**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

 PLAYERS AT THE MINOR AND MAJOR AGE GROUPS ONLY (9-12) ARE NOW OBLIGATED TO BRING **THEIR OWN BATTING HELMET** ALONG WITH THEIR BASEBALL GLOVE. THIS BATTING HELMET IS TO BE BROUGHT TO EVERY GAME AND PRACTICES.

**Please visit the website regularly for all information concerning the baseball season**

[**www.larondelittleleague.ca**](http://www.larondelittleleague.ca)

* Team rosters
* Scheduling
* **Cancelled games – before games**
* Results
* Picture day
* Year end
* Yearly registration
* All-star tryouts

**Basic La Ronde Little League recommendations**

1. We highly recommend that parents take the time away from the park to play/practice the game with their child. This is a very simple and forgotten aspect of the child’s baseball development. Basic baseball skills to practice at home could be:

* Pitching/throwing the ball
* Catching
* Hitting

For further information of these techniques, see coaching staff and/or league organizers for teaching aids. Another easy to use tool and for these baseball skills is [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) .

2. Baseball pants are included in the Minor and Major division registration fees. These pants are to be worn for all games and practices for your child’s safety.

 We also strongly recommend that all Tee Ball players wear pants, not shorts, to their games and practices for their safety. This will avoid cuts and scrapes when the players slide or fall on the field.

3. **Minor division games begin at 5:30pm.** We highly recommend that players arrive half hour before the game (5:00pm) for warm-up and infield practice (times may vary).

 **Major division games begin at 7:30pm.** We highly recommend that players arrive half hour before the game (7:00pm) for warm-up and infield practice (times may vary).

4. **THE LEAGUE HAS NOW MADE IT MANDITORY THAT PLAYERS BRING THEIR OWN INDIVIDUAL BATTING HELMET FOR HEALTH PURPOSES.**

5. Baseball cleats are not mandatory but can be helpful while playing in wet conditions.

6. We recommend that players bring their own water to avoid having them leave the dugout during the game.

7. **All game cancellations (**rain, lighting, field conditions**) will be posted on the website prior to the game (** [**www.larondelittleleague.ca**](http://www.larondelittleleague.ca) **). NOTE:** we try to hold off on cancellations as long as possible. Games will be cancelled at the last minute. If you are doubtful, check the website before leaving for the game.

8. The scoreboard is fun for the kids. The only way the scoreboard will be used is if parents volunteer their time to run it. If you are interested to learn how to run the scoreboard, please advise us and we will give you the guidlines necessary.

9. The parents roles are to **encourage** the players, to be **positive** and to have **fun**. Please do not coach from the sidelines. **If you are interested in coaching, please join a staff and pass on your expertise to all the kids.**

10. The coaches are responsible to assign the players their positions. The choices they make are to be respected and please note that these choices are made to protect the players safety.

**Good websites for Little League Information**

[www.larondelittleleague.ca](http://www.larondelittleleague.ca) (Our league)

[www.llont.fuzzybeagle.com](http://www.llont.fuzzybeagle.com) (Little League Ontario)

[www.littleleague.ca](http://www.littleleague.ca) (Little League Canada)

[www.littleleague.org](http://www.littleleague.org) (Little League International)

**For young players and parents unfamiliar with the rules of baseball, here are the basic rules**

**Batting, Outs, and Strikes**

A youth baseball game usually consists of 6 innings. In each inning, each team will pitch and field while the other team bats. When the batting team gets 3 outs, the other team bats.

**Outs**

A offensive player is out when any of the following occur:

* They get 3 strikes.
* They hit a ball that is caught before the ball hits the ground.
* The ball is thrown to the first-baseman and the first-baseman touches the base with his/her foot while the ball is in his/her glove or hand.
* Any member of the fielding team tags a runner off a base with the ball or the glove containing the ball before therunner gets safely to a base.
* The base runner is forced out before arriving at the next base. **(A player is forced to run when all bases behind him are occupied and the ball is hit by the batter. The batter must run to first forcing the other to advance a base.)**

**Strikes and Fouls**

A batter may get a strike in 3 different ways:

* A swing and a miss at a ball.
* A ball thrown into the strike zone that is not swung at but called a strike by the umpire.
* A ball hit "foul". **(The ball’s hit outside the fair lines of the field)**

**Positions**



1. Pitcher

2. Catcher

3. First base

4. Second base

5. Third base

6. Shortstop

7. Left field

8. Center Field

9. Right Field

**How to choose the proper baseball glove size for your child?**

Little Leaguers should use smaller, not larger gloves. Resist the temptation to let your child use that old, well broken-in glove you used in high school or for Slo-pitch. Larger gloves may seem easier to use when you are just playing catch, but in a game it is different. In games, everything happens much faster, and your child will be trying to catch and field balls in all sorts of different positions.

Below is a chart of recommended glove sizes. If your child is particularly large or small for his or her age, adjust the sizes accordingly, but we recommend a maximum of 11 ¼ " in Little League. The absolute biggest we would recommend would be 11 ½” for the bigger and stronger child. But even then an 11 ¼” would be sufficient. The table below probably covers 80% of the players in a given division.

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| --- | --- |
| **Division (Age)** | **Glove size** |
| Tee Ball (6 to 8 yrs old) | 8 ½ to 9 ½ |
| Minor Baseball (9 and 10 yrs old) | 9 ½ to 10 ½ |
| Major Baseball (11 to 13 yrs old) | 10 ½ to 11 ½ |

**How to choose the proper baseball bat size for your child?**

La Ronde Little League proudly invests in top of the line baseball bats every season for our house league and All-Star program. If you choose to buy your child his/her own baseball bat, we highly recommend that the bat be shared with teammates come game time to avoid any problems on the bench.

When choosing a baseball bat, there are a number of factors that must be taken into consideration, including level of play, size of the batter, cost and comfort. Aluminum / composite baseball bats are the bats used at the Little League level. Little League bats must be 32” or less and have barrels no more than 2 ¼ in diameter. The bat must also be made of an approved material, but need not actually say “approved by Little League” on the bat.

The table below probably covers 80% of the players in a given division but some kids are bigger/smaller than others; some are stronger for their size; some have already developed good technique. **The percentage of tall/strong kids that can properly swing a 32” bat is very minimal**. A bigger bat doesn’t mean a better swing/hit therefore your 12 year old should use a 31” bat unless the coaches advise otherwise.

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| **Division (Age)** | **Bat size** |
| Tee Ball (6 to 8 yrs old) | 26” to 28” (-10 or lighter) |
| Minor Baseball (9 and 10 yrs old) | 29” – 30” (-10 or lighter) |
| Major Baseball (11 to 13 yrs old) | 30” to 32” (-9 or lighter) |

**List of Little League Approved composite bats :** [**http://www.littleleague.org/learn/equipment/approvedcompbatssmall.htm**](http://www.littleleague.org/learn/equipment/approvedcompbatssmall.htm)