PEE WEE BASEBALL

(Playing Age: 8 Years Old)

All coaches will be encouraged to prepare players for future play by rotating infield and outfield play without jeopardizing any child's safety. By doing this, we hope to increase the child's interest in the sport and decrease boredom in the field. Failure to follow this policy will be discussed with the coach, and continued problems will be reported to the Ethics Committee and the Coaches Selection Committee.

It is also important that this experience in baseball be a positive one. We encourage all coaches and parents to stress "fun and fundamentals". We want to be sure the players are learning how to play the game properly. For example, we do not want to see the pitcher field a ball and try to out-run the batter to first base. That is not baseball. We want the players to learn to make the proper play.

1. Play will conform to the requirements of the 2017 Cal Ripken rulebook, and as modified by these supplemental park rules.
2. At the beginning of the game, each team should contribute one new ball, which will be returned to the team for use as a practice ball after the game. Do not place any team logos on the official game ball.
3. A game cannot begin with less than eight players on the team. Game time will be determined by the umpire to be closest time possible to the scheduled game time. The home team shall record the official game time and shall maintain the official scorebook. There will be fifteen-minute grace period for lack of enough players. If one team has less than eight players, the game will be treated as a forfeit. With written approval you may use an approved, appointed player from the league below. You must contact your league director if you know you need a ninth player ahead of time. The player called up must bat last and can only play outfield. You cannot just grab a player on your own.
4. All games will be a minimum of 3 innings or a time limit of 1:20, but an inning cannot start after 1:15. An inning shall be completed if it began before the time expiration. The home team is responsible for keeping the official scorebook and shall occupy the third base dugout. No children under 12 are allowed to operate the scoreboard.
5. "Friendly" chanting is allowed, but coaches should immediately stop any mean or derogatory statements.
6. All players on the roster shall bat. The batting order shall be turned in on the roster to the opposing coach. If a player arrives late he may be placed in his rostered place if it has not come up. If said player arrived after his rostered place in the lineup, he must be placed in the order as the last batter.
7. The defensive team may play 10 players: catcher, pitcher, first base, second base, shortstop, third base and four outfielders.
8. Outfielders must be positioned at least fifteen (15) feet behind the infield bases. Outfielders cannot make an out on a runner advancing. They may, however, transfer the ball to an infielder, who is allowed to make the out.
9. All players must play every other inning at a minimum and must play 1 inning in the infield by the 3rd inning. No player shall sit the bench for two consecutive innings unless player is injured or ejected.
10. The catcher must be in the catching position in the catcher's box to receive the pitch. There will be no catchers leaning against the fence in essence just to retrieve the ball. The catcher must be in protective gear complete with a protective cup and helmet with throat-guard. Throat guards are required on all catchers' helmets, including "hockey" style helmets.
11. A player in the pitchers position must wear a protective helmet with face guard.

12. When a team is on defense, a maximum of 3 adults are allowed on the field, one down each sideline in foul territory, and one in the dugout with the team. The defensive coaches should be careful to not interfere with the play of the ball.
13. When a team is batting, 4 adults are allowed on the field: one pitcher, one third base coach and one first base coach. An adult should be in the dugout with the team. If the coach on the field is of the age to participate in the Little League Baseball program then the said coach should be equipped with the proper batting/protective helmet.
14. Smoking (by coaches and spectators) is only allowed in the parking lots. Also, there will be no profane or derogatory language used on the playing field by the coaches, parents or players at any time for any reason. Doing so could result in the Head Coach's ejection from the game. Head Coaches are responsible for the conduct of assistant coaches, players, parents and family of players. An ejection of anyone associated with the team will also result in the ejection of the head coach.
15. Run rule is 15 runs ahead after 3 innings or 8 runs ahead after 4 innings the game will be over. Maximum runs per inning are 7.
16. All bats used at MJLI in baseball from TBall through 14U must be stamped BPF 1.15. No wooden bats allowed.
17. Any bat stamped "coach pitch" is illegal in league play.
18. The batter is out for illegal action when he/she enters the batter's box or it is discovered he/she has used an illegal bat. The infraction must be discovered before the next pitch following the turn at bat of the player who used an illegal bat.
19. If rain interrupts a game and the game is called, it will be considered a complete game if three and a half innings have been played and the home team is ahead. (Four innings with the visiting team leading)
20. Only one extra inning will be allowed to break a tie after the time limit has expired. The player making the last out during regulation play shall begin the extra inning as a runner at second base. If game is tied after the one extra inning, it will be recorded as a tie during the regular season.
21. The batters get 3 strikes or 5 pitches, whichever comes first. When a 5th pitch is fouled the batter gets another pitch, each additional pitch will have the same rule as the 5th pitch. No swing results in an out, a swing and miss results in an out and a swing and foul results in another pitch.
22. No walks. This includes when the batter is hit with the ball. If batter is hit with 5th pitch, or pitch is unhittable, batter will still be out.
23. The "infield fly rule" is NOT in effect.
24. Runners are not allowed to lead off or steal bases. Runners leaving base before contact is made with ball are out.
25. No bunting is allowed in PW8 leagues. Showing bunt will result in an automatic out.
26. Each team will be given one warning for accidentally slinging a bat. A subsequent offense by the offending team during the course of the game will result in an out.
27. These special batting rules will be used: A team will bat until 3 outs are recorded or 7 runs are scored, whichever comes first. It is possible that a batter may come to bat more than one time per inning.
28. In the PW8 league, play is over when the lead runner has stopped advancing or the play has been halted.
29. The base-runner shall occupy the base to which he/she is nearest when play is halted.
30. If a player refuses to take the field, except in the case of an injury, they are out of the game and must leave the dugout. If the player leaves the game for any other reason, except for ejection, the player's spot in the batting order may be skipped without penalty. If a player was ejected, the missed spot in the order will be recorded as an out.
31. A player must slide on a "close play" at home plate. The umpire has sole discretion as to what constitutes a close play at the plate. Normally a "close play" has three elements at home plate at the same time: a

runner, a fielder and the ball in the air. Deliberate contact with the catcher or any other player covering home plate by the runner will result in an out and an ejection of the player.

32. Before a coach comes on the field, he must request a time out from the head umpire. Head coaches are the ONLY coaches allowed to converse with the umpire.
33. Base coaches are not allowed to physically restrain or assist a base runner. There is typically one warning issued; subsequent will cause the runner to be called out.
34. Coaches cannot coach runners from the pitching area. He/she may instruct the batter between pitches. The coach will get one warning, and shall then be replaced.
35. If it is the last game of the day, the two coaches should make sure that the scoreboard controller is put away and locked up, and that the lights are turned off. A warning will be issued to both coaches on the first occurrence of this not being completed. Upon a second occurrence of the lights not being turned off and the scoreboard controller not being put up, the coach(es) are subject to be turned into the Ethics Committee for further action.
36. A coach shall be the pitcher at all times.
37. The coach shall deliver all pitches via an overhand motion. No underhand pitching is allowed.
38. A three (3) foot strip shall be placed on either side of the pitching mound. The player/pitcher must either have one foot on the line OR be within five (5) feet directly behind the line. The player/pitcher may NOT play in front of the line or to the side of the line unless one foot remains touching the line.
39. A pitching rubber shall be set at 42 feet for the PW8 division.
40. The base paths in PW8 shall be at 60 feet. At no time shall the bases be moved unless it is determined by BOTH coaches AND the umpire for the coming game that the bases have not been set properly.
41. The coach/pitcher shall begin his/her delivery with one foot on the pitching rubber.
42. If a batted ball accidentally hits the coach/pitcher, the ball is dead and a pitch is counted. If a batted ball is interfered with intentionally by the coach/pitcher, the batter is out and all runners will return to the base they occupied when the pitch was delivered.
43. Each coach is responsible for preparing a lineup for the opposing coach/team and having their team ready to play at the predetermined start time.
44. When a ball is overthrown at any base, runners may advance at their own risk.
45. At the end of the season, the PW8 league will have a tournament that will be scheduled and approved by the Baseball Operating Committee.
46. The PW8 league will select a tournament team (i.e., the Grizzlies) to participate in sanctioned tournaments as approved by the Baseball Operating Committee. Pee Wee leagues will field at least one tournament team in each age group. The baseball operating committee may authorize additional tournament teams.
47. The Board of Directors of MJ League, Inc. recommends that all male players be equipped with a protective cup prior to each game and practice.
48. After a game or practice, coaches should not leave the area until all players have been picked up.

Revised 01/24/17