

## **MURPHEY CANDLER LOCAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS**

The following Local Administrative Regulations will govern the administration of the Spring & Fall Seasons at Murphey Candler. These regulations are clarifications and refinements of the Official Little League Rules and Regulations (OLLRR) as well language relating to the running of the park including and extending beyond the playing rules of baseball.

### **League Structure -**

There will be four (4) levels of play at MC: UPPER, LOWER, TEE BALL and FRONTIER/CHALLENGER.

- UPPER LEVEL KID PITCH –
  - 9- 12 years olds drafted onto a Major, AAA or AA team
    - i. Major (11 & 12), AAA (10 & 11) & AA (9)
  
- LOWER LEVEL MACHINE PITCH –
  - 6-9 year olds not assigned to Tee Ball nor drafted onto a Double A team
    - i. Coastal (8), International (7), Atlantic (6)<sup>i</sup>
  
- TEE BALL
  - 4-5 year olds
  
- FRONTIER & CHALLENGER
  - 5-22 year olds

The Upper and Lower Leagues shall be subdivided into two divisions, the “American Division” and the “National Division”. Rosters shall be filled, with a maximum of twelve players per team, subject to MC Draft Policies and Procedures and/or guidelines, except for returning Major League players as well as any children of managers or children who may otherwise be protected under the Brother Option.

Challenger is established for children age 5 – 18. Players may also participate if they are enrolled in a secondary education program up to the age of 22. The league is designed for children with special needs that benefit from a “buddy” assisting them on the field.

Children enrolled in Frontier are higher functioning special needs players that do not require a buddy to play the game but who benefit from additional on field coaching and attention to facilitate play of the game. Placement into the Frontier league is at the sole discretion of the Frontier League director. The director will assess if a special needs player is able to participate in a machine

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pitch league that follows the more traditional rules of baseball. This decision will be based upon the safety for the participant as well as the ability to function similarly to the rest of the leagues participants.

The Tee Ball Leagues (Southern & Rookie) are formed by league officials to ensure the best experience for players and families and with an eye towards a good introduction to the game.

- For reference – the parent of players playing out of their age group should contact the registrar for further information

### League Administration

- a. **Board of Directors:** The Board of Directors is charged with the responsibility of the day-to-day administration of MC affairs. For a listing of current members and positions please reference our web site.
- b. **Committees:** The Board has delegated substantial responsibility to committees as follows:
  - (1) **Executive Committee:** The Executive Committee shall be comprised of five permanent Members: the President, EVP, VP of Baseball Operations, VP of Operations, VP Finance, Secretary, and the Immediate Past President. The Executive Committee may act on all matters before it as though it were the Board of Directors, and its decisions have the same force and effect as decisions by the full Board of Directors.
  - (2) **Protest Committee:** The Protest Committee for a given League consists of the President, the League Director, the Umpire-In-Chief, and the Immediate Past President. The President shall cast the deciding vote in the event of a tie. Members of the Committee shall recuse themselves with respect to protests concerning games in the League in which their children play. In that event, the Executive Vice-President or a representative shall serve in the place of the Committee member who has been recused.
  - (3) **Rules Committee:** The Rules Committee is appointed each year by the MC President. The Rules Committee is responsible for the evaluation of existing Rules and the recommendation of proposed modifications and new Rules for consideration by the Board of Directors. Proposed rules may be submitted from any source to the Rules Committee for consideration. Likewise, new rules may be proposed directly to the Board of Directors from any source.

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**(4) Disciplinary Committee:** The Disciplinary Committee is appointed by the President each year, with any three members constituting a quorum. The Disciplinary Committee shall conduct hearings and rule on all disciplinary proceedings that arise under the MC Local Playing Rules and Administrative Regulations. The Disciplinary Committee is empowered to place such conditions as it deems necessary for the reinstatement or continued participation of any person with respect to whom disciplinary proceedings have been initiated.

**c. Duty Officers:** Duty Officers are assigned to be present at Murphey Candler Park on each day when practices or games are scheduled. The Duty Officers are MC Directors to whom the Board of Directors has delegated the authority to enforce the Park's rules, and except as may be expressly limited in these Rules, generally to handle all matters arising at the Park. A Duty Officer has the authority to postpone any game due to inclement weather or field conditions before it starts, but once the game has started, the decision on playing conditions rests with the game umpires; provided, however, that if the Duty Officer determines that weather or other conditions make it unsafe to continue play at the Park, he shall have the authority to cease all activities at the Park either for the rest of that day, or until such time later in that day as weather and other conditions may improve to the extent that it is safe to resume play. Any game in progress at that time will be treated as a game that was called by the game umpires for inclement weather, for purposes of complete game rules. The Duty Officers may declare the Park closed whenever the temperature drops below 40 degrees F (including wind chill factor). The President shall at all times have the authority of a Duty Officer. A decision to determine acceptable conditions of play may be made at the discretion of a mutual decision by the President and VP of operations.

**d. Umpires:**

**(1) Volunteer Umpires:** Except as otherwise determined by the Board of Directors, game umpires at MC shall serve on a voluntary basis. If, for any reason, the manager or his umpire cannot fulfill a particular umpiring assignment, he must give ample notice either to the Umpire-In-Chief or the League Director. **Failure of a team to provide umpires without first giving such notice will result in disciplinary action. No volunteer umpires have the authority to make decisions on weather related playability. .**

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(2) **MC Umpire-in-Chief:** The Umpire-in-Chief is the MC Director who is responsible for the supervision of all umpires working at the Park. The Umpire-in-Chief may not, however, overrule game umpires in a game in progress except upon invitation of the game umpires. (Note that the procedure for protests is set forth in the MC Local Playing Rules).

(3) **Game Umpires:** Two umpires must work every game, unless the managers of each team involved agree to proceed with one umpire. These game umpires are designated the "Plate Umpire" and the "Base Umpire". In the Major, Triple A, and Double A Leagues, the "Umpire-in-Chief" for the game will be announced before the first pitch, and is in full control of the game as provided in OLLRR. In the Coastal, International and Southern Leagues, the Base Umpire shall be the Umpire-in-Chief. This includes the authority to eject players, managers, coaches, and spectators from the game, the field, the stands or even the Park if necessary to ensure the orderly conduct of the game. A manager or coach who is ejected from a game shall be automatically suspended from further participation in Baseball at MC until a hearing can be held before the Disciplinary Committee, and thereafter in accordance with the decision of the Disciplinary Committee. Except as expressly provided otherwise in the Local Playing Rules, the Game Umpire-in-Chief has absolute authority over the starting and finishing times for the game and the expiration of game time limits; the acceptability of equipment for use in the game; how many warm-up pitches in excess of four shall be permitted between innings in case of substitution of pitchers; whether the game is to be called on account of darkness; inclement weather or field conditions once it has started; and all judgment calls. The Umpire-in-Chief's decision in these matters is final and not subject to protest.

**e. Managers and Coaches:**

(1) **Selection of Managers and Coaches:** In order to become a manager or coach of record for a team, a candidate must apply to the League Director of the League in which he/she desires to manage or coach. The League Director must inquire into the capability of the candidate, the character of the candidate, the likely eligibility of the candidate's child to play in the particular League in which he/she desires to

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manage or coach (in that regard, the child must play in the League dictated by his or her ability, and not necessarily the League in which the parent wishes to serve as a manager or coach), and the availability of other qualified candidates to manage the desired team. If, after this inquiry, the League Director is satisfied with the qualifications of the candidate, the Director shall propose the candidate to the MC Board of Directors for approval. Coaches shall submit to a criminal history check, as required by MC Baseball and the city of Brookhaven rules. Only after approval in this manner may a person become a manager or coach of record at MC.

**(2) Major League Managers and Coaches:** In the Major League, the coach of record shall be the parent of a rising 11 year old player (assuming that the coach has a child on the team). That individual shall be given preference to become the manager of the team the following year and, therefore, by assuming the coach of record position, is making a two-year coaching commitment. Nevertheless, the promotion of a Major League Coach of record to the manager position the following year (that is, when his child is a rising 12 year old player) shall not be automatic. Coaches do not have tenure, but rather are subject to Board approval each year. Notwithstanding the foregoing rule, ensuring that each team is properly coached is an overriding objective, and the Board may approve the parent of a rising 12 year old player as a coach of record in the Major if there is a lack of other comparably qualified candidates.

**(3) Safety:** The MC Board of Directors has delegated to the Duty Officer substantial powers to take action to cure unsafe conditions of which he may become aware or of which he is made aware by others. Any hazards, unsafe conditions and injuries must be brought to the Duty Officer's attention immediately. First aid kits are located in the concession stands and sheds

**(4) Conduct:** No manager or coach shall use tobacco, alcohol or any illegal or controlled substance at or near the fields or dugouts. No manager or coach shall engage in any conduct deemed inappropriate or detrimental to any player, coach, manager, parent or MC during or in connection with a game or a practice, including the use of profanity, physical intimidation, or any other conduct

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deemed inappropriate in the judgment of the umpire or Disciplinary Committee. If such action occurs during a game, the umpire may issue a warning and shall take such action as the umpire deems necessary to stop the inappropriate conduct, including ejection of the manager or coach from the game, the dugout, the stands or Murphey Candler Park. MCLL reserves the right to take any further additional action that the Disciplinary Committee deems necessary for the well-being of MC.

**(5) Field Clean-Up:** Immediately after each game, and before concession tickets are issued to the team, the players of each team, under the supervision of the managers or coaches of record, shall pick up the litter in their dugout. A manager may be subject to suspension for failure to adhere to this rule, upon petition of the Duty Officer.

- **Evaluations.** All players of League Ages 6-12 who sign up to play at MC must attend evaluations in order to provide league officials with a general idea of their playing ability levels. Returning players to MC shall be required to attend one evaluation, except that at the discretion of the Player Agent, players returning to Major League teams, as a class, may be exempted from attending evaluations. Failure to attend an evaluation will not necessarily prevent a player from playing at MC, as provided in the MC Draft Policies and Procedures. Evaluations will consist of batting, fielding, running and throwing, and, at the Player Agent's discretion, pitching.
- **Vacancies and Relocation of Players.** Once the upper League and coastal drafts are completed and the International and Southern League Team assignments have been made, the team rosters are frozen and may not change except as provided in this Regulation. The Player Agent or registrar shall keep a Waiting List of Registrants who, for whatever reason, are not assigned to a team roster initially. Full team rosters must be maintained at all times. In the event a player is injured, drops out, moves or, for whatever reason, is unable to continue playing for half of the regular season games and surpass the end of the regular season game schedule, the manager must notify the League Director and registrar immediately. League officials will oversee the addition of a waitlisted player to the team not carrying a full roster. Any movement of any player from one team to another after the team rosters have been set, except for the vacancy procedure set forth above, may be accomplished only with the unanimous approval of the League Directors and Player Agents of all Leagues to be affected by the proposed move. If there is a dissenting vote, the matter shall be referred to a Committee consisting of all affected League Directors and Player

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Agents entitled to vote on the move, and the MC President, for final decision.

- **Temporary Call-Ups From Lower Leagues:** A manager may arrange for the temporary movement of one or more players from the next lower League (e.g., Major League teams can only call up 11 year olds unless approved by the league director and president) to enable his team to have eight or nine players at the start of an Upper League game and up to 10 players at the start of a Lower League game. A roster player of a team that arrives after a game has started will be treated as a late arriving player and added to the end of the batting order, and any call-up players that are already in the line-up pursuant to this rule will remain in the line-up for the duration of the game. Any player called up on a temporary basis during the season shall not be allowed to pitch in any game for which he is called up, must not bat in front of any roster player in the batting order except for late arriving roster players, and may only play the minimum number of infield innings per the respective league rules.
  - AA – 1 infield inning in the first 3, and 2<sup>nd</sup> in the 5th
  - AAA – 1 infield inning in the first 5, and 2<sup>nd</sup> in the 6th
  - Major – no infield innings

A player will not be allowed to play in any game as a call-up player if it would result in that player missing a game played by his/her own team. A player may only miss a practice to play in a game as a call-up player with the approval of such player's manager or coach of record. When the game to which a player is being called up precedes his/her regular league game, participation in the call-up game: (1) shall only take place with the approval of such player's manager or coach of record; and (2) shall be limited as requested by the call up player's manager or coach of record, including the duration of his participation and the positions played in the call up game. For playoff games, in cases involving injury, illness or circumstances beyond the control of the manager, an appeal can be made to a Board Committee consisting of the President, the League Director, and the Player Agent for approval to call-up players. The Committee will determine what action if any is appropriate based on the circumstances and to insure an equitable outcome for all involved teams. Committee Members with a conflict will be replaced by appointment of the League Director.

- **All-Star Teams.** Each League shall have a number of all-star teams relative to the league size. Before the end of the regular season, the League Director shall privately interview each player on each team to take their votes for the All-Star Team candidates. Each player shall vote for between three and five players. Tie votes will be settled by the

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Manager or Coach of Record. All players on the team roster are eligible to become All-Stars, including injured players and players who have moved to a higher League during the season. There will be no selection of All-Stars in the Southern League, and no Southern League All-Star Game. The All-Star Games shall be held on the last day of the MC season. The All-Star managers for each League shall be selected by the League Director. These managers may select their coaches (with LD approval) from among the coaches on their own teams, or from managers or coaches in their League. No pitcher may pitch more than one inning in an All-Star Game. The line-up shall be the entire All-Star team roster, with the manager setting the batting order. Defensive positions shall be determined by the manager, but playing time must be divided equally among the All-Stars.

- **Championship Playoffs.** In the Upper League, there shall be a modified double-elimination tournament by division with the divisional winners playing for the League Championship (Championship game is single elimination). The Lower Leagues will play a single elimination tournament. The League Director of each League shall seed the teams on the basis of their winning percentages during the regular season. The home team in all playoff games shall be the higher-seeded team.
- **Team Staff.** Murphey Candler functions in an efficient manner only as a result of the outstanding efforts of its volunteers. Immediately after receiving the team roster, the manager shall recruit parent-volunteers to fill the team volunteer staff positions. A form will be provided by the Women's Auxiliary to each manager so that he can list the various team staff members for publication in the MC Directory. The manager may also be asked to enter that information directly into the MC website.
- **Tournament Teams. Default to Liles TBD** At the discretion of the board, MC may place one tournament team selected separately from each Division (i.e. American and National) in the 9-10 year old, 10-11

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from Little League to Dizzy Dean*

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year old, Major and Intermediate Division tournaments sponsored by Little League Baseball, Inc. ("Sanctioned Tournaments"). MC also participates in the 8 year old and 9 year old tournaments sponsored by the District ("Special Games"). For the Special Games, two balanced teams will be placed in each tournament. For the 8 YO Tournament 3 teams will be created. Each team however will only be comprised of 12 players. Selection of the manager and coach of record of each

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tournament team is made by the Tournament Team Manager Selection

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Committee, appointed by the MC President during the season. This Committee may announce its selection of managers and coaches for tournament teams by April 1 of any season. Selection of the tournament teams is made by the Tournament Team Selection Committee, consisting of the MC President, the League Player Agent, the League Director, the Tournament Team Manager, and the Immediate Past President. During the season, all of the managers and coaches of record within a League shall be given ballots on which to select the players they would propose for the tournament teams from each division, if applicable. Each ballot will include names of those players to be considered for the tournament team(s). Each ballot submitted will be combined by the League Director to compile an overall ballot. From the overall ballot each manager and COR will submit to the League Director their vote for fourteen players by division, if applicable, ranked in order of ability. However, when two teams from a League not separated divisionally are placed in a tournament, the vote will include twenty-eight players ranked in order of ability. All voting is to remain confidential. After collecting all of the votes, the League Director will tally the results and provide the Selection Committee with the cumulative results of the vote. Only the League Director may see the results of the individual voting; provided, however, that in the event of a request by a manager or COR for an audit of the voting, the League Director will disclose the results of the individual voting to those members of the Tournament Team Selection Committee who do not have a son or daughter in the age group being audited. The Tournament Team Selection Committee shall give substantial weight to the outcome of the voting. Departures from the voting may be requested by the Tournament Team Manager, but are subject to the approval of a majority of the Tournament Team Selection Committee. Departures from the voting may be requested by the Tournament Team Manager, but are subject to the approval of a majority of the Tournament Team Selection Committee. Each tournament team will be comprised of 13 players. The rosters will not be finalized until player availability and commitment is confirmed. Official tournament team practices shall not begin until the end of the regular season in accordance with the Tournament Team Regulations set forth by Dizzy Dean Baseball, Inc.

- **Protests.** The protest procedure is set forth in OLLRR 4.19, as supplemented by the Local Playing Rules. Protests are not encouraged.

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- **Practices.** There shall be only three “Team Meetings” per week, except that Major League teams will be allowed, after the regular season games have begun, to have one additional, optional practice each week – week is defined as Sunday to Saturday. (This will not be a regularly scheduled practice and the responsibility for finding an appropriate location for the practice rests with the manager). Four team meetings per week may be allowed in leagues other than the Major League only if the fourth meeting is a makeup game that is rescheduled from a previously scheduled date by the Scheduling Director or the League Director for that League. A “Team Meeting” is defined as a game, a practice or any other assembly at which one or more managers or coaches and more than two players are present and where the intent is to exercise or study baseball. Unless approved in advance by a League Director, a team may not practice on Sunday. No practice may exceed two hours.
- **Minimum Playing Time and Player Rotation Rules.** Minimum playing time and player rotation rules are set forth in the Local Playing Rules. A manager may petition the Player Agent for permission to suspend the minimum playing time requirements as to a particular player due to insubordination, or for other disciplinary reasons. The Player Agent will issue a ruling to the manager as to the permissibility and length of the suspension. Only after following this procedure may a manager reduce a player’s minimum playing time. Violation of the minimum playing time or player rotation rules shall result in forfeiture of the game in which the violation occurred. If the violation is realized in game the managers should notate the violation and finish the game without announcing to the teams and should contact the LD after the game.
- **Violation of Pitching Rules.** A violation of the limits on pitching as set forth in the OLLRR (as amended by the Local Playing Rules), either intentional or unintentional, will result in the forfeiture of the game in which the violation occurred. The opposing manager may not waive the forfeiture. If an alleged violation is discovered and the manager of the team alleged to have violated the Rules concedes that a violation has in fact occurred, the forfeiture of the game will be automatic. If an alleged violation is discovered and the manager disputes the allegation, the matter will proceed to the Protest Committee and will follow the protest procedures set forth in these Regulations. All teams must maintain accurate records of the names of all pitchers used and the number of pitches by each pitcher. The records must be made available for review to an opposing manager upon his/her request. If the violation is realized in game the managers should notate the violation and finish the game without announcing to the teams and should contact the

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LD after the game, but should make the appropriate changes to ensure arm safety.

- **Forfeiture Rule.** If a game cannot be played because of the inability of a team to place eight players on the playing field when the umpires are ready to start the game, the game shall be forfeited by that team and counted as a loss for that team in the league standings. If neither team can place eight players on the playing field when the umpires are ready to start the game, then the game shall be deemed forfeited by both and counted as a loss for each team in the league standings. A manager may notify the League Director if an organized school or religious function or school spring break will result in his team being able to field fewer than six players from the team roster at a scheduled game. The League Director shall then request that the Scheduling Director reschedule the game. Forfeitures may also occur for violation of the minimum playing and pitching rules, as described in Sections 12 and 13 of these Regulations.
- **Pre-Game Warm-ups and Batting Cage Priorities.** Rules concerning pre- game warm-ups (i.e., how early before a game a team may arrive, etc.) and priorities concerning use of the batting cages are set forth in the Local Playing Rules.