

Maidu Single A (Farm) Division



The following is a summary of some of the Maidu Little League rules in the Single A (Farm) Division. These rules are in addition to the official Little League rules found in the Little League rule book. All managers are required to have a copy of these rules with them at all games.

1) Team Formation

- a) Every attempt is made to honor both friend and coach requests in the tee ball division. These requests aren't guaranteed but are dependent the number of registered players and teams.
- b) Teams are formed around March 1st each year.

2) Players

- a) Playing age 6 thru 7 are eligible to play in Farm Division. Playing age 7+ players will need to receive a waiver to play in the Farm division. Refer to the current Little League age chart to determine league age for the current year.

3) Parents

- a) Parents must sign and agree to the Little League's Parents Code of Conduct.
- b) Parents must sign and submit a Medical Release form for each player.

4) Managers and Coaches

- a) Medical Release forms and Parent Code of Conduct forms must be kept with the manager at all games and practices.
- b) Each team may have three named coaches (including the manager) in the dugout or on the field during defensive play.
- c) All managers and coaches must agree to and pass a background check prior to participating in any practices or games.
- d) Each manager and coach represent Maidu Little League and are expected to exhibit exemplary sportsmanship. They are responsible for leading the sportsmanship of all players and parents associated with their team.
- e) All managers are required to attend Maidu Little League mandatory safety clinics, field prep clinics, and coaching clinics.

5) Game Prep

- a) The home team is responsible for providing 2 new game balls at the beginning of each game. They should collect these balls following the game to use as practice balls.
- b) The home team is responsible for prepping the field for play including dragging the

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field, marking the infield and putting bases out. Special attention should be placed on removing any obstacle that may cause injury or negatively affect the game play.

- c) A chalk "pitch line" should be drawn at approximately 35 feet.

6) Game Time

- a) Games are a maximum of 6 innings.
- b) No new inning will begin after 1 hour and 20 minutes from the first pitch. Each team will bat an equal number of times.
- c) Transition between half innings should be done quickly to speed up the game. Line up cards should be prepared prior to the game to ensure smooth transitions, as well as equal play throughout the season.

7) Equipment

- a) Each manager will be supplied a team bat and team helmet.
- b) Only the designated batter may have a bat in hand.
- c) All players must wear a protective cup during games and practices.
- d) All batters must wear a protective batting helmet while on the field.

8) Game Basics

- a) The visiting team occupies the 1st base dugout, and the home team occupies the 3rd base dugout.
- b) The visiting team bats in the top half of the inning and the home team plays defense.
- c) The half inning ends once 7 batters have batted once.

9) Pitching

- a) All pitching will be performed by an offensive manager or coach.
- b) All pitching is done standing or from a kneeling position from the 35-foot chalk line. It should simulate the velocity and trajectory of a live pitch. "Lob balls" or softball pitches are strongly discouraged. The Player Agent will work with managers and coaches to ensure the coach pitching is meeting the development needs of all players.

10) Offense

- a) Batting

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1. Offensive coaches will act as 1B and 3B coaches.
2. There is no "on-deck" circle. Players may not take warm up swings either inside or outside the dugout. Only the current batter may have a bat in hand.
3. 7 hitters will bat each inning. Last batter will be the "home run hitter."
4. All players will receive up to 3 coach pitches during an at bat. No more than 3 coach pitches are allowed. If the 3rd pitch is a foul ball, the batter will receive another pitch. If the batter fails to hit off the coach pitches, they will then hit off the tee.
5. There are no strikeouts. A batter will continue to swing until the ball is hit.
6. When hitting off the tee, a ball is ruled foul if it travels less than 10-12 feet from home plate.
7. Bunting is not allowed.

b) Base Running

1. Stealing is not allowed.
2. Base runners must not leave a base until the ball has been hit.
3. Doubles are allowed on a hard-hit ball to the grass. Base coaches are encouraged to use best judgement in sending players. The goal is to teach players to pick up the coach and follow prompts.
4. Triples and homeruns are not allowed under any circumstance.
5. The 7th batter of the inning may advance through all the bases.
6. Base Runners are not allowed to advance on an overthrow or error.
7. Sliding is not recommended at this level.

11) Defense

- a) Certain defensive rules apply to a "1st half of the season" and "2nd half of the season". Once the season schedule is posted, the Player Agent will notify each manager which games are considered 1st half and 2nd half of the season.
- b) Defensive Coaches
 1. 1st half of the season – Three defensive coaches are allowed on the field to assist players with proper positioning and to prompt them to back the play appropriately.

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2. 2nd half of the season – Defensive coaches are not allowed in the field and will be required to instruct defensive players from the dugout.
3. A defensive coach is allowed behind the plate to assist with passed balls to maintain game flow for the entire duration of the season.

c) Infield

1. Teams will play the infield with only five players (pitcher, 1st, 2nd, 3rd and SS) playing at the appropriate location on the field. No defensive “shifts” are allowed.

d) Outfield

1. 1st half of the season – All remaining players will be placed in the outfield.
2. 2nd half of the season – The outfield will be played with 4 outfielders (LF, LCF, RCF, and RF) if 12 or more players are on the game roster. If 11 players are on the roster, the outfield will be played with 3 outfielders (LF, CF, RF). The intent of this rule is that a single player should not sit the bench alone during a defensive inning.
3. All outfielders must start the play on at least the edge of the grass.
4. Outs are recorded on the bases and players are removed from the field.

12) Player Rotation

- a) Manager and coaches are encouraged to maintain an organized rotation of players to ensure each player has the opportunity to play every position on the field equally.
- b) Players may play a given position only once per game.
- c) Each player should be rotated from infield to outfield as evenly as possible.
- d) Each player must play at least one inning in the infield and one inning in the outfield per game.

13) Umpire

- a) There is no umpire for this division. Managers and coaches make the called outs on the field. Calls too close to call will be in favor of the offensive team. Managers are encouraged to work together to teach players from both teams the game of baseball in a positive manner.

14) Scorekeeping

- a) Scores, win-loss records and league standings are not kept.
- b) No individual statistics will be kept.

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- c) There will not be any emphasis placed during the game of who is winning or losing.

15) Post Game

- a) The visiting team is responsible for field clean-up. This included putting away the bases and mound and securing all sheds and lock boxes.
- b) Each team is responsible for the clean-up of their respective dugout.

16) Post Season

- a) There is no post season for the Farm division.

17) Discipline

- a) Discipline rules apply to all managers, coaches, players and parents.
- b) If anyone is removed from a game by an umpire, they are automatically suspended from the following game.
- c) If anyone is removed from a game by an umpire for a second time during the season, they are automatically suspended for the remainder of the season.
- d) The Maidu Little League Board will take additional action as appropriate to ensure a positive baseball environment for all players and families of Maidu Little League.