The top three (3) teams in the tournament will receive trophies or plaques. (Revised 2016).

**NOTE:** All other rules pertaining to pitching, batting, etc. will follow the "A" and "B" League rules.

C-25 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> (If bracket contains 5 or more rounds) rounds of the tournament shall be hosted by the highest seeded teams. If they can't host the game, then the opponent shall have the option to host the game. The higher seed will be the home team for **ALL** tournament games. (2019). If neither community is able to host these games, then at the tournament draw they shall choose a site that is agreeable.

The semi-finals, finals, and All-Star games will be chosen at the organization meeting or the tournament draw. (Added 2009).

The #1 seed team of the tournament has the right to control the tournament bracket. If the #1 seed community doesn't have permanent lights at their ballpark, they have the right to decide a neutral site for the championship game night. (Revised 2024).

C-26 No pitcher can pitch more than three (3) innings in any one game, but he/she may be used in other positions.

**NOTE:** Innings are not necessary to be consecutive if a team plays two games in one (1) day. A pitcher may pitch three (3) innings per game.

C-27 Only one (1) vote per community will be allowed per issue. (Added 1997).

**STARTING 2025: Any pitcher that hits a total of three (3) batters per inning, will automatically be removed from pitching for the remainder of the inning. If**

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*a pitcher hits a total of five (5) batters in a game, they shall be removed from pitching for the remainder of the game.*

C-29

Any other rules not listed will follow [www.baseball-almanac.com/rulemenu.shtml](http://www.baseball-almanac.com/rulemenu.shtml) (Revised 2013).

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### **“B” LEAGUE RULES**

B-1 **The “B” League age group is 10-11 years of age.**

B-2 Any coach who is batting **ONLY** 9 players may use an EH to have a batting order of 10.

B-3 It is required by league officials that the umpires be at least high school students or older, and that all umpires have the basic knowledge of baseball rules.

B-4 At **NO** time will a player be allowed to participate in a game if a player is wearing athletic shoes that have steel cleats or spikes.

B-5 The official league approved baseball for “B” League will be Rawlings LL and Pony Rawlings. The league will purchase baseballs for all regular season and post season games. (Revised 2021).

B-6 Six **(6)** innings shall constitute a game unless during tournament play the game is tied, a winner shall be determined. (Revised 1989 & 2022).

B-7 The pitching distance will be forty-six **(46)** feet.

B-8 All games will be played on a diamond with **60** feet base paths.

B-9 No pitcher can pitch more than three **(3)** innings in any one game, but he/she may be used in other positions.

**NOTE:** *Innings are not necessary to be consecutive if a team plays two games in one (1) day, a pitcher may pitch three (3) in each game.*

B-10 Base runners may steal home at any time (i.e. passed ball, wild pitch, etc.).

B-11 If a base runner leads off before the ball crosses the plate, the umpire shall give a warning to the player and to the team. If it occurs a second time to the same team, the player shall be called “out” immediately. If the warning is called when the batter hits the ball, the umpire shall call a dead ball, and the pitch is replayed. If the second occurrence applies, the umpire shall also call a dead ball. (Added 1987).

B-12 Substitutes may re-enter the game once to the same batting position. (Revised 2014).

Substitution requirements for teams not roster batting: All players substituted into a game must play a total of six **(6)** consecutive outs on defense and must have at

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least one **(1)** at-bat before the player may be substituted back out of the game. (Added 2017).

EH is exempt from fielding portion of the substitution rule.

B-13 No 12-year-old as of April 30<sup>th</sup> will be allowed to pitch. (Revised 2005).

B-14 “B” League will be split into two **(2)** divisions, fifteen **(15)** trophies maximum, will be awarded for the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place teams in the division. Trophies will be awarded to 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place teams in the tournament. (Revised 2016).

B-15 Trophies, fifteen **(15)** maximum, and/or plaques will be awarded to the top three **(3)** teams in the tournament, providing there are at least eight **(8)** teams in the tournament. (Revised 2016).

B-16 Starting 2019 the barrel of 2 5/8 inch will only be legal if the bat has the “USA Baseball” stamp imprinted on the bat. **(NO STICKERS ALLOWED)**. After the 2019 season, only bats with the “USA Baseball” stamp will be allowed in the league, and all other bats will be illegal.

B-17 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> (If bracket contains 5 or more rounds) rounds of the tournament shall be hosted by the highest seeded teams. If they can’t host the game, then the opponent shall have the option to host the game. The higher seed will be the home team for **ALL** tournament games. (2019). If neither community is unable to host these games, then at the tournament draw they shall choose a site that is agreeable.

The semi-finals, finals, and All-Star games will be chosen at the organization meeting or the tournament draw. (Added 2009).

The #1 seed team of the tournament has the right to control the tournament bracket. If the #1 seed community doesn’t have permanent lights at their ballpark, they have the right to decide a neutral site for the championship game night. (Revised 2024).

B-18 No pitcher can be called for a balk.

B-19 The league will be divided into two **(2)** divisions according to size. Size shall be determined by the number of players from each team’s sign-up. The 1<sup>st</sup> division will consist of the sites with the greatest number of players participating with the 2<sup>nd</sup> division with the least. This will change from regional locations. A site may produce more than one **(1)** team. That site shall be placed in the other division provided they satisfy the above regulation. A site in the 2<sup>nd</sup> division may request to play in the 1<sup>st</sup> division, submitted to the SCLL prior to the deadline for rosters.

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Once schedules are out no player shall be added to a roster without permission from the Rules Committee (majority vote), submitted in writing. Violation of this could result in forfeiture of all games and elimination from the tournament. (Revised 2005).

***STARTING 2025: Change to the divisions if there are (16) or more teams in the league would be as follows:***

***There will be 4 divisions: northwest, northeast, southeast, and southwest. The divisions will be divided by geographical location of where a community plays for the respective league. The divisions will be split equally with communities on a dividing line of Seneca County (east/west OR north/south) having the potential to be split up between divisions to make division numbers as close to equal as possible.***

***Big Sticks & Tiffin Catholic (as they are central to Seneca County) will be evenly divided to help facilitate an even number of teams across all divisions. This will be randomly drawn based on how many teams any specific division may need.***

***\*\*\* The All-Star teams in this event will be divided by splitting Seneca County as follows: Even number years would be north/south & Odd number years would be east/west. \*\*\****

B-20 Any team ahead by twelve (12) runs after four (4) or five (5) completed innings will be declared the winner. (Revised 1983).

A maximum of seven (7) runs only are allowed per inning with the 6<sup>th</sup> inning being unlimited. (Revised 2021).

B-21 ***STARTING 2025: Any pitcher that hits a total of three (3) batters per inning, will automatically be removed from pitching for the remainder of the inning. If a pitcher hits a total of five (5) batters in a game, they shall be removed from pitching for the remainder of the game.***

B-22 Any other rules not listed will follow [www.baseball-almanac.com/rulemenu.shtml](http://www.baseball-almanac.com/rulemenu.shtml) (Revised 2013).

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## **“A” LEAGUE RULES**

A-1      **The “A” League age group is 11-12 years of age.** Any player to be eligible to participate must be age 12 on or before April 30<sup>th</sup>, however, any player who reaches age 13 on or before April 30<sup>th</sup> will not be allowed to pitch. A 13-year-old must be voted exempt. No 13-year-old exemptions will be accepted after the conclusion of the organization meeting vote for the remainder of the year. No one will be allowed to play Little League if they choose to play in Jr. Pony League.

A-2      Any coach batting **ONLY 9** players may use an EH to have a batting order of 10.

A-3      It is required by league officials that the umpires be at least high school students or older, and that all umpires have the basic knowledge of baseball rules.

A-4      At **NO** time will a player be allowed to participate in a game if a player is wearing athletic shoes that have steel cleats or spikes.

A-5      The official league approved baseball for “A” League will be Rawlings LL and Pony Rawlings. The league will purchase baseballs for all regular season and post season games. (Revised 2021).

A-6      Six **(6)** innings shall constitute a game unless during tournament play the game is tied, a winner shall be determined. (Revised 1989 & 2022).

A-7      The 3<sup>rd</sup> strike must be caught to constitute an out. If the catcher drops the ball, misses the ball, or the ball hits the dirt before the catcher catches it, the batter is not out unless tagged by the catcher or put out at 1<sup>st</sup> base. If 1<sup>st</sup> base is occupied with less than two **(2)** outs, the batter is automatically out.

**NOTE:** *The batter is not officially out until they reach the dugout area. If the batter realizes he/she may run, they must run in a straight line to the base they started.*

A-8      The pitching distance will be fifty **(50)** feet.

A-9      All games will be played on a diamond with **70** feet base paths.

A-10     A runner may steal a base on full release of the ball from the pitcher’s hand. If the base runner leaves the base before this, the umpire shall give a warning to the player and the team. If this happens a second time to the same team, the player

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shall be called out immediately. If the warning is called when the batter hits the ball, the umpire shall call a dead ball, and the pitch is replayed. On the second occurrence, the umpire shall also call a dead ball. (Added 2011).

A-11 No pitcher can pitch more than three **(3)** innings in any one game, but he/she may be used in other positions.

**NOTE:** *Innings are not necessary to be consecutive if a team plays two games in one **(1)** day, a pitcher may pitch three **(3)** in each game.*

A-12 Base runners may steal home at any time (i.e. passed ball, wild pitch, etc.).

A-13 Substitutes may re-enter the game once to the same batting position. (Revised 2014).

Substitution requirements for teams not roster batting: All players substituted into a game must play a total of six **(6)** consecutive outs on defense and must have at least one **(1)** at-bat before the player may be substituted back out of the game. (Added 2017).

EH is exempt from fielding portion of the substitution rule.

A-14 “A” League will be split into two **(2)** divisions, fifteen **(15)** trophies maximum, will be awarded for the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place teams in the division. Trophies will be awarded to 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place teams in the tournament. (Revised 2016).

A-15 Trophies, fifteen **(15)** maximum, and/or plaques will be awarded to the top three **(3)** teams in the tournament, providing there are at least eight **(8)** teams in the tournament. (Revised 2016).

A-16 Starting 2019 the barrel of 2 5/8 inch will only be legal if the bat has the “USA Baseball” stamp imprinted on the bat. **(NO STICKERS ALLOWED)**. After the 2019 season, only bats with the “USA Baseball” stamp will be allowed in the league, and all other bats will be illegal.

A-17 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> (If bracket contains 5 or more rounds) rounds of the tournament shall be hosted by the highest seeded teams. If they can't host the game, then the opponent shall have the option to host the game. The higher seed will be the home team for **ALL** tournament games. (2019). If neither community is unable to host these games, then at the tournament draw they shall choose a site that is agreeable.

The semi-finals, finals, and All-Star games will be chosen at the organization meeting or the tournament draw. (Added 2009).

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The #1 seed team of the tournament has the right to control the tournament bracket. If the #1 seed community doesn't have permanent lights at their ballpark, they have the right to decide a neutral site for the championship game night. (Revised 2024).

A-18 No pitcher can be called for a balk.

A-19 The league will be divided into two (2) divisions according to size. Size shall be determined by the number of players from each team's sign-up. The 1<sup>st</sup> division will exist of the sites with the greatest number of players participating with the 2<sup>nd</sup> division with the least. This will change from regional locations. A site may produce more than one (1) team. That site shall be placed in the other division provided they satisfy the above regulation. A site in the 2<sup>nd</sup> division may request to play in the 1<sup>st</sup> division, submitted to the SCLL prior to the deadline for rosters. Once schedules are out no player shall be added to a roster without permission from the Rules Committee (majority vote), submitted in writing. Violation of this could result in forfeiture of all games and elimination from the tournament. (Revised 2005).

***STARTING 2025: Change to the divisions if there are (16) or more teams in the league would be as follows:***

***There will be 4 divisions: northwest, northeast, southeast, and southwest. The divisions will be divided by geographical location of where a community plays for the respective league. The divisions will be split equally with communities on a dividing line of Seneca County (east/west OR north/south) having the potential to be split up between divisions to make division numbers as close to equal as possible.***

***Big Sticks & Tiffin Catholic (as they are central to Seneca County) will be evenly divided to help facilitate an even number of teams across all divisions. This will be randomly drawn based on how many teams any specific division may need.***

***\*\*\* The All-Star teams in this event will be divided by splitting Seneca County as follows: Even number years would be north/south & Odd number years would be east/west. \*\*\****

A-20 Any team ahead by twelve (12) runs after four (4) or five (5) completed innings will be declared the winner. (Revised 1983).

A-21 ***STARTING 2025: Any pitcher that hits a total of three (3) batters per inning, will automatically be removed from pitching for the remainder of the inning. If***

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*a pitcher hits a total of five (5) batters in a game, they shall be removed from pitching for the remainder of the game.*

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Any other rules not listed will follow [www.baseball-almanac.com/rulemenu.shtml](http://www.baseball-almanac.com/rulemenu.shtml)  
(Revised 2013)

## **PONY LEAGUES RULES**

P-1

**Pony League age restrictions are as follows:**

Pony players must not be older than 16 years of age before April 30<sup>th</sup> or be a high school freshman.

P-2

A 9 player batting lineup is allowed to use a DH for any player position, not just the pitcher. If a DH enters the field for the player, they are DH'ing for, that player is ineligible for the remainder of the game. Roster batting is only allowed for the regular season games and cannot be used during tournament play. If a team is roster batting, they must use all available uniformed players in the dugout. If a team is disciplining a player but forces them to sit in the dugout, then that player must not be in uniform of any kind for the game.

P-3

It is required by league officials that the home plate umpires be OHSAA certified, and the field umpires be at least high school students or older, and that all umpires have the basic knowledge of baseball rules.

**Exemption:** While high school baseball is still playing and certified umpires are hard to schedule, a varsity high school player is allowed behind home plate as long as both head coaches are in agreement to that arrangement before the start of the game. (Revised 2022).

P-4

Metal spikes are allowed to be worn at all ballparks. Spikes are however prohibited to be worn by pitchers who are pitching off of a portable mound. (Clinton/Big Sticks, Upper Sandusky, and Burgoon).

P-5

Seven (7) innings shall constitute a game or unless the game is tied, a winner shall be determined in both the regular season and tournament with extra innings.

P-6

The 3<sup>rd</sup> strike must be caught to constitute an out. If the catcher drops the ball, misses the ball, or the ball hits the dirt before the catcher catches it, the batter is not out unless tagged by the catcher or put out at 1<sup>st</sup> base. If 1<sup>st</sup> base is occupied with less than two (2) outs, the batter is automatically out.

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**NOTE:** *The batter is not officially out until they reach the dugout area. If the batter realizes he/she may run, they must run in a straight line to the base they started.*

P-7 The pitching distance will be fifty-four **(54)** feet.

P-8 All games will be played on a diamond with **80** feet base paths.

P-9 Pitchers are allowed to pitch seven **(7)** innings per week per a two **(2)** game week or ten **(10)** innings per week per three **(3)** game week (rolling week).

**EXAMPLE:** If pitchers pitch seven **(7)** innings on Monday, then those innings come off their count on the following Monday. If they pitch four **(4)** innings on Monday and then three **(3)** innings on Wednesday, then they are available to pitch only four **(4)** innings on the following Monday.

P-10 Base runners may steal home at any time (i.e. passed ball, wild pitch, etc.).

P-11 In the case of a tie after seven **(7)** innings of play, the game must be played until a winner is determined. The seven **(7)** inning rule is still in effect. Only the starting pitcher can come back and pitch in extra innings. If darkness halts the game, the game must be played in its entirety.

**NOTE:** *Tournament games will resume from the point from which the game was halted.*

P-12 Trophies, fifteen **(15)** maximum, and/or plaques will be awarded to the top two **(2)** teams in the tournament, providing there are at least eight **(8)** teams in the tournament.

P-13 All bats have to be either **-3BBCOR** or **-5** USA Baseball stamped bats used by high school players.

P-14 Any team ahead by fifteen **(15)** runs after four **(4)** runs or ten **(10)** runs after five **(5)** completed innings will be declared the winner.

P-15 **STARTING 2025: Adopted the OHSAA sub-varsity substitution rule: Re-entry may occur an unlimited number of times, given that such player(s) occupies the same batting position when they are in the lineup.**

***SCLL substitution policy will remain in effect. Once a player is subbed into a game, they must complete one (1) at-bat and also complete six (6) consecutive outs on defense.***

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P-16 Any other rules not listed will follow the National Federation of State School Associations rule for baseball.

## **COMMUNITY CONTACTS**

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**QUICK REFERENCE GUIDES**

LEAGUE	Umpires (Min. Age)	Game	Bats	# of fielders	Run Limit per inning	Mercy Rule	Pitchers	Stealing/Leading off	Stealing Home	Sliding	Sliding at home	Runners advance	Overthrow @ 1st Base	Dropped 3rd Strike	Infield Fly Rule
Reference															
<b>CP</b>	N/A	6 innings	Any 2 5/8 bat aluminum, No wood or composite bats	10 (6 infield 4 outfield)	5 runs per inning (6th inning limit: 10 runs)	None: Last inning: entire team bats. If the defense makes 3 outs, the inning will pause until bases are cleared.	N/A	No	No	Not allowed (1st offense; warning, 2nd: Out)	Sliding not allowed	Max: 2 bases per batter/runner, Ball must be secured in infield for play to stop runners NOT reaching the hash mark must return to prev. base.	No advancement	N/A	No
<b>C</b>	BOTH: JH age or older w/ baseball experience	6 innings; 4 innings minimum <b>OR</b> 2-hour limit	USA stamped: no larger than 2 5/8. Wooden bats are allowed.	10 (6 infield 4 outfield)	5 runs per inning max (last inning is unlimited) **	2 hour time limit: no new inning shall start after 2 hours.	3 inning limit per game (No balks).	Passed ball: catcher leaves the catchers box to get ball; one base only	No, only if play at 3rd is overthrown/ continuous play	Sliding is permitted (No shorts allowed)	If play at the plate: MUST slide or called out	Allowed ONE base per overthrow even at 1st base	Runner can advance only one base	Batter out	No
<b>B</b>	PLATE: HS age baseball experience FIELD: JH age baseball experience	6 innings; 4 innings minimum	USA stamped: no larger than 2 5/8. Wooden bats are allowed.	9	7 runs per inning (6th inning unlimited)	Ahead by 12 after (4) or (5) completed innings	3 inning limit per game (No balks).	Once ball crosses plate	Allowed	Allowed	If play at the plate: MUST slide or called out	Allowed	Runner can advance	Batter out	Yes
<b>A</b>	BOTH: HS age baseball experience	6 innings; 4 innings minimum	USA stamped: no larger than 2 5/8. Wooden bats are allowed.	9	None	Ahead by 12 after (4) or (5) completed innings	3 inning limit per game (No balks).	On full release of the ball from pitcher's hand.	Allowed	Allowed	If play at the plate: MUST slide or called out	Allowed	Runner can advance	Batter can run**	Yes
<b>PONY</b>	PLATE: Certified** FIELD: HS age baseball experience	7 innings	-3 BBCOR or -5 USA baseball stamped.	9	None	Ahead by 15 after (4) or 10 after (5)	7 innings per week per 2 game/week OR 10 innings per week/ per 3 game week** Balks WILL be called	Lead offs allowed/stealing allowed	Allowed	Allowed	If play at the plate: MUST slide or called out	Allowed	Runner can advance	Batter can run**	Yes
NOTES:					**2-hour limit C-level									**If 1st base occupied w/ less than 2 outs= batter out	

**For All Levels:** Line-up cards with first name, last name, & jersey # required to be exchanged with both coaches prior to a game.

Refer to the League Constitution for exact rules/clarification. Call Jim Barth or Andrew Shellhouse at the time of the questionable play to resolve.

Players are allowed to cross behind home plate to use warm-up circles to not be located in front of the batter (SAFETY).

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**BOYS FIELD MEASUREMENTS 2025**

**COACH PITCH**

<b><u>Base:</u></b>	60'
	Need halfway chalk mark between all bases (except home to first)
<b><u>Pitching Rubber:</u></b>	32'
	rules state 10'-12' circle around pitching rubber 11' is ideal

**C (8-9)**

<b><u>Base:</u></b>	60'
<b><u>Pitching Rubber:</u></b>	42' Add catcher's box behind home plate

**B (10-11)**

<b><u>Base:</u></b>	60'
<b><u>Pitching Rubber:</u></b>	46'

**A (11-12)**

<b><u>Base:</u></b>	70'
<b><u>Pitching Rubber:</u></b>	50'

**Pony**

<b><u>Base:</u></b>	80'
<b><u>Pitching Rubber:</u></b>	54'

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## **SCLL POSITIONS**

**Commissioner (President):** Jim Barth [jbarth.scll@gmail.com](mailto:jbarth.scll@gmail.com)

**Co-Commissioner:** Andrew Shellhouse [ashellhouse.scll@gmail.com](mailto:ashellhouse.scll@gmail.com)

**Technology Manager:** Keven Rinaman [kevenrinaman@gmail.com](mailto:kevenrinaman@gmail.com)

### **Rules Committee Members:**

• Dave Auble	Clinton/Big Sticks	<a href="mailto:auble21@yahoo.com">auble21@yahoo.com</a>
• Dean Bogner	Melmore	<a href="mailto:bognerdean@yahoo.com">bognerdean@yahoo.com</a>
• Matt Flewelling	Green Springs	<a href="mailto:mflewelling@clyde.k12">mflewelling@clyde.k12</a>
• Justin Wyman	Bascom	<a href="mailto:justin.wyman@bright.net">justin.wyman@bright.net</a>
• Jon Otterbacher	Tiffin Catholic	<a href="mailto:jonathonotterbacher@gmail.com">jonathonotterbacher@gmail.com</a>
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## **CODE OF CONDUCT**

### **Seneca County Little League Code of Conduct**

Seneca County Little League (SCLL) is first and foremost a developmental baseball league. Our Mission is to provide a safe and supportive environment for baseball players to develop their skills and have fun learning the game. Our vision starts with parents and adults being great role models, and examples of safe, appropriate and acceptable behavior. By signing this document, you agree to all the following:

- Players, coaches, umpires, committee members and other parents will be treated in a respectable manner.
- I will encourage my athletes to play hard and compete fairly.
- I will encourage my child to play by the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to using hostility or violence.
- I will encourage my child to be a part of their team.
- I will support the coaches and umpire's decisions, and I will not openly question or confront them before, during, or after practices or games.
- I will not post negative comments on social media about coaches, players, umpires or committee members.
- I will help my athlete understand that not every game will result in a win and that it's important to remain positive.
- I understand the use of foul language toward anyone, including coaches, players, umpires, committee members, or other spectators, will not be tolerated.

Should any of the above behavior occur, area Presidents and coaches may submit a dispute or concern to the league president/commissioner. These must be submitted within 24 hours and the league president/commissioner will review each concern promptly. If a dispute or concern is filed that pertains to a specific person, the league president/commissioner will ask area Presidents to resolve the dispute amongst themselves. If a second dispute or concern is filed pertaining to the same specific person, the league president/commissioner will get involved to settle the dispute. This will include gathering witness statements, video surveillance, etc.

Depending on the severity of behavior, it is possible that you will be suspended or ejected from a game. Community Leaders and umpires have the right to make this decision, and the league president/commissioner will review the incident to determine if further action is needed. Suspension penalties will be as follows:

- 1st season suspension/ejection = Must leave the game and banned from attending the next game
- 2nd season suspension/ejection = Must leave the game and banned from attending the next 3 games
- 3rd season suspension/ejection = Must leave the game and banned for attending any games for the remainder of season, including post season and all star

The league president/commissioner will decide the proper punishment promptly. Your area President will notify you of the league president/commissioner's decision regarding consequences, prior to your athlete's next game.