



Upper Loudoun Little League

VA District 16

ULLL Manager & Coach Game Management Expectations (Updated: Feb 2024)

Below are ULLL's expectations for Managers, Coaches and Spectators in attendance that are to be followed before and during all Upper Loudoun Little League (ULLL) games. While this list is not comprehensive, it is designed to provide a summary of Little League rules and actions that must be followed during ULLL games. By following these items, all players, coaches, parents, etc. will have a better experience while reducing problems during a game. Remember, managers are responsible for the actions of their coaches, players and their respective spectators. If you have any questions, please contact the ULLL's Umpire in Chief (UIC) (umpire@ulll.org) and/or ULLL President (president@ulll.org).

PRIOR TO GAME:

- Teams must place ALL equipment outside dugout for inspection (i.e., player helmets, bats, catching masks)
- Managers should remind their sideline and visitors of ULLL's Parent and Volunteer Code of Conduct agreements
- Managers must ensure game-quality baseballs are available for play and as backups (Home team: Two new baseball balls + best backups; Away team: One new baseball + best backups)
- Managers and Coaches must ensure catchers wear their helmet, mask and throat protector as they are serving in the role of catcher during infield and/or outfield warm-ups and during pitcher warm-ups.

PRE-GAME PLATE MEETING: *NOTE – No players should be on the field during the pre-game plate meeting*

- **The Team's Manager** must attend the plate meeting five (5) minutes prior to game time
- At this meeting, Managers must provide the Umpire and opposing team's Manager a copy of their team's lineup (and substitutes in the Majors Division) at the plate conference... without it, the game does not begin
- The Adult Game Coordinator must be present at the plate meeting and throughout the game when required
- At the conclusion of the plate meeting, the home team's players shall take the field immediately

DURING THE GAME:

- Teams will hustle on and off the field (Note: there is only one (1) minute between 3rd out and 'Batter up')
- **Umpires will ONLY communicate with each team's Manager – NO EXCEPTIONS.**
- All batting lineup changes/substitutions and all pitching substitutions must be made with the umpire
- Adults may not warm up any pitcher – on the field, in the dugout, or otherwise (Rule 3.09, pg 82)
 - See Local Rules for exceptions during regular season games.
- During the game, only three Adult Coaches (in Majors / AAA / AA), four Adult Coaches (in Rookie / CP / TBall) are allowed in the dugout, and teams are not allowed to switch coaches during the game without Umpire approval
 - Managers / Coaches may not leave the dugout during an inning until the umpire grants "Time" and motions them onto the field. Failure to comply may result in an ejection
 - Manager / Coaches / Players may not chat, talk, or commingle with fans or parents (Rule 3.09, pg 82)
 - Defensive Manager / Coaches may not be in front of the dugout fence if the ball is "live"
 - Manager / Coaches / Players may not use electronic communications equipment (esp. cell phones) for communications purposes after the pre-game plate meeting (Rule 3.17, pg 83).
 - NOTE: A manager or coach is permitted to use a rulebook, scorekeeping, [GameChanger application](#), and/or pitch-counting application on an electronic device without penalty, provided such device is not used to receive messages of any sort.
- An adult coach **MUST** be in each dugout at **ALL** times. Responsibilities include ensuring that...
 - Players STAY in the team's BENCH AREA throughout the game (Rule 3.09, pg 82)
 - No bats are in any players' hands until they are leaving the dugout in order to bat
 - Players are equipped properly and ready for play (on offense and defense)
 - Players maintain a safe and positive environment characterized by good sportsmanship
- There is NO on-deck circle during ULLL games. Between innings the upcoming "Lead off" batter is the only player allowed to have a bat outside of the designated dugout area.
- Players and coaches must remain near their dugout between innings and are allowed to move to the batter's box or base coach's box (respectively) at the conclusion of warm up pitches
- Questions on Rule Interpretations must be asked in a timely manner by the **Team's MANAGER only** (i.e., KNOW the rule and its location in the rulebook location). Coaches are not permitted to address the umpires during a game.
- There is **zero tolerance** for verbal abuse towards umpires (and particularly youth umpires):
 - 1st Offense: Warning (either during the game –or– post-game by the league)

- 2nd Offense: Suspension (either during the game –or– post-game by the league)
- 3rd Offense: Replacement as Coach/Manager for remainder of Season
- Do not challenge a judgment call. In certain circumstances, a manager may ask for clarification.