



Southeast Polk Little League Little Slugger Rules 2024 Season

LITTLE SLUGGERS –

1. Each team can have 1 to 2 coaches. At least one of these coaches is required to be over 18 year old and the rest over 15 years old. Each coach over 18 in the dugout or on the field with the players must have passed a league background check.
2. Except in extenuating circumstances (i.e. lots of rain cancellations) the league will never schedule more than two games per week and you should never schedule more than one additional make up game or practice during a week.
3. Coaches may be on the field when their team goes on defense along with all players on the roster.
 - a. All parents are encouraged to help with the kids on the field
 - b. The coach will have final say as to how many parents are allowed in the field and where those parents should stand
4. All players on a roster will bat in a continuous order as listed by the coach each inning.
5. Batting order should rotate to give a different player the chance to hit the “grand slam” at the end of the inning.
6. All players on the roster will be given a defensive position each inning. The defensive positions shall include the five main infield positions. The other players can fill in space in the infield or shallow outfield at the coach’s discretion.
7. All players must rotate defensive positions each inning.
 - a. For safety reasons, there is no catcher at the Little Slugger level. The coach of the offensive team will act as a catcher. Helping retrieve the ball and get it back on the tee while also helping the kids who are batting.
 - b. At any given time if there are at least 5 defensive players on the field the main defensive positions should be filled (P, 1B, 2B, 3B & SS) All other players should fill in where there is available space or be positioned in the shallow outfield.
 - c. Players should be playing in traditional baseball positions (or as close to them as you can get them to stay at this age). The third baseman should not be up by the pitcher, the first baseman should not be halfway to home plate, etc.
8. If a team has less than 5 players, the positions shall be as follows:
 - a. If four players they shall have a pitcher, a 1st baseman, a 2nd baseman and a 3rd baseman
9. If a team has three players or less the coaches should “swap” kids to even out the teams and to allow for all kids to play and enjoy the game.
10. The batter will hit off of a tee. There is no coach pitch option in Little Slugger.
11. Each time the ball is hit the runners will advance one base. There is no stealing in Little Slugger and players are **NOT** allowed to advance an additional base on an overthrow.

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12. The last player to bat will be deemed to have hit a Home Run and the bases will be cleared.
 13. The goal is to teach the kids the basics of the game. Encourage them to try for outs but no runners will actually be put out at the Little Slugger level.
 - a. The player who fields the ball should be encouraged to throw the ball to a base, unless the player can make it to the base with only reasonable effort being made.
 - b. On the final batter of the inning, the player who fields the ball should be encouraged to throw the ball to home plate, unless the player can make it to home plate with only reasonable effort being made. In general any ball fielded by a player other than the pitcher should be thrown to home plate.
 14. There is no score kept in Little Slugger.
 15. There will be a 45 minute time limit or 3 innings, whichever comes first.
 16. In the event of severe weather (cold, rain, lightening, etc.) it is the coach's job to call the game. Do not play if you do not feel it is safe or if it is too cold for the kids.
 - a. Any full innings played count and the game continues from that spot when the weather passes, or at a rescheduled time.
 - b. If the game is called in the middle of an inning, that inning does not count.
 - c. You are not required to make up any games.