



Local Rules (All Divisions)

Woodland Hills Sunrise Little League is bound by the Little League Baseball Rulebook (the “Rulebook”). Please read and be familiar with the current edition (2021) of the Rulebook, **which can be downloaded and accessed on any smart device**. Local rules exist only to clarify issues pertaining to our league; questions and requests for interpretation of the rules should be forwarded to the league president for discussion with the Board of Directors, as appropriate.

Section 1. SAFETY

- **All Covid-19 Protocols as set forth on the Sunrise website must be followed, including mask wearing and social distancing in all areas, including the dugout.**
- Managers, coaches and umpires are responsible for enforcing all safety rules.
- All players must be legally and properly equipped according to Little League Rules.
- Batting helmets worn by players must meet NOCSAE specifications. Any use of “C-Flaps” must be used in accordance with the specifications of the helmet manufacturer. The “cage” and plastic bar types of face protection are legal if no alterations (drilling holes) were made to the helmet for installation.
- All players must wear an approved batting helmet when taking any type of batting practice or coaching the bases. This includes cage, soft-toss or tee work.
- Player batting (even with wiffle balls) is prohibited on the field before the game.
- Pitching is prohibited on the field prior to the first inning warm up.
- Players are not allowed to throw live (batter swinging) batting practice in the batting cages.
- An L-Screen must be in place and utilized during batting practice in all Sunrise cages.
- All catchers must wear a catcher’s mitt and an approved face mask with a dangling throat guard while taking infield/outfield practice, warming up a pitcher and during games.
- Bats are not to be in players hands prior to their turn at bat. Only one player at a time is allowed outside the dugout with a bat.
- Players are encouraged to slide feet first in all instances where contact may occur. However, there is no “must slide” rule (see Rulebook section 7.08).
- No pets, other than service animals, are allowed at Sunrise.
- Adults are prohibited from being alone with a player who is not their own child.

Section 2. DUGOUT

- The dugout (the fenced-in portion of the team’s seating area) is for players and coaches only.
- One manager or coach must be in the dugout at all times when players are present.
- All managers and coaches must be in their team’s dugout when their team is playing defense.
- No siblings or non-coaching parents are allowed in the dugout during the game.
- Players must be in their dugout when sitting out a defensive half-inning or awaiting their turn at bat.



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- Players must wear a helmet while in the uncovered area in the dugout.
- No food or chewing gum is allowed in the dugout or on the field of play.
- Water, sport drinks and required medicine is permitted in the dugout.
- Players should inform the manager or a coach if there is a need to leave the dugout.

Section 3. FIELD DECORUM

- The actions of players, managers, coaches, umpires and league officials must conform to the Little League Sport Parent Code of Conduct.
- **Per the Rulebook, no manager, coach or any other adult volunteer is permitted to be on the field or in a cage for the purpose of warming up a pitcher. A manager, coach or any other adult volunteer may, however, stand by to observe a pitcher during warm-up in a cage. There are no exceptions to this rule.**
- No walk-up or warm-up music is allowed during games. Teams may play appropriate music while taking batting practice in a cage, as long as the music is not deemed by the umpires to be a distraction to any game in progress.
- Use of electronic devices is prohibited on the field, except for scorekeeping and tracking pitch counts.
- Only the Manager may speak with the umpires. Managers may not argue with an umpire, but may request “time” to discuss a call or rule interpretation.
- At the conclusion of the game, teams must immediately gather their equipment and vacate their dugouts for the next game.
- **Teams are responsible for cleaning their respective dugout and bleacher areas.**
- After each game or practice, the home team or practicing team is responsible for field maintenance, which includes dragging and watering the infield.
- After the last game or practice of the day, the home team or the practicing team shall remove the bases, and cover the mound and the plate with the appropriate tarps.
- Teams choosing to hold a post-game meeting must do so off the field so the next teams may prepare for their game.
- Managers, coaches and players ejected from a game shall leave the field immediately and take no further part in that game. They may not sit in the stands and may not be recalled (see Rulebook section 4.07).
- Following an ejection; players, managers and coaches are ineligible to participate in their next regularly scheduled game and must attend a meeting with league representatives prior to returning to their teams.
- An ejection may be considered a violation of the **Sunrise Manager Code of Ethics** or the **Sunrise Player Code of Conduct**.



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Section 4. BALL RULINGS

- On all fields, if a batted ball hits the yellow outfield fence cap in fair territory and bounces back into the playing field, it is not a home run; it is a live ball and runners advance at their own risk.
- On all fields, a batted ball which hits a tree on the fly down the foul line is a foul ball.
- The ball is deemed to have entered the dugout if it lands on the roof of the dugout or if it hits the wire fence above the dugout.

Section 5. SCOREKEEPING

- Each **Rookie Ball, Minors and Major** team must provide a scorekeeper and keep their own scorebook.
- On Fields 1 and 2, scorekeepers are strongly encouraged to keep score in the scorer's booth.
- On Field 3, scorekeepers are strongly encouraged to sit as close to home plate as possible.
- The home team provides the official scorekeeper and pitch counter of the game and maintains the official score and pitch count for both teams.
- The scorekeeper and the pitch counter shall speak with no one on the field other than the umpires; the scorekeeper and the pitch counter shall not communicate directly with the managers or coaches. Once the first pitch of a half inning has been delivered, the pitch count for the previously completed half inning stands as reported by the official pitch counter.
- Scorebooks are the property of the league and may be reviewed by the head scorekeeper, umpire-in-chief and appropriate player agent.
- Scorebooks are optional and not required for the Tee Ball and Coach Pitch divisions.
- Scorebooks should be kept in the storage room behind home plate on the appropriate field.
- The scorekeeper must ensure that the pitch counter has properly completed both the Pitching Log and Pitcher Eligibility Form after each game.
- The Pitching Log and Pitcher Eligibility Form shall remain with the appropriate scorebooks at Sunrise at all times.

Section 6. CONDITIONS OF PLAY

- All games should begin at their scheduled time or upon completion of field maintenance, whichever is later.
- If 25 minutes are available before the scheduled start of the game, each team will be allowed a 10-minute warm-up on the entire field. The Home team shall have the first ten minutes and the Visiting team shall have the next ten minutes. If 25 minutes are not available prior to the start of the game, the teams shall split the remaining time, while reserving five minutes for the pre-game plate meeting.
- Managers are not required to start a defensive player who is not present 15 minutes prior to a game's scheduled start time.
- Players arriving after the plate meeting must be inserted at the bottom of the batting order.



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- When a player needs to leave the game due to injury, ejection or any other reason, their spot in the batting order is vacated and the order shall continue as if the player had never been in the game.
- Any player removed from a game due to injury may re-enter the game at any time. **However**, an injured pitcher may not return as a pitcher.
- The home plate umpire has the sole responsibility for maintaining the proper pace of the game, while prohibiting unnecessary delays.
- The sunset time as set forth on the game schedule shall determine the time a game must end (“drop dead” time), unless the game is terminated by the umpiring crew. All managers and umpires should note the sunset time prior to each game. If a game is called due to darkness, the final score will revert to the score at the end of the last completed inning.
- Manipulating play with regards to the “drop dead” time is not in the spirit of Sunrise Baseball and offending managers will be subject to discipline by the Sunrise Board of Directors.
- Regularly scheduled games may be cancelled due to unplayable conditions only by the league president, umpire-in-chief or their appointed representative.
- The league will make every effort to reschedule canceled games. However, due to limited field availability, rescheduling of games may not be possible.
- Final approval of all rescheduling is the responsibility of the league president.

Section 7. UMPIRES

- If an umpire is not present five minutes prior to the start time, the managers must agree upon a substitute umpire.
- A game will not be extended to compensate for allotted game time used to find a substitute umpire.
- A game canceled because no volunteer umpire was available will not be rescheduled.
- The umpire-in-chief retains the responsibility for all umpire assignments.

Section 8. BATTING CAGES

- Teams playing on Field 1 use Cage 1 on game days.
- Teams playing on Field 2 use Cage 2 (Visitors) and Cage 4 (Home)
- Teams playing on Field 3 use Cage 3 (Visitors) and Cage 5 (Home)
- Teams participating in games have priority in the use of the designated cages.
- No food, chewing gum or seeds are allowed in the batting cages.
- Players are not allowed to throw live (batter swinging) batting practice in the batting cages.
- An L-Screen must be in place and utilized during batting practice in all Sunrise cages.
- All catchers must wear a catcher’s mitt and an approved face mask with a dangling throat guard while warming up a pitcher.

Unless otherwise specified in these local Rules, all rules found in the Rulebook apply.