

# Little League Baseball California District 52

## Post-Season Tournaments Standard Operating Procedures



# CONTENTS

## Page

### **Section I           Tournaments**

Tournament of Champions (TOC)	2
Super Bowls	2
District All Star Tournaments	4
Section All Star Tournaments	5
Division All Star Tournaments	6
Region All Star Tournaments	6
World Series All Star Tournaments	6

### **Section II           Tournament Procedures**

Host League Responsibilities	7
Schedule of Activities	9
Tournament Site Director Responsibilities	10
Tournament Managers & Coaches Code of Conduct	12
Most Frequently Ignored Little League Rules	15
Little League Baseball Tournament policy	16

### **Section III         Tournament Rules**

Safety Rules	17
Tournament Rules	18
Public Address Announcer Requirements	20
Forms:	
Tournament Announcer Form	22
Tournament Protest Form	23
District 52 Protest Form	24
Western Region No Show/Forfeit Form	25

# Tournaments

1.1 California District 52 sponsors several post-season tournaments at various levels of play. Participation in these tournaments is voluntary and subject to the approval of the District Administrator.

## **Tournament of Champions (TOC)**

1.2 Many Districts sponsor a Tournament of Champions and invite the regular season winning team from each league to participate, prior to the commencement of All Star Tournament play, in a single elimination tournament. At this time, District 52 does not sponsor a Tournament of Champions.

## **Super Bowl Tournaments**

1.3 Super Bowl Tournaments are single-elimination tournaments conducted prior to the commencement of All Star Tournament play. Players, coaches, and managers participating in any Super Bowl tournament are ineligible to participate in any All Star Tournament in the same calendar year.

1.3.1 No affidavits, birth certificates, or proofs of residency are required for players to participate in the Super Bowl.

1.3.2 Each league participating in the Super Bowl tournament shall have a representative of their respective Boards of Directors in attendance whenever their respective league is playing. The league representative shall be responsible for the conduct of all players, coaches, managers, and spectators, and shall take corrective action, whenever necessary, support the Tournament Director to ensure that Little League Regulation XIV is fully enforced.

1.3.3 Protests may be filed in accordance with Little League Rule 4.19. The Tournament Director of the respective Super Bowl Tournament shall immediately suspend play and meet with the umpires before determining a ruling on the protest. Once the Tournament Director has made his/her decision it is final and cannot be appealed any further.

1.3.4 All Super Bowl tournaments shall be conducted with the “ten-run rule” (4.10e) enforced.

1.3.5 Consecutive Super Bowl games played on the same day and same field shall be played under a two-hour time limit (no new inning may start two hours after the first pitch is thrown.) The last scheduled Super Bowl game of the day is exempt from this rule.

1.3.6 Any player, coach or manager ejected from a Super Bowl game shall be ineligible from participating in any future Super Bowl games during the current calendar year.

1.3.7 District 52 will make every effort possible to provide umpires to cover all Super Bowl games. Host leagues, however, must be able to provide qualified and competent umpires in the event District 52 umpires are unable to cover Super Bowl games.

1.3.8 Each host league for each Super Bowl tournament shall provide for each Super Bowl game a qualified and competent Official Scorekeeper for each game.

1.3.9 Major Super Bowl tournament teams shall be comprised of players representing their respective leagues who played a majority of their scheduled regular season games in the League's Major Division (Little League). Every team shall roster at least twelve, and no more than fourteen eligible players.

1.3.10 The Major Super Bowl tournament shall be played under Little League Tournament Rules as delineated in the Little League Rule Book (pages T-1 through T-21).

1.3.11 Minor Super Bowl tournament teams shall be comprised of players representing their respective leagues that played a majority of their scheduled regular season games and never competed in or above the Major Division (Little League Baseball). Every team shall roster at least twelve and not more than fourteen players.

1.3.12 The Minor Super Bowl tournament shall be played under Little League Baseball regular season rules. The five-run per inning rule shall be waived after the conclusion of the fifth inning. Minor Super Bowl tournaments shall also use a "roster batting order."

### **District 52 All Star Tournaments**

1.4 California District 52 conducts post-season All Star tournaments for players between the ages of 9 and 18. The various levels of play include: 9-10 year old, 10-11 year old, 11-12 year old, 13-14 year old (Junior Division), 14-16 year old (Senior Division), and 16-18 year old (Big League Division). All post-season All Star tournament games will comply with all rules and regulations set forth in the current Little League Baseball (or Softball) rule book, as applicable, and as modified by the Tournament Rules section of each respective rule book. **THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS OR DEVIATIONS FROM THIS REQUIREMENT.**

1.4.1 Local leagues within District 52 may request to host any of the tournaments listed above, and, once selected by the District Administrator to be the host site, agree to comply with the host league responsibilities set forth within this guidebook. Any deviation or exception to these responsibilities must be approved by the District Administrator prior to commencement of tournament play.

1.4.2 Each league participating in a District 52 All Star tournament shall have a representative of their respective Boards of Directors in attendance whenever their respective league is playing. The league representative shall be responsible for the conduct of all players, coaches, managers, and spectators, and shall take corrective action, whenever necessary, support the Tournament Director to ensure that Little League Regulation XIV is fully enforced.

1.4.3 Protests may be filed in accordance with Little League Rule 4.19. (Judgment calls cannot be protested). All legally filed protests will be adjudicated by the Tournament Committee in Little League Baseball's Western Region office. Play will be suspended until the protest is resolved.

1.4.4 All District 52 All Star tournaments shall be conducted with the "ten-run rule" (4.10e) enforced.

1.4.5 District 52 All Star tournament games will be played until a winner is determined in accordance with the Little League Baseball (or Softball, as appropriate) Rule Book. **THERE IS NO TIME LIMIT ON ALL STAR TOURNAMENT GAMES.**

1.4.6 Each team competing in District 52 All Star tournament play shall have its respective affidavits completed, signed by both the respective League's President and Player Agent, signed by the District Administrator or designated representative, and all supporting documentation (medical releases, proofs of residency and birth certificates, or other accepted age verification documentation) completed and assembled prior to the commencement of tournament play.

### **Section 3 All Star Tournaments**

1.5 District 52, along with Districts 14, 45, 57, and 67, comprise California Section 3. All teams that win the District 52 All Star Tournament are eligible to advance to the Section 3 All Star Tournament and compete against teams representing the other four Districts in Section 3.

1.5.1 Managers, coaches, and players of teams representing District 52 are required to display exemplary conduct and participate in all tournament play with highest possible level of sportsmanship and fair play.

1.5.2 Any league, with a team participating in a Section 3 tournament, shall have at least one member of its Board of Directors, in attendance whenever its team is playing in a Section 3 tournament. It is the responsibility of this representative to ensure all players, managers, coaches and spectators adhere to the principles, rules, and regulations of Little League Baseball and Softball.

1.5.3 By mutual agreement of all of the District Administrators in Section 3, a "Code of Conduct" for players, managers, and coaches has been adopted. All teams representing

District 52 by participating in a Section 3 tournament shall strictly adhere to this Code of Conduct.

1.5.4 Tournament sites for all Section 3 tournaments are rotated annually among the five Districts within Section 3.

1.5.5 All District 52 leagues that are hosting a Section 3 tournament are required to also provide on the first full day of Section play, lunch for all players, managers, coaches and umpires, participating in the Section 3 tournament. See paragraph 2.1.12 of this guidebook.

### **Division All Star Tournaments**

1.6 All teams that win their respective Section 3 tournament advance to Division tournament play. Division tournament play consists of teams representing all of northern California. As a result, Division tournament games may be played anywhere in northern California.

1.6.1 Teams representing District 52 and Section 3 in Division play are required to display exemplary conduct and participate in all tournament play with highest possible level of sportsmanship and fair play.

1.6.2 Any league, with a team participating in a Division tournament, shall have at least one member of its Board of Directors, in attendance whenever its team is playing in a Division tournament. It is the responsibility of this representative to ensure all players, managers, coaches and spectators adhere to the principles, rules, and regulations of Little League Baseball and Softball.

1.6.3 Division tournament play is the highest level of competition for teams in 9-10 year old and 10-11 year old age groups.

1.6.4 All District 52 leagues that are hosting a Division tournament are required to also provide on the first full day of Division play, lunch for all players, managers, coaches and umpires, participating in the Division tournament. See paragraph 2.1.12 of this guidebook.

### **Western Region and World Series Tournaments**

1.7 Teams winning their respective Division tournament advance to the West Regional tournament. For teams in the 11-12 year old age group, the West Regional is held every year in San Bernardino, California.

1.7.1 Players, coaches and managers are lodged in dormitory-style rooms at Little League's Western Regional Headquarters. The Northern California representative will compete against other Division champions from Southern California, Hawaii, Arizona, Nevada, and Utah. The winner of this tournament advances to the Little League World

Series in Williamsport, Pennsylvania as the representative of the United States West Region.

1.7.2 Junior, Senior, and Big League West Region Tournaments are held at various locations throughout the West Region. The winners of these tournaments also advance to their respective World Series tournaments held at various sites throughout the nation.

# HOST LEAGUE RESPONSIBILITIES

2.1 Leagues hosting any District 52 sponsored tournament (Super Bowl, District All Star, Section or Division) shall agree to provide, at a minimum, the follow for all tournament games:

2.1.1 Provide the best possible playing conditions. All Major or Minor games shall be played upon Major fields only. Exception to this rule can only be made with the consent of the District Administrator.

2.1.2 Before each game the following, at a minimum, shall be performed: cut grass (daily), drag field, water down infield, secure bases properly and mark field strictly in accordance with the Little League Rule Book (foul lines, batter's, catcher's and coaches' boxes, first base alley and out of bounds line) and re-chalk batter's box after infield practice, if needed. Foul lines shall be chalked or painted to the outfield fence foul pole.

2.1.3 Provide the President or a Board Member to assist the Tournament Site Director. He/she must be familiar with regular season rules and Little League Tournament rules.

2.1.4 Provide at least one current Little League rulebook in score booth. If no score booth is available, provide roped off area with table and chairs for scorekeepers. The Tournament Site Director will establish the scorekeepers' location away from the fans.

2.1.5 Provide the Tournament Site Director with written ground rules for your field at least thirty (30) minutes before game time.

2.1.6 At all games, furnish a game announcer, a public address (P.A.) system, United States flag and the ability to play the National Anthem over the P.A. system. Also furnish a Safety Director, foul ball chasers and scoreboard operator. No public access to the dugouts shall be provided to spectators during All-Star tournament.

2.1.7 Must provide at least 3 new Little League Tournament approved game balls to the plate umpire, with additional game balls available.

2.1.8 Must provide a first-aid kit and ice packs.

2.1.9 Must post in score booth and snack bar the name and address of the field location, name and phone number of a doctor, ambulance, nearest hospital, fire department and police department. All host Leagues **must** have a working telephone (regular or cellular) on site.

2.1.10 Aid the Tournament Site Director in crowd control. Assist the Tournament Director in whatever manner is required.

2.1.11 Host League is responsible for providing water for both dugouts.



2.1.12 Host Leagues for Section 3 and Division tournaments on the first full day of Section and/or Division tournament play, shall provide for all players, managers, coaches, and umpires, at a minimum, hamburgers/hot dogs, snack, and beverage, at no charge to any of the participants or participating leagues.

# GAME DAY SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

2.2 The following schedule of activities shall be strictly adhered to for all District 52 sponsored tournaments:

2.3 **Sixty minutes prior to scheduled first pitch:** Both teams arrive at field and commence warm-ups. Depending on the number of players present and ready to play teams may have either one manager and one coach or one manager and two coaches on the field during warm-ups.

2.3.1 **Fifty-five minutes prior to first pitch:** Each manager shall report to the Tournament Director for pre-game coin toss. The team traveling the greatest distance to the game site shall have the option to call “heads” or “tails.” The winner of the coin toss then has the option to select either “home team” or “visiting team” or choice of dugout. Once the winner has selected an option, the other team’s manager shall select one of the remaining options.

2.3.2 **Thirty five minutes prior to first pitch:** Each manager shall submit to the Official Scorekeeper an official line-up with players’ first and last names, position, and jersey number. All ineligible pitchers shall be clearly designated as such. For information on the minimum requirements for an official line-up see Sections 2.4.7 and 3.2.1.

2.3.3 **Thirty minutes prior to first pitch:** The Visiting team shall be allowed the option of taking infield practice for 10 minutes.

2.3.4 **Twenty minutes prior to first pitch:** The Home team shall be allowed the option of taking infield practice for 10 minutes.

2.3.5 **Ten minutes prior to first pitch:** Pregame Ceremonies – Introduction of complete roster (including player positions), coaches and managers. Only those named on the roster/affidavit will be allowed on the field. Visiting team to be announced first, then home team. Alternatively, players are to take position from home plate to either first or third base. Announce umpires by position. Umpires to take position behind home plate facing teams. Play National Anthem and recite Little League pledge.

2.3.6 **Five minutes prior to first pitch:** Managers meet with the Umpires and Tournament Director at Home Plate and exchange line-ups and review ground rules.

2.3.7 **Schedule first pitch time: PLAY BALL!**

# TOURNAMENT/SITE DIRECTOR RESPONSIBILITIES

2.3 All Tournament/Tournament Site Directors shall comply with the following requirements when hosting a District 52 sponsored tournament:

2.3.1 All Tournament/Tournament Site Directors shall have thorough knowledge of all regular season rules and Little League tournament rules and be prepared to interpret, instruct and follow them to the letter.

2.3.2 Arrive at playing field one and a half (1 ½) hours before game time. Follow pre-game schedule (Section 2.2 of this SOP) precisely.

2.3.3 Verify eligibility by reviewing pitching logs.

2.3.4 Resolve protests ONLY when called upon for help by chief umpire.

2.3.5 Tournament Site Director or umpires are responsible for the inspection of playing equipment of both teams. Some items to look for are:

(a) Bat length, bats that won't pass freely through LL approved bat ring, loose sleeves on aluminum bats, cracked bats, etc.

(b) Cracked or painted helmets, decals (unless team manager has with him/her letter from manufacturer regarding the paint or decal or if it was applied by the manufacturer) or with missing or loose pads will not be allowed.

(c) Players age 12 and under playing catcher shall use long model chest protector with high collar, Junior and Senior catchers may use long or short model chest protectors. All players warming up pitcher must wear mask with dangling throat guard. Hockey-style mask **must** have a throat guard.

(d) Rule 1.17 shall apply and be strictly enforced:

*"1.1 7 All male players must wear athletic supporters. Male catchers must wear the metal, fiber or plastic type cup, and a long-model chest protector. Female catchers must wear long or short model chest protectors. All catchers must wear chest protectors with neck collar, throat guard, shin guards and catchers helmet all of which must meet Little League specifications and standards. Catcher's helmet must meet NOCSAE specifications and standards. All catchers must wear a mask, "dangling" type throat protector and catcher's helmet during practice, pitcher warm-up and games. **Note:** Skull caps are not permitted."*

2.3.6 Be alert throughout the game for control and safety practices. Keep fans away from both dugouts. The Tournament Site Director is expected to remain at playing field until completion of game.

2.3.7 Check medical release forms for each player. **IF THERE IS NO MEDICAL RELEASE FORM. A PLAYER CANNOT PARTICIPATE UNLESS THEIR PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN IS IN THE STANDS.**

2.3.8 At the end of the game make sure to:

(a) For All-Star teams – have official scorekeeper sign the Little League All-Star Pitching Affidavit. **Ensure pitching records are posted in ink before signing. Umpires are not required to sign scorebooks. If there are discrepancies between the pitching affidavit and the scorebook before or at a subsequent game, the pitching affidavit rules.**

(b) Following elimination games, each team shall line up on their respective baselines so that the eliminated team may receive their District 52 (or Section or Division, as appropriate) All-Star pins.

# TOURNAMENT MANAGER/COACHES CODE OF CONDUCT

2.4 By direction of the District 52 District Administrator the following procedures will be enforced for both the Super Bowl and the District 52 All Star Tournaments:

2.4.1 Any team that conducts pre-game practice in violation of Rule 1.17 shall have their pre-game practice session terminated immediately and all players, manager, and coaches restricted to the dugout until pregame ceremonies commence.

2.4.2 The manager of any player who violates Rule 1.08 (Notes 1 and 2) shall:

- a. for the first offense of the game, receive a warning from the umpire;
- b. for the second offense of the game, be restricted to the dugout for the remainder of the game;
- c. for the third offense of the game, be ejected from the game.

2.4.3 Any manager or coach wearing a fielding glove, a first baseman's mitt or a catcher's mitt during pre-game or during the game shall be ejected from the current game and the following game.

2.4.4 Any team, during the pre-game inspection of team equipment, found in possession of illegal equipment (in particular, in violation of Rule 1.17) shall have all pre-game practice terminated immediately.

2.4.5 Any teams with twelve or fewer eligible players in uniform at a game shall have a maximum number of two adults named at the start of the game as manager and coach. A team with 13 or 14 players may have three adults (a manager and two coaches). At least one adult, either the manager or the coach must be in the dugout at all times whenever at least one or more players are in the dugout.

2.4.6 Dress Code: All players shall comply with all provisions of the Little League Baseball Rule Book regarding uniforms and equipment. All managers and coaches shall wear either long pants (slacks) or shorts that are their respective team colors or of neutral colors black, gray, khaki or white. All shorts and pants shall be hemmed. Shorts must be Bermuda, tennis or walking-type shorts. At no time shall a coach or manager wear cut-offs, gym or running shorts, running pants or running suits, sweatpants, or any other attire that an umpire or tournament official finds inappropriate. All coaches and managers may wear a team jersey or coaching shirt, or a collared "golf-type" shirt, in the respective team colors or in neutral colors of black, white, gray or khaki. Plain, non-collared T-shirts are not allowed. Tank top shirts are not allowed. All managers and coaches are prohibited from wearing sandals or "flip-flops," or any other type of "open-toe" footwear. All players, managers, and coaches shall have their shirts/jerseys tucked in at all times while on the field of play or in the dugout. At no time may a coach or manager wear any type of denim shorts or pants. In the event of inclement weather, coaches and managers

may wear jackets or sweatshirts.

2.4.7 Official line-ups shall be submitted to the official scorekeeper no less than thirty-five minutes prior to the scheduled game time. **The line-up submitted to the official scorekeeper shall be on a piece of paper no less than three inches wide and no less than six inches long with every player's first and last name, number, and the starters' field positions clearly and legibly printed on the line-up.**

2.4.8 When making line-up changes between innings, managers are strongly encourage to make line-up changes immediately following the third out of the previous half-inning and not waiting until the next half-inning is about to begin. Players may also be "self-entered" as they come up to bat by just informing the Home Plate umpire that they are entering the game and giving the umpire the number of the player that is being replaced.

2.4.9 The conduct of all players, coaches, managers and League Officials will be closely scrutinized by District 52. The umpires will be in complete charge of all games once started. League presidents and Board Members shall support the umpires fully. Umpires will enforce all rules with SPECIAL emphasis on good sportsmanship by all participants.

**2.4.10 ANY PLAYER, MANAGER, COACH OR OFFICIAL WHO BECOMES INVOLVED IN AN ALTERCATION AT THE GAME SITE MAY BE SUSPENDED OR REMOVED INDEFINITELY FROM ALL POST-SEASON TOURNAMENT PLAY.**

2.4.11 The manager and coaches are totally responsible for the conduct of their team members at all times. After investigation of all complaints and ejections, the manager, coach or player may be suspended or removed from the team. All penalties will be enforced through the League President.

2.4.12 All players in tournament play:

- (a) Shall conduct themselves in an exemplary manner at all times - no profanity or unsportsmanlike conduct will be tolerated.
- (b) Shall not throw equipment.
- (c) Shall remain in the dugout. Base coaches must be in their respective boxes. No player may leave the field or dugout without the permission of an umpire after the game has started.
- (d) Shall not make any exhibition or demonstration about a judgment call by an umpire, including strikes, balls, out, fair or foul balls.
- (e) Positive cheering encouraged:
  - a. No taunting, banging on fences, verbal comments directed at the opponent, or other acts of poor sportsmanship
  - b. This DOES NOT imply that the dugouts need to be silent during the pitcher's delivery, but there shouldn't be increasing volume, screaming,

whistling, etc. This is a baseball game – there will be some noise and players will generally need to deal with it.

2.4.13 The following is expected of all managers and coaches in tournament play:

- (a) They shall conduct themselves in an exemplary manner at all times - no profanity or unsportsmanlike conduct will be tolerated.
- (b) They shall remain in the dugout after the game starts. Sitting on buckets at dugout opening is not permitted.
- (c) They shall request time and receive time before leaving dugout.
- (d) Only the manager or one of his two coaches may come out of the dugout when time is requested and granted by an umpire.
- (e) From the time a team first arrives at the field for warm-ups until the teams have left the field at the conclusion of the game, only rostered players, the manager, and two coaches are permitted on the playing field, in the dugout, in bullpens or other warm-up areas. No other adults are permitted to assist with warm-ups or team pre-game preparation. This does not prevent the Tournament Site Director, grounds crew, or other host league staff or officials from being on the field to carry out their duties.

**Note: Food or drinks (with the exception of water or Gatorade) is not permitted in the dugouts. Also, managers shall remind parents/relatives that the players, managers and coaches are not permitted to talk with the spectators during the game. Players, managers or coaches could be ejected from the game at the discretion of the umpire, particularly if the umpire judges that game information is being communicated. Spectators will be removed from the dugout area by the Tournament Site Director or League Official during the game.**

**No cell phones or other communication devices are permitted on the field or in the dugouts.**

# **FREQUENTLY VIOLATED RULES DURING TOURNAMENT PLAY**

2.5 Over the years, District 52 umpires, in spite of repeated efforts to correct this problem, continually observe managers, coaches, and players participate in tournament play while at the same time being totally unfamiliar with several basic Little League Baseball Rules that should have been applied and enforced throughout their respective regular seasons. In the District's continued effort to prevent this from occurring again, all managers and coaches shall, prior to commencement of tournament play review the following sections (in their entirety) of the Little League Rule Book:

Regulation XIV, paragraphs (a), (b), (d), (e) and (f)

Rule 1.05

Rule 1.08

Rule 1.11

Rule 1.17

Rule 3.09

Rule 3.17

Rule 4.05

Rule 4.10

Rule 5.10

Rule 7.08

Rule 7.11

Rule 7.13

Rule 8.02

Rule 8.05

Rule 8.06

Rule 9.02



# LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT POLICY

## 2.6 Little League Baseball and Softball Tournament Policy

2.6.1 In a few instances during tournament play, managers have instructed players to intentionally pitch wildly for the purpose of allowing the opposing team to score runs. In these cases, the intent was:

- (a) to prolong the game for the purpose of extending it beyond the current half-inning, in order to fulfill the minimum requirements of mandatory play, or,
- (b) to lose the game intentionally for the purpose of influencing the tiebreaker system under the Pool Play Format.

2.6.2 In other cases, managers have instructed hitters and runners to intentionally take action that would result in being called out (to shorten the game for any purpose).

2.6.3 When it becomes apparent to the umpire that the level of play in the game has deteriorated (by the actions of either team), the game should be stopped. If, in the umpire's judgment, either team is engaged in the actions above, the umpire should refer the issue to the Tournament Director, who should then contact the appropriate Regional Center for a decision by the Tournament Committee in Williamsport.

2.6.4 The Tournament Committee will not tolerate this type of behavior, as it undermines the values of sportsmanship and fair play that should be foremost on the minds of all adults involved. When such behavior is brought to the attention of the Tournament Committee, the Tournament Committee may impose penalties up to and including suspension or revocation of tournament privileges for the league, team, manager, coaches and/or players involved, and/or forfeiture of the game.

Note: This policy is not to be interpreted as a prohibition against intentional walks when used as a tactic on the part of the defense to set up a force-out, double-play, to avoid pitching to a strong hitter, etc. Such intentional walks should be considered a natural part of the game.

# SAFETY RULES

3.1 The following safety rules shall be strictly enforced for all District 52 sponsored tournaments:

3.1.1 No jewelry or pins (with the exception of Medic-Alert jewelry) are allowed to be worn by a player. Pins on players, managers and coaches' hats must be removed. Medic-Alert bracelets and necklaces shall be covered with skin-colored tape.

3.1.2 Players who deliberately throw a bat or helmet while on the field will be removed from the game i.e., if the helmet comes off for any reason other than accidental. This is an umpire's judgment call.

3.1.3 In the event of an injury to a player during a play, no one may enter the playing field until the umpire calls "time" or the ball has become dead from other legal causes. The Tournament Director is to make sure that all players stay away from the injured player. No parent is allowed on the field unless called for by the personnel attending to the injured player.

3.1.4 The plate umpire may allow the lead-off batter out of the dugout with a bat between innings. In divisions where the on-deck batter is permitted, the on-deck batter shall remain in the dugout until the lead-off batter is called to the plate. The lead-off batter may swing the bat to warm-up, but only in front of their respective dugout. Players acting as base coaches may not leave the dugout for their position until the pitcher has completed his preparatory pitches. Allowing the lead-off batter out and allowing him or her to swing is at the sole discretion of the home plate umpire.

***3.1.5 No adult shall warm-up players at any time before, during or after a game. A player shall wear a catcher's helmet and mask with dangling throat guard during pitcher warm-up and in-field practice.***

# TOURNAMENT RULES

3.2 The following rules and procedures shall be followed for all District 52 sponsored tournaments:

3.2.1 Line-up cards shall be made out in quadruplicate (listing ineligible players/pitchers) with a copy given to scorekeeper, umpire and other manager. Line-up cards shall include players' jersey number, first and last names, and position. Managers should turn in one copy of their completed lineup cards to the Official Scorekeeper at least 35 minutes prior to the start of the game and bring one copy and 2 additional copies to the umpire's plate meeting 5 minutes prior to the game. The lineups are official once they are verified by the plate umpire. Managers may make changes or correct errors right up to that point.

3.2.2 All games must be completed; players shall hustle on and off the field. Between innings, umpires are directed to allow for six warm-up pitches or one minute (whatever occurs first) between each half-inning. (Remember, by rule, the next half-inning begins as soon as the third out is made!)

3.2.3 Managers shall not leave the dugout until recognized by the umpire.

3.2.4 Managers, coaches and players shall not be permitted to leave the field during the game to smoke. *Chewing tobacco is not allowed.*

3.2.5 All protests must be resolved before the next pitch or play. No protest shall be considered once the next pitch or play has been made. Umpires may (but are not required to) consult with the Tournament Site Director to assist with a rule interpretation or help resolve a protest. If a problem cannot be resolved, the umpire-in-chief shall suspend the game and refer the problem immediately to the Tournament Site Director who will develop an understanding of the protest and contact the appropriate party.

3.2.6 The Tournament Site Director will go to make the call regarding the protest. Both managers may accompany the Tournament Site Director, but will not be allowed to speak during the phone call. The Tournament Site Director will develop a clear understanding of the protest prior to the call and then inform the protest committee of the situation. The Tournament Site Director can delegate the phone call to the plate umpire. **Absolutely no more comments will be accepted from the managers after the decision is rendered and play will resume immediately.**

3.2.7 Tournament Site Directors should immediate contact the District Administrator whenever a protest situation exists.

3.2.8 **Please complete form included in the end of this section for all protest. You will be asked this information by Western Region when calling for a ruling on your protest.** Tournament Field Directors are provided with the necessary phone number in their Tournament Book. Western Region will call Williamsport after a ruling has been

issued and either manager chooses to continue a protest. After the protest is resolved, please phone the District Administrator to inform him of the details of the protest and the decision by Western Region or the Tournament Committee in Williamsport.

**Note: Western Region will only speak to a Tournament Director or Chief Umpire. Williamsport will only speak to Western Region.**

3.2.9 If a manager, coach or spectator is ejected from a game, the individual shall leave the playing field and host League's premises immediately. For a player ejection – if there is no parent or guardian in attendance, the player must remain in the dugout in the custody of his manager or coach.

3.2.10 At the conclusion of All-Star tournament games, the official scorekeepers are to complete the Little League All-Star tournament pitching affidavit in ink. Each team has a separate affidavit. Umpires do not need to sign scorebooks. Pitching affidavits must be delivered to the tournament director prior to each game and shall be available for review by the opposing manager, upon request, prior to the game. If there is a discrepancy between the pitching affidavit and a team's scorebook prior to or at a subsequent game, the affidavit rules. Managers must be sure to review their affidavit and resolve any discrepancies through the Tournament Field Director before leaving the game site.

3.2.11 No cell phones, pagers or other electronic communication devices are permitted on the fields or in the dugouts once the game has started.

3.2.12 No artificial noise makers are permitted during the games.

# PUBLIC ADDRESS PROCEDURES

3.3 Public Address announcers for all District 52 tournaments shall strictly comply with the following procedures.

3.3.1 All personnel working as public address announcers must remember that each District 52 tournament game is considered to be played at a “neutral site” and that at no time anytime any type of favoritism or other unsportsmanlike or unbecoming behavior is to be exhibited or encouraged by the public address announcer. Every announcer shall use the following procedures for all District 52 tournament games:

3.3.2 At least thirty minutes prior to the first pitch the public address announcer shall obtain from the official scorekeeper a copy of both of the teams’ line-ups and rosters.

3.3.3 The public address announcer shall review each player’s name and the proper pronunciation with a coach or manager of the player’s respective team.

3.3.4 During pregame introductions, the public address announcer will read the initial welcome (see the Announcer’s form located in this guidebook) and then introduce the Visiting team, starting with the initial line-up, followed by the substitutes, then the manager and coaches. The announcer will then introduce the Home team in the same manner. The Umpires are then introduced, beginning with the Home Plate umpire, and then followed by 1<sup>st</sup> Base, 2<sup>nd</sup> Base, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Base.

3.3.5 Once all of the teams and umpires have been introduced, the public address announcer will request that everyone stand for the National Anthem and remain standing for the Little League Pledge.

3.3.6 Following the conclusion of the Little League Pledge, the public address announcer will direct the teams back to their respective dugouts and ask that the managers meet with the umpires at home plate.

3.3.7 Once the “play ball” signal has been given by the Home Plate umpire, the public address announcer shall announce the name and number of the player that is coming to bat. **AT NO TIME, SHALL THE PUBLIC ADDRESS ANNOUNCER ANNOUNCE THE NAME AND NUMBER OF THE PLAYER WHO SHOULD BE AT BAT. IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT THE PUBLIC ADDRESS ANNOUNCER ONLY ANNOUNCE THE NAME AND NUMBER OF THE PLAYER WHO IS ACTUALLY PHYSICALLY AT BAT.** This is extremely important procedure to follow because games have been lost and won when public address announcers were following their score card and not what was actually happening in the game.

3.3.8 At no time shall the public address system be used when the ball is in play or about to be pitched.

3.3.9 All changes, once officially recorded by the official scorekeeper, shall be announced, during an appropriate break in the game, by the public address announcer.

# Tournament Announcer

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Level of Play** \_\_\_\_\_

Good Morning / Afternoon / Evening

Welcome to \_\_\_\_\_.

The game today is between \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

A few announcements before the start of the game: The use of tobacco and alcohol is prohibited at all Little League events. Fraternization with the participants is not allowed. Should you fraternize with the participants, you will be asked to stop. If you do not stop the fraternization, you will be asked to leave. For your information, the players have been provided with water by the host league, so the passing of food and drinks to the participants will not be allowed. For your convenience, there is a snack bar open for you to enjoy during the game. District 52 wishes to remind all in attendance that all managers, coaches, umpires and tournament officials are volunteers and that all players, managers, coaches, umpires and spectators are required to conduct themselves in a manner which shall bring credit to themselves, their teams, their communities, their coaches, and their families. All players, coaches, manager, and spectators are required to refrain from any conduct which degrades, intimidates, or otherwise discredits their opponents or an official. Anyone who violates this requirement will be asked to leave the game site.

**Visiting Team Introductions:**

**Home Team Introductions:**

**Umpires for today's game are:**

Plate \_\_\_\_\_ 1<sup>st</sup> Base \_\_\_\_\_

2<sup>nd</sup> Base \_\_\_\_\_ 3<sup>rd</sup> Base \_\_\_\_\_

**Winning team will play: Date \_\_\_\_\_ Place \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Losing team will play: Date \_\_\_\_\_ Place \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_.**

(Note: Check the tournament book and announce where each team will play next.)

# LITTLE LEAGUE PROTEST FORM

## CALL INFORMATION

District Administrator: John Christensen  
Tournament Director: \_\_\_\_\_ District: 52 State: CA Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Protesting Official's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

## TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

Level of Play:  
District \_\_\_\_\_ Section \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Division \_\_\_\_\_ Region \_\_\_\_\_ Division: Baseball

Age Group:  
9 & 10 \_\_\_\_\_ 10 & 11 \_\_\_\_\_ Minors \_\_\_\_\_ Majors \_\_\_\_\_  
Juniors \_\_\_\_\_ Seniors \_\_\_\_\_ Big League \_\_\_\_\_

Tournament Format:  
Single Elimination \_\_\_\_\_ Double Elimination \_\_\_\_\_ Pool Play \_\_\_\_\_

Date(s) of Next Game(s) for Winner or Loser: W \_\_\_\_\_ L \_\_\_\_\_

## GAME INFORMATION

Protesting Team: \_\_\_\_\_ Home or Visitor: \_\_\_\_\_ League No. \_\_\_\_\_

Opposing Team: \_\_\_\_\_ Home or Visitor: \_\_\_\_\_ League No. \_\_\_\_\_

Umpire-in-Chief: \_\_\_\_\_

Situation immediately before the umpire's call or decision resulting in the protest:

Inning: Top of \_\_\_\_\_ Bottom of \_\_\_\_\_ Outs \_\_\_\_\_ Score: H \_\_\_\_\_ v. V \_\_\_\_\_  
Runners on: 1<sup>st</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ 3<sup>rd</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ Count on Batter: S \_\_\_\_\_ B \_\_\_\_\_

Details of Protest:

---

---

---

---

---

Committee Decision (To be relayed through Regional Director or District Administrator or  
Tournament Director at the level of protest):

---

---

Recorded by: \_\_\_\_\_



# DISTRICT 52 PROTEST FORM

## CALL INFORMATION

District Administrator: John Christensen

Tournament Director: \_\_\_\_\_ District: 52 State: CA Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Protesting Official's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

## TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

### Level of Play:

District \_\_\_\_\_ Section \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Division \_\_\_\_\_ Region \_\_\_\_\_ Division: Baseball

### Age Group:

9 & 10 \_\_\_\_\_ 10 & 11 \_\_\_\_\_ Minors \_\_\_\_\_ Majors \_\_\_\_\_

Juniors \_\_\_\_\_ Seniors \_\_\_\_\_ Big League \_\_\_\_\_

### Tournament Format:

Single Elimination \_\_\_\_\_ Double Elimination \_\_\_\_\_ Pool Play \_\_\_\_\_

Date(s) of Next Game(s) for Winner or Loser: W \_\_\_\_\_ L \_\_\_\_\_

## GAME INFORMATION

Protesting Team: \_\_\_\_\_ Home or Visitor: \_\_\_\_\_ League No. \_\_\_\_\_

Opposing Team: \_\_\_\_\_ Home or Visitor: \_\_\_\_\_ League No. \_\_\_\_\_

Umpire-in-Chief: \_\_\_\_\_

Situation immediately before the umpire's call or decision resulting in the protest:

Inning: Top of \_\_\_\_\_ Bottom of \_\_\_\_\_ Outs \_\_\_\_\_ Score: H \_\_\_\_\_ v. V \_\_\_\_\_  
Runners on: 1<sup>st</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ 3<sup>rd</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ Count on Batter: S \_\_\_\_\_ B \_\_\_\_\_

### Details of Protest:

---

---

---

---

---

Committee Decision (To be relayed through Regional Director or District Administrator or Tournament Director at the level of protest):

---

---

Recorded by: \_\_\_\_\_

# TOURNAMENT NO SHOW/FORFEIT FORM

Western Region

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**District Administrator:** John Christensen

**Tournament Director:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** CA **District:** 52

## Tournament Information:

**Level of Play:**  District  Section  State  Division  Region

**Baseball:**  9 & 10  LLB  JLB  SLB  BLB

**Tournament Format:**  Single Elimination  Double Elimination  Pool Play

**Date(s) of Next Game for Winner and/or Loser** W: \_\_\_ L: \_\_\_\_\_

## Game Information

**Team without enough players:** \_\_\_\_\_ **League ID#:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Scheduled Opponent:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Current Time:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Scheduled Time of Game:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Game in Progress?** \_\_\_\_\_

**If yes, current score: H:** \_\_\_\_\_ **v. V:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Reason(s) for team not having enough players to begin/continue game:** \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Committee Decision (To be replayed through Regional Director to District Administrator or Tournament Director at the level of protest):** \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

---

---

---

**Recorded by:** \_\_\_\_\_