

Beech Grove Little League
By-Laws, Local Rules, and Ground Rules
2024 Season

ARTICLE I – General League Policy

MISSION STATEMENT

The objective of Beech Grove Little League (BGLL) shall be to positively impact our youth and community, using the power of baseball to teach life lessons, sportsmanship and good character, to build stronger individuals and communities.

CONSTRUCTION OF RULES AND POLICIES

The Board of Directors shall be governed by the Constitution of Beech Grove Little League on record in Williamsport, PA. The BGLL Operating Policies, Local Rules and Bylaws shall be approved by a majority vote of the Board of Directors prior to the start of a new season. Following the adoption of these Policies and Bylaws by the Board of Directors, they may only be changed by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

1. The BGLL Operating Policies, Local Rules and Bylaws are not intended to replace the Operating Policies, Rules and Regulations of Little League Baseball (LLB).
2. Any rule not covered in these Operating Policies, Local Rules and Bylaws, shall default to the policies of LLB.
3. Whenever the BGLL engages in regular season interleague play with another chartered little league, the division involved shall play by interleague rules as may be negotiated with the other league and approved by the Board of Directors. Interleague rules shall take precedence over these operating rules.
4. These Operating Policies, Local Rules and Bylaws shall expire at the end of each fiscal year and are not considered part of the Beech Grove Little League Constitution.

FISCAL YEAR

BGLL's 2024 fiscal year will begin October 1, 2023 and end September 30, 2024.

PLAYER REGISTRATION FEES

A reasonable Little League participation fee may be determined as the parent or guardian's obligation to assure the continued operation of BGLL. The fees for this fiscal year are as follows:

1. Tee Ball: \$85.00
2. Rookies & Minors: \$100.00
3. Majors, Juniors & Seniors: \$120.00

BGLL League shall not deny any child a chance to play baseball due to financial hardship.

LEAGUE SPONSORSHIP FEES

1. Up to \$100:
 - Logo displayed on our website
2. \$250
 - Business name on a pennant displayed at Hartman Park
 - Logo displayed on BGLL website
3. \$500
 - Business name on Team Uniform (limited to the number of teams)
 - Name and logo on team banner, displayed on the division outfield fence
 - Logo displayed on BGLL website
4. \$1000
 - 8x10 framed team photo
 - Business name on Team Uniform (limited to the number of teams)
 - Name and logo on team banner, displayed on the division outfield fence

- 2x4 banner displayed on the outfield fence, facing 9th Ave
 - Logo displayed on BGLL website
5. \$1,500+
- A trophy if sponsored team wins their division championship
 - 8x10 framed team photo
 - Business name on Team Uniform (limited to the number of teams)
 - Name and logo on team banner, displayed on the division outfield fence
 - 2x4 banner displayed on the outfield fence, facing 9th Ave
 - Logo displayed on BGLL website

FUNDRAISING

Every registered player may be required to participate in a league fundraiser to help offset the costs of running the league. The fundraiser is determined each year by the BGLL Board of Directors. Each player may choose to opt out of the fundraiser for an additional fee.

ARTICLE II - Volunteers

QUALIFICATIONS

All managers, coaches, Board members, and any other persons, volunteers, or hired workers who provide regular service to the league and/or have repetitive access to or contact with players or teams, are required to complete an official Little League Volunteer Application, satisfactorily complete a background check and complete Child Abuse Awareness training. Refusal or failure to submit a fully completed Little League Volunteer Application will result in the immediate dismissal of the individual from the league. Volunteers can include, but are not limited to umpires, team moms, concession workers, and parents who assist at practice and/or games.

MANAGERS AND COACHES

In addition to the background check and Child Abuse Awareness training, all managers and coaches:

1. must be approved by the League President
2. must complete the Diamond Leader Training and present the certificate of completion to the League President
3. are responsible for helping on assigned workdays:
 - a. to clean and rake the field following their respective games.
 - b. To line and mark the fields before the games
 - c. to return equipment and bases to the storage room after games
 - d. All teams may be assigned concession duties at some time throughout the season. Managers and coaches will be required to fulfill these duties when assigned.

ARTICLE III – Conduct and Discipline

MANAGERS, COACHES, AND VOLUNTEER CONDUCT

1. Any volunteer who is arrested for any felony offense or any offense involving moral turpitude shall report the arrest to the President within 72 hours of the arrest. Any volunteer who is convicted, pleads guilty or no contest, or receives deferred adjudication for such an offense shall also report that event to the President within 72 hours. The President will bring such violations before the Board of Directors within 48 hours.
2. Moral turpitude includes but is not limited to:
 - a. Dishonesty; fraud; deceit; theft; misrepresentation;
 - b. Deliberate violence;
 - c. Felony possession, transfer, sale, distribution, or conspiracy to possess, transfer, sell, or distribute any illegal substance

- d. Acts constituting public intoxication, operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol/drugs, or disorderly conduct, if any two or more acts are committed within any 12-month period/or;
 - e. Acts constituting abuse under the Indiana law.
3. Managers will be responsible for the conduct of themselves, their coaches, team players and parents of team members. Managers and coaches will abide by the Coaches Code of Conduct.
4. An ejection from a game or league complex of a player, manager, coach, volunteer, parent and/or fan due to unsportsmanlike conduct will be followed up and brought to the attention of the Board of Directors. The meeting will consist of the Board of Directors, manager, coach, volunteer, parents, fan, and/or player and legal guardian of persons involved on a case-by-case basis for review. Upon review of any league violation and/or unsportsmanlike conduct, any individual and/or player associated with the Beech Grove Little League can have action taken by the Board of Directors.
5. Any person in violation of any of the official Little League Rules and/or rules established in these by-laws may result in disciplinary action by the Board of Directors, in accordance with Little League Rules.
6. Additional penalties may be levied by the Board of Directors. As stated, violations will be brought to the attention of the Board of Directors within 48 hours after the President has been notified; However, at the Board of Directors' discretion, serious infractions reported after the 48-hour limitation may be reviewed. Anonymous allegations will be discarded unless they can be documented or corroborated in writing through independent means.
 - a. Action levels to be taken by the Board of Directors include but are not limited to:
 - b. Consultation by the League President
 - c. Letter of Reprimand from the Board of Directors
 - d. Suspension as manager/coach for one game
 - e. Suspension as manager/coach for any part of the remainder of season
 - f. Not favorably considered for future Little League appointments
 - g. Dismissal from all Beech Grove Little League activities

PLAYER CONDUCT

1. Players are expected to adhere to the Beech Grove Little League's Code of Conduct for sportsmanship and conduct. Failure to adhere to these guidelines may result in disciplinary action. Disciplinary action for player misconduct is covered in the BGLL Player/Parent Code of Conduct.
2. A manager may bench a child for disciplinary reasons, misconduct, or absence from practice or games with approval of the Player Agent or League President. If a child is benched, the manager shall include the child's name and a notation regarding the manager's action on the roster that is given to the scorekeeper and plate umpire. The manager shall also notify the player's parent(s) or guardian if present at the game.
3. No child should be benched without prior approval by the appropriate board member.
4. Before a manager can bench a player, he must have a copy, on file, of the team's discipline plan signed by the player and the player's parent(s) or guardian. This may be a separate plan in addition to the Code of Conduct.
5. The team's discipline plan should be approved by the Board of Directors. The Player Agent will keep a copy of the team's plan on file.
6. This plan should state clearly for what reasons a player may be benched other than for play. This leaves room to excuse situations.
7. If a child that has been marked absent or reports late to the game and is subsequently benched, the manager shall immediately notify the scorekeeper and plate umpire of this action. The manager shall also notify the player's parent(s) or guardian if present at the game.
8. Any manager electing to invoke the provisions of this rule shall report, in writing, to the league player agent within 24 hours of the game and state the reasons for this action. It will be the

responsibility of the Player Agent to investigate the situation and report findings to the League President.

9. All levied actions to players, coaches, and managers will be made a matter of record by the league secretary. Chronic offenders of minor infractions will be dealt with more severely as the violations accumulate at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IV – Umpires

1. An agreed upon fee may be paid for umpires when volunteer services cannot be met.
2. The Umpire in chief will make umpiring assignments for all games. Only certified umpires or individuals approved by the umpire in chief will be allowed to umpire both the home plate and bases.
 - a. A qualified umpire is one who knows the rules (Beech Grove Ground Rules and Little League Rules) and can conduct themselves in accordance with Little League Rules and Regulations. Managers will be given copies of each before the season and are expected to read over them and study them.
3. No umpires will be required at the T-ball level.
4. Verification of the baseball pitch count rule will be confirmed by the umpires with the team's scorekeeper in the middle of each inning and upon the removal/change/retirement of each pitcher. This shall apply to any division in which a player pitches. The manager will still be the responsible party to ensure pitch count is accurate.
5. The official scorebook will be the home team for rulings on the field by umpires. The official pitch count log will be kept by the visiting team.

ARTICLE V – Division Alignment

Division Alignment may be adjusted depending upon the registration numbers.

1. T-ball baseball division
 - a. 4-, 5- and 6-year-olds
2. Baseball division
 - a. Rookies: 6-, 7- and 8-year-olds
 - b. Minors: 8-, 9- and 10-year-olds
 - c. Majors: 10-, 11- and 12-year-olds
 - d. Juniors: 12-, 13- and 14-year-olds
 - e. Seniors: 14-, 15- and 16-year-olds

TRYOUTS & PLAYER SELECTION (DRAFT)

Times and Dates will be set by the player agent with Board approval. Division Representatives will be responsible for conducting tryouts for their respective divisions. Beech Grove Little League Board of Directors and Managers reserve the right to place all players in the appropriate division based on age and skill level.

1. There will be no tryouts for the T-ball division
2. All players aged 10, 11 and 12 will be eligible for the Majors draft.
3. Regardless of the division the player is anticipating to play in, they will try out with their age group first
 - a. Players aged 6 years old wishing to play at the Rookie level or players aged 8 years old wishing to play at the Minor level must attend the tryouts for that level AFTER they have attended tryouts for their age group.
4. Letters to hold any age player down in a lower division or move them into a higher division is discouraged, however, is allowed in the local league constitution.

2024 BGLL LOCAL RULES

SECTION 1

All players on each team will take their place in a consecutive batting order that cannot be changed once the game is started. The entire roster of players on each team will bat at their designated place in the batting order, regardless of whether the player is playing in the field.

At the end of the second inning, all substitutes will be playing for the next 2 innings or six consecutive defensive outs. Players can be returned to the defensive lineup, after being taken out of the game.

All players on a team shall have played at least one full game by the 8th game of the season. Any player not meeting this requirement shall start the 9th game and play the entire game.

SECTION 2

Five minutes before game time the competing Managers shall meet with the umpire at home plate to:

1. Discuss any ground rules not familiar to the umpire and/or coaches.
2. Exchange, with the umpire and opposing Manager, a list of players, showing the batting order and playing position of the starting lineup, the list of player substitutes and each player's uniform number. Players absent shall also be noted. Managers also must turn in the innings played to the office as well as write down pitching used in that game. A Manager who fails to turn in innings pitched at the office for any 2 games during the season could be called before the Board of Directors.
3. Discuss the possible disciplinary action by a Manager of a player whom he does not wish to play if so approved by the Board of Directors. This request must be made in writing and given to the league representative stating the reason for the disciplinary action.
4. Any player ejected from the game will be suspended for one or more games. The Manager may appeal. In the appeal both Managers must appear before the Board of Directors and receive two-thirds vote to reverse the call. Any Manager or coach ejected from the game will be suspended for one or more games with no appeal.

SECTION 3

If a player is not present at the time the game starts and shows up while the game is in progress, it shall be the Manager's decision if the youth plays or not. If the youth does not play, the Manager must show the decision in writing at the end of the game in question.

SECTION 4

Once the game begins:

1. Other than Managers and/or Coaches, only players on the team roster and in uniform will be allowed to coach bases. These "coaches" must wear helmets.
2. Spectators are not allowed on the field or in the dugout. Only players, Managers, and approved Coaches are allowed in the playing area and/or dugout.
3. Each Manager will have a scorekeeper and make the proper notifications. **HOME TEAM WILL BE THE OFFICIAL BOOK.**
4. The home team shall be responsible for having an adult in the scoring box for each Majors game to keep the lights. No one under 12 years old will be allowed in the box.
5. The use of tobacco is allowed only in designated areas during practices and/or games.
6. Only one (1) Manager, two (2) Coaches, one (1) Team Parent allowed on the field and/or in the dugouts for Minors and Rookies. There are a total of 3 adults allowed in the diamond area. 1 Manager and 2 Coaches in Majors and above.
7. No food shall be permitted in the dugouts at any time.
8. Players running to 1st base must tag the outer bag to avoid collision. A warning shall be given on the first occasion, but it is up to the umpire's discretion whether or not to call an out due to interference thereafter.

SECTION 5 - ACTION OF TEAM MANAGERS & COACHES

The actions of team managers and coaches must be above reproach. Any profanity, use of alcoholic beverages, or unsportsmanlike conduct on the part of either a Manager or Coach shall result in strict disciplinary action by the Board of Directors. Possible penalty of one-year suspension.

1. No alcoholic beverages or illegal substances are allowed in any city park or Little League function.
2. No Noisemakers
3. All Managers must have first aid kits with them at games and practices.
4. Proper clothing must always be worn by Managers and Coaches. (i.e., shirts with inappropriate messages, no flip-flops)

SECTION 6 - PROTESTS

The Managers of contesting teams only, shall have the right to protest a game. An adult Coach may protest when the Manager is absent.

1. Protests shall be considered only on the violation or interpretation of playing rules or the use of ineligible players. No protest shall be considered on a decision involving umpires judgment and illegal bats/equipment.

SECTION 7 - SAFETY

Safety is everyone's responsibility and especially as a team Manager or adult Coach.

1. Each team will be furnished with enough helmets to have one on each base runner and each base coach. All batters in all divisions must use protective helmets which must meet NOCSAE (National Operating Committee on Standards for Athletic Equipment) specifications and standards.
2. All catchers must wear facemasks, throat protectors, and cups when catching, regardless of whether it is just "warm up", practice, or game.
3. Each catcher is required to wear a protective cup.
4. Each male player should have and use a supporter.
5. The Safety Officer will assist Managers and Coaches in our nationwide safety program (ASAP: A Safety Awareness Program) and their calling attention to any safety violation should be accepted as possible prevention of any accident or injury rather than personal criticism.
6. BGLL has an adequate insurance program, which covers just about everything that can happen to anybody participating in the league's activities, but let's not create a need to use it. Notification of an accident must be made within 24 hours to the Safety Officer and/or President.

SECTION 8 - PLAYER ABSENCE

If a player quits a team or moves away after the draft of players or during the season, contact the Player Agent immediately. The Player Agent is the only supplier of players once the draft has been completed.

1. If a player misses three (3) consecutive practices and/or games, notify the Player Agent immediately and after consideration by the Board of Directors, the player may be dropped from the team roster and be replaced by another player if available.
2. If due to injury, a player misses three (3) or more games, the Board of Directors will review the player's eligibility for the remainder of the season.

SECTION 9 - EQUIPMENT

1. Anyone caught by the umpire throwing equipment may be suspended for one or more games.
2. It is the responsibility of each manager at the end of the season to collect all equipment from each player and turn it in to the Equipment Manager after elimination from the Tournament.

SECTION 10 - PRACTICE

1. Any member of the Board of Directors may stop practice when field conditions warrant.
2. There will be no mandatory Sunday, Holiday or Holiday weekend practice.
3. No practice will exceed two (2) hours.

SECTION 11 - GAMES

Both teams are responsible for preparing the field before and after the game. It is the Manager's responsibility to have their team clean the dugout and bleachers after each game. **NO TEAM TREATS UNTIL THIS IS DONE.**

1. No game shall start after 20 minutes of scheduled starting time, unless authorization is made by a league representative. No inning shall start after 2 hours from the starting time, unless authorized by a league representative.
2. All games are to be played as scheduled, weather and grounds permitting or game will be forfeited against the team refusing to play.
3. All rain-out games may or may not be scheduled on the next open date as well as any postponed games.
4. 4 innings played will constitute a complete game for all games. No team shall play more than 3 games in a week (sun-Sat). Make-up games, if possible, will be played the next week.
5. Only the President or Vice-President can call off games before they start due to the playing condition of the field.
6. Games to be played on Saturday are to start within 20 minutes after the previous game is finished unless authorized by a league representative.
7. If due to weather or ground conditions, a game cannot start within 20 minutes, it shall be called a rain-out and the next game is to start as scheduled.
8. Warm up throws before a game will be in the outfield grass. These throws will be across the baseline. No infield practice will be taken before the game.
9. All players will be in full uniform, including hats during the game. **SHIRTS MUST BE TUCKED IN.**

SECTION 12 - GENERAL PARK RULES

1. Any player climbing on or over fencing will be suspended for 1 game.
2. No bicycles/mopeds/motorcycles permitted in the playing or viewing area.
3. No vehicles are to be driven back to the diamond area. Only workers that need to drop off supplies/tools/equipment.
4. No pets in the BGLL area during season except for certified service animals.
5. No smoking, vaping or consuming alcohol in the park, including the parking lot.

SECTION 13 - POST-SEASON

1. In all divisions, except T-ball, if 2 or more teams are tied for the league championship, a playoff game(s) will be played to decide the season.
2. In the case of tied records, the following tiebreakers will be implemented
 - a. 1st Tiebreaker: Head to Head Record
 - b. 2nd Tiebreaker: Total Number of Runs Allowed
 - c. 3rd Tiebreaker: Total Number of Runs Scored
3. All teams that go from regular season to tournament games must meet days of rest for pitchers stated in the Rule/Regulations.
4. All-Star Managers will be selected by the President and Vice-President with approval of the Board of Directors
5. All rules shall apply during both tournament and season play.
6. Any Manager or Coach who violates these rules shall be subject to call before the Board of Directors for possible action.
7. If any violation is observed by a board member, the member has the option to bring the offender before the Board of Directors.

Beech Grove Little League is a tobacco free environment. Smoking and/or vaping will be permitted in the parking lot only. No firearms or weapons are allowed on the premises except for police officers. No pets allowed in the park during little league season, except for licensed service dogs with proper certifications. Any person violating these policies will be automatically ejected from any practice and/or game and will serve a mandatory 1 game suspension which will be served on the next scheduled game.