

Little League Baseball Ontario, Inc.

TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS

as reviewed and amended October 16, 2010 for the 2011 season

Ontario Championship Tournaments

Minor to Big League, Softball and Baseball

1. The District which hosts the Ontario Championship may enter its District Championship team. The Host League, providing it has competed in the District Championship, may also enter its team. However, should the Host League team win the District Championship, only that team may participate in the Ontario Championship.
2. The championship team from a league or District which is hosting the Canadian Championship must not enter the Ontario Championship. A second-place team from a District Championship must not enter an Ontario Championship except when that team represents the league which is hosting the Ontario Championship.
3. A District may host an Ontario Championship Tournament at a division (Minor, Major, Junior, Senior, Big League) only if they had a representative team in the same division's Ontario Championship Tournament the previous season. The lone exception to this is a District hosting a Canadian Championship, and therefore not playing in the Ontario Championship, would be allowed to host an Ontario Championship the following year. A District which successfully bids to host a Canadian Championship in a year that they are scheduled to host an Ontario Championship may, at their request, be relieved of their obligation to host the Ontario Championship.
4. In the Minor division, players with a "League Age" of 8-years-old will be permitted on the roster. "Combined" or "District" teams are not permitted at Minors.
5. Baseball & Softball: The expenses associated with accommodation, meals and transportation during the tournament for participating managers, players and coaches will be the responsibility of their respective Districts unless otherwise stipulated by the Host District*.
6. All teams must travel on designated travel days, which generally are the day before and the day after the scheduled dates of the tournament. The entire team must arrive within one hour of its specified time of arrival. The Host District* must arrange to pick up team members on arrival at the airport or train depot or where dropped off by a bus.
7. The manager and coach(es) are responsible for the conduct of their team personnel and must ensure they are chaperoned at all times.

8. On the playing field managers and coaches are required to wear matching collared shirts, dress pants or league-issued slacks of a solid, neutral colour (NO JEANS, NO SWEAT/TRACK PANTS), shoes and socks -- or if permitted by the rules, a team uniform. Caps, if worn, must be team caps.
9. Equipment that is removed from a game by umpires or officials for not meeting Little League's Official Rules will be confiscated by the Host District and returned to the team at the end of the team's participation in the Ontario Championship.
10. Each member of the winning team shall receive Divisional pins immediately upon completion of the Tournament. These pins are available from Little League Canada in Ottawa and will be paid for by the Host District*. As well, the winning team shall receive a Little League Ontario Championship flag/banner and each participant shall receive a memento (crest or pin), paid for and supplied by Little League Baseball Ontario.
11. The Host District* will get the receipts of all sand pail collections at each game. The Host League will get the receipts from any other function it may organize during the Tournament.
12. The Host District* must provide Little League approved leather covered baseballs/softballs for the Tournament unless balls are supplied by Little League Canada.
13. The Host District* must provide personnel for each game as follows:
 - a) Qualified umpires, who have attended a pre-tournament clinic. Four (4) umpires per game is preferable, but three (3) is an absolute minimum. All umpires should be appropriately and uniformly dressed to Little League Canada standards while on the diamond.
 - b) The Host District* must provide qualified scorekeepers and pitch counters who have attended a pre-tournament clinic.
14. Eligibility affidavits, signed by the District Administrator, must accompany each team and must be presented to the Tournament Director prior to the start of the Tournament.

15. In the scheduling of Tournament games, Ontario approved Little League schedules must be used. The following formats are approved for the 2011 season:

TEAMS	APPROVED FORMAT
2	Best two-of-three playoff
3	Round-Robin, 2-team playoff
4	Round-Robin, 2-team playoff or Double Elimination
5	Round-Robin, 3 team playoff or Double Elimination
6	Round-Robin, 4 team playoff (1 vs 4 and 2 vs 3, winners play the next day) or Double Elimination
7	Double-Elimination
8	Round-Robin (Two 4-team pools), 4 team playoff OR Double-Elimination
9	Double-Elimination

Note that in addition to Approved Tournament Formats, Ontario Championship Tournaments shall be scheduled as follows: The day before the “Travel to Canadians” is left open as a Day of Rest, which may be used as a second rain date for the Tournament in case of really bad weather. The Tournament itself shall be scheduled according to the approved format, and will include the usual one “rain/tie-breaker day”, which can be placed at the end of the Tournament, or if not used would cause the playoffs to be brought forward, to maximize the rest period for the Ontario champion.

16. A letter or email from the District Administrator of the Host District MUST go to the other seven (7) District Administrators at least four (4) weeks prior to the Championship Tournament, containing such basic information as game schedules, person in charge, hotel/motel, car rental information, dates, billet arrangements, type of baseball/softball to be used, times and places of meetings, etc. Teams withdrawing from the tournament after the confirmation date will be subject to a \$500.00 fine to be paid to the Host.
17. Copies of these Tournament Regulations must be given to winning managers at the conclusion of the District Tournament. All other pertinent information should be given to the teams upon arrival. Any manager, who after discussion with the Tournament Director/District Administrator, feels the regulations are not being adhered to, should immediately contact his/her District Administrator.

18. The District Administrator of the Host District must ensure that the manager of the team winning the Ontario Championship immediately gets a copy of the Little League Canada Tournament Guidelines and ensure that all travel arrangements for the team are complete to the next level of competition and that the manager is aware of them.
19. The **ONTARIO HOSTING REGULATIONS** must be followed by the Host District* .

NOTES:

1. For any further guidance on tournament matters, refer to the District Administrator's check list from Little League Canada or to Tournament Rules. For any matter not specifically covered in these Regulations, please refer to the Canadian Tournament Guidelines.
2. Where the term "Host District" is used with an asterisk (*) in these regulations, the term "Host League" may be substituted with approval of the District Administrator.
3. Host Leagues are advised to notify local media of the Tournament to help generate interest and attendance.
4. While it is important to give teams the opportunity to participate in alternate activities, the baseball games are always the priority.

Change Log:

2008-10-25: Added list of approved formats into item 12.

2008-10-25: Changed format of 6-team tournament's playoff to be 1 vs 4 and 2 vs 3, with winners playing the next day, instead of the Little League Canada format.

2009-10-17: Inserted new item 3 regarding Ontario Hosts.

2009-10-17: Inserted new item 4 to record a decision from the 2005 AGM that was recorded in the Minutes but never made it to the regulations, regarding 8-year-olds being allowed in Minors.

2009-10-17: Inserted new item 9 to say that illegal equipment would be confiscated, and returned when a team is finished play in the tournament.

2009-10-17: Appended schedule info to item 15 (was item 12 in previous document) to note that Schedules will include the usual rain/tie-breaker day, as well as a Day of Rest the day before the Travel to Canadians date.

2010-10-16: Item 8--specific wording change detailing appearance of managers & coaches in Provincial Tournaments.

2010-10-16: Item 10--changed wording from 'plaque' to 'Little League Ontario Championship flag/banner' to reflect current practice.

2010-10-16: Item 15--Host Committees are allowed the option to consider the game format of 'Double Elimination' in all divisions for a 4-, 5-, or 6-team tournament in addition to the current Round-Robin format per AGM decision.