**AMERICAN League Rules (Ages 7,8,&9)**

**A. Game Times**

1. All games will be limited to a maximum of 75 minutes.

2. If an inning is in process when time expires the inning will be completed if necessary.

3. The inning will be considered once the home team goes ahead or three outs are made.

4. Drop dead 1 hour & 25 minutes. If an inning is in process at the drop dead time, the final score shall revert to the score at the end of the previously completed inning. Unless the home team ties or has taken the lead.

**B. Legal Game**

1. If a game being played is stopped due to weather, the game will be considered a legal game if 2 complete innings have been played.

**C. Participation**

1. The opposing coach and official scorekeeper must be notified of late arrivals/early departures of players.

2. A team must have at least 8 players to begin or resume any game.

3. During a game no player shall sit for more than 1 inning at a time.

Example: Player(s) that sit the bench (defensively) in the first inning must take playing field the second inning. Player(s) that sit the second inning go back out the third inning and so forth.

4**. Bat your entire roster**. This must be followed unless you are disciplining a player. If you are disciplining a player, you must inform an SGLL Board member and the official scorekeeper before the game.

**D. Play**

1. Standard Little League Baseball will be used.

2. When the umpire states “Play Ball” or signals the pitcher to deliver his next pitch, unison chanting will not be allowed.

3. Runner on any base, leading off and retreats back to the base, time will be called and play will resume.

4. Any glove may be worn by player in the catcher’s position.

5. Base stealing is not allowed while coach is pitching, **unless it is a strike**.

6. Steals are only 1 base at a time, with NO extra bases on an overthrow from the catcher. This encourages the catcher to make throw.

**7. The first 5 games of the season will be TOTAL COACH PITCH. Up to Five (5) pitches to each batter.**

**This is up to the managers..**

**Pitching**

1. Pitchers will now follow the pitch count rule as required by Little League Baseball.

**2. Pitchers may NOT pitch in consecutive games.**

3. If in the opinion of the umpire in chief, the pitcher has lost his control and is jeopardizing the batters, he will confer with the field umpire and then shall warn the coach that if the pitcher continues to put the batters at risk the pitcher will be removed from the mound to another position or to the dugout.

4. No walks are allowed.

5. Pitchers will pitch to the batter until there is a hit, strikeout or “ball 4” is thrown. Once ball 4 has been thrown, one of the offensive coaches will pitch up to three (3) additional balls required to achieve 3 strikes or for the batter to put the ball in play. The coach will pitch with existing strike count. If the ball is not put in play after the three (3) balls are thrown, the batter is out.

6. A different offensive coach may pitch each time, but only one coach may pitch to any given batter in a single at-bat.

7. The offensive pitching coach may not come into contact with the ball, and if so, the batter is out

8. The offensive pitching coach must refrain from any coaching or instructions to batters while pitching.

There are NO balks.

9. If a batter is “Hit by Pitch”, the batter will be awarded 1st base. Please note: this does not apply if the batter is hit by the coach pitching.

**AMERICAN League Rules (Ages 7,8,&9) cont’d**

**E. Scoring**

1. Teams will be limited to a maximum of 5 runs per inning.

**F. Coaches**

1. The American division is allowed 4 coaches, per SGLL board approval.

2. 2 Adult base coaches, 1 Batting coach and 1 dugout coach is allowed. (Total 4)

3. There must be an adult in the dugout with players AT ALL TIMES.

**G. Field**

1. 60 ft. - base lines will be used.

2. Home team puts out the bases.

**H. Safety**

1. All players in the American division will be required to a wear facemask on the batting helmet at all times.

2. If a batter throws a bat recklessly, the coach will be notified and player warned by the umpire, that upon the next occurrence, he/she may be called out at the umpire’s discretion

**Rule 4.07 in the Little League Official Regulations and Playing Rules Book**

4.07 - When a manager, coach or player is ejected from a game, they 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. Any manager, coach or player ejected from a game is suspended for his or her team’s next physically played game and may not be in attendance at the game site from which they are suspended.