



2024

Virginia District 15 Little League

**International Tournament
Host Meeting**



Agenda



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Points of Emphasis



- District Administrator is responsible for scheduling and supervising all district tournament games.
- All International Tournaments are authorized by the International Board of Directors of Little League.
- Leagues opting to participate must do so with full understanding of the rules and regulations.



Responsibility



- Once the Tournament season starts, authority is vested solely in the Tournament Committee in Williamsport.
- There will be no waivers or resorting to local rules or other variations unless granted explicitly from the Tournament Committee in Williamsport.
- Revocation of Tournament privileges or forfeiture of a tournament game may be decided only by the Tournament Committee in Williamsport.



Chain of Command



- Should a problem arise, that can't be resolved while the game is in progress, the game must be suspended by the Umpire-in-Chief and referred immediately to the Site Coordinator and the Tournament Director.
- If the problem is still unresolved, the game must remain suspended, and the issue must be referred to the Regional Director by the Tournament Director.
- If the problem is still unresolved, the game must remain suspended, and the issue must be referred to the Tournament Committee by the Regional Director.



Chain of Command



- If the Tournament Committee deems any player to be ineligible, by league age, residency/school attendance, or participation of the regular season games, it may result in forfeiture of Tournament game(s), and/or suspension or removal of personnel from Tournament play, and/or suspension or removal of personnel or teams from further Little League activities, and/or suspension or revocation of the local league's charter.
- These actions can only be taken by the Tournament Committee in Williamsport.



Tournament Preps



- District 15 will deliver tournament supplies to the host site prior to the tournament
 - Game Balls, Announcer Scripts, Banner, Tee Shirts, etc.
 - See Material Receipt Sheet
 - Tournament Tee Shirts are \$20 (Host League keeps \$2 per shirt)
- Host League provides volunteer personnel for concessions, press box team, tee shirt sales table
- Press Box – Announcer, Scorekeeper, Pitch Counter (baseball), Scoreboard Operator
 - Adults must be assigned to press box duties



The Host League



- Have the field ready for play at least one hour before game time.
- Provide a PA system, announcer, scorekeeper, pitch count recorder, scoreboard operator and adult volunteers to “pass the hat.”
- Have **ADULTs** manage the T-shirt sales – very important.
- Provide water and ice for players and umpires
- Have the concession stand open and manned
- Have umpire gear available in case it is needed.
- Have first aid kit available and emergency numbers handy
- Have extra balls and other equipment available in case they are needed. (Helmets, throat guard, catchers gear, etc.)
- Provide a drink and hot dog from concession stand to each player after the game.
- **BE A GOOD HOST!**



Spectator Guidance



- Game results will and updated and tournament brackets will be posted at the tournament site and will be available on the Virginia District 15 website, www.VADistrict15.org each night.
- There is no plan for games to be streamed via Game Changer, Facebook, or other internet media. If fans wish to stream a game, it must be viewed through a personal social media account for private use only and may not be on the open internet.
- Individuals wishing to record or live stream games for personal use are not permitted to affix any equipment to the playing facility, including but not limited to fencing, dugouts, stanchions, or light poles.
- No noise makers of any kind may be used during tournament games.
- No smoking or tobacco use is permitted at the field or on school grounds, which includes vaping and chewing. No alcohol or illicit drugs shall be brought to the tournament site.



Pre-Game Activities



- Arrive at the field at least one hour before game time
 - Check field conditions and other site activities for preparedness
- Conduct the coin toss with league reps or team manager, at least 45 minutes before game time.
 - **Home team will occupy first base dugout--no exceptions**
 - **Visitor team will occupy third base dugout—no exceptions**
- Exchange contact information with each manager (first game)
- Collect team affidavits (**ONLY**)
 - Verify the affidavit for completeness and signatures
 - Check on Pitcher Eligibility for the day
 - Do not collect private information, medical releases or Tournament Player Verification information.



Pre-Game Activities



- Make sure you have an **adult announcer, adult scorekeeper, adult scoreboard operator, and for Baseball, an Adult pitch counter.**
- Get the names, numbers, and positions of the players and position of the umpires and give to announcer.
- Thirty minutes before game time the home team will take the field for 10 minutes of infield practice.
- Twenty minutes before game time the visiting team will take the field for 10 minutes of infield practice.
- Encourage the announcer to give the manager/coach two-minute warning.



Pre-Game Activities



- Ten minutes before game time the announcer will:
 - Welcome the fans to the game
 - Introduce the home team players, coaches, manager and League representative
 - Introduce the visiting team players, coaches, manager and League representative
 - Introduce the umpires
 - Introduce the Assistant Tournament Director on site
- Play the National Anthem or lead the Little League Pledge
- Hold the home plate conference with the umpires and team managers – players and coaches **MUST** return to the dugout
- Turn the game over to the umpires



Team Managers



- Have their teams at the field at least 1 hour before the first game they play and 45 minutes before each successive game time.
- Turn in affidavits (only) to the Assistant Tournament Director on site
 - Note which pitchers are not eligible to pitch this day
- Give complete lineup all starters and subs to Assistant TD/Announcer
- Ensure all equipment meets Little League specifications – HELMETS, BATS
- Have all players in appropriate uniform – LITTLE LEAGUE PATCHES
- Be dressed in appropriate attire
- Have medical release forms for each player
- Have a first aid kit
- **ENSURE THAT YOU AND YOUR TEAM CONDUCT YOURSELVES ACCORDING TO THE HIGHEST STANDARDS OF SPORTSMANSHIP AND FAIR PLAY (See LL Pledges and Parent Code of Conduct)**



During the Game



During the game, the Host League and Site Coordinator will:

- Remain impartial
- Scan the crowd for problems. Ask team reps to calm their fans if they get unruly; address issues early.
- Ask the Announcer to reiterate the need for Little League decorum and sportsmanship.
- At the end of the **first** inning, remind the announcer of the collection and have **two adult volunteers “pass the hat” (should be adults)**
- Also, at the end of the **second** inning have the announcer read the “Thanks, Blue” announcement to recognize the umpires.



During the Game



- At the end of the **third** inning have the announcer announce the collection amount and thank the crowd for their contribution
- At the completion of the game have the announcer provide the next game location and opponent (if known) for the winner and loser. (If it is a loser's bracket game, the winner only.)
- Be prepared to hand out medals at the conclusion of each team's last game – ensure the winning team sticks around.
- During the game, assist the umpire only if requested to do so. Should a protest be lodged, discuss the situation with the umpires and consult the rule book, if necessary.



Protests



All officials, including all managers, coaches, scorekeepers, umpires, Tournament Directors, District Administrators, etc., should make every effort to prevent a situation that may result in the forfeiture of a game or suspension of tournament privileges. However, failure by any party to prevent such situations shall not affect the validity of a protest

- Replaces rule 4.19
- Considered only when based on:
 - Violation or misinterpretation of playing rule;
 - Use of ineligible pitcher;
 - Use of ineligible player;
- Tournament Officials are encouraged to avoid circumstances that might lead to a potential protest.

Note: Umpires, Site Coordinators and District Administrators do not have the authority to declare a forfeiture under any circumstances.



Handling a Protest



Should a protest be lodged, discuss the situation with the umpires and consult the rule book, if necessary.

Remember it is the responsibility of the Manager to cite the rule infraction from the correct Tournament rulebook to the UIC and Tournament Director.

If your decision is not acceptable to the protesting manager, call the D15 DA, Jim Roberts (540-660-4487) and he will discuss with those present and push to Southeastern Region for a ruling if necessary.

Under no circumstances will the game continue until the situation is resolved, if the game is resumed before the situation is resolved, the protest is null and will be disallowed.



After the Game



At the end of the game, make sure the pitchers' records are accurately recorded on the back of the affidavits., **Review the pitch counts, required days of rest, and eligibility with the Team Manager. Scorekeeper/Pitch Count initials, Manager initials, Site Coordinator signs, and returns the affidavit to the manager**

Award medals to exiting team; ensure winning team remains on the field

VERY IMPORTANT: TO BE COMPLETED IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING GAMES OF THAT DAY OR EVENING – NLT MIDNIGHT

After the games are over or after each game and the collections have been made, please call or text Jim Roberts at 540-660-4487 and report game results as follows:

The Tournament Name and Game Number, e.g. 9-10 Baseball, Game 2

The name of teams involved and each team's final score

The amount of collections for each game



Safety Reminders



- Accident Reporting
 - Little League Accident Notification
 - When professional medical care required
 - Notify Tournament Director
 - Requires written clearance to return to play
- NO Jewelry (except Medical Alert)
- Heat Illness Prevention - Hydrate All Day (week) – encourage players to drink plenty of water – all day, every day
- Concussion Training – Managers and Coaches MUST have NFHS training and certification
- Lightning Policy – Wait 30 minutes - No Kidding – No Second Chances
- Approved Bats – Non-wood bats for this division shall bear the USA Baseball logo signifying the bat meets the USABat – USA Baseball’s Youth Bat Performance standard. Bats meeting the Batted Ball Coefficient of Restitution (BBCOR) standard may also be used in Junior and Senior League Baseball Divisions. Additional information is available at www.LittleLeague.org/BatInfo
- Equipment removed will be returned to team manager AFTER TEAM’S LAST GAME





Questions??



Thank you for being a District 15 Tournament Host!

Jim Roberts
Virginia District 15 District Administrator
Virginia15DA@va.metrocast.net
540-660-4487

www.vadistrict15.org

“Our kids, our future.”



2024 District 15, Virginia State, and Regional Tournament Dates



| Tournament | D15 Host League | Earliest Start Date | State Host and Report Date* | SE Region Tournament Sites and Report Dates |
|---------------------|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| 8 – 10 Baseball | Richmond County | 14June | D3/Woodstock/5 July | 19 Jul, Wilson, NC** |
| 9 – 11 Baseball | Spotsy | 14June | D11/Lebanon/11 July | 26 Jul, Wilson, NC** |
| LL (10-12) Baseball | Caroline | 14June | D14/Louisa/Mineral/18 July | 30 Jul, Warner Robins, GA |
| Junior Baseball | Middlesex | 14June | D13/Big Stone Gap/5 July | 18 Jul, Bridgewater, VA |
| Senior Baseball | Westmoreland | 14June | D9/Woodbridge/5 July | 19 Jul, Safety Harbor, FL |
| 8 – 10 Softball | King George | 14June | D4/McLean/11 July | 25 Jul, Clarksville, TN** |
| LL (10-12) Softball | Northumberland | 14June | D1/Abingdon/5 July | 19 Jul, Warner Robins, GA |
| Junior Softball | King William | 14June | D6/Portsmouth/5 July | 18 Jul, Salisbury, NC |
| Senior Softball | King William | 14June | D6/Portsmouth/5 July | 18 July, Salisbury, NC |

**Note 2: 8-10 Year Old and 9-11 Year Old Division Regionals are Tournament of State Champions (TOSC) special games events.



Backup Slides





Notable Rules and Differences



- Baseballs must have RS-T designated printed on the ball
- Each player on tournament teams must wear a conventional uniform that includes **the Little League patch**
- Uniforms do not have to match
- The 8-10-year-old division does NOT use Minor League rules
- Little League (Major) Division rules apply when not addressed in the tournament playing rules
- 10-run and 15-run rules apply in all divisions of play



Proper Attire



ALL MANAGERS AND COACHES THAT PARTICIPATE IN ANY ALL STAR TOURNAMENTS, OR TOURNAMENTS THAT ARE LITTLE LEAGUE APPROVED INCLUDING BASEBALL & SOFTBALL MUST BE DRESSED APPROPRIATELY.

ACCEPTABLE WEAR: TEAM HATS/VISORS, TEAM LOGO SHIRTS, COLLARED SHIRTS, SLACKS, SHORTS, SHOES, (SUCH AS TENNIS, SPORT, OR DRESS).

UNACCEPTABLE WEAR: T-SHIRTS, CUTOFFS OF ANY TYPE, BARE FEET OR ANY CLOTHING THAT HAS UNACCEPTABLE WORDING OR GRAPHICS NOT ASSOCIATED WITH LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL/SOFTBALL.

ANY DRESS: THAT IS IN QUESTION, MUST BE APPROVED BY THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR PRIOR TO PARTICIPATING IN ANY TOURNAMENT.



Proper Behavior



- Manager responsible for behavior of coaches, players and fans
- Know how to properly question a call, make an appeal, and make a protest
 - Tournament Directors will be walking around and observing the spectators for problems. Fans may be asked to calm down their fans if they get unruly.
 - No tobacco (including vaping), illegal drugs, or alcohol at tournament site
 - No inappropriate or foul language will be permitted from players, managers, coaches, or fans
 - Ensure fans are aware of the Parent Code of Conduct and let them know they are expected to behave accordingly
 - Fans may be asked to leave the tournament site