



2. **Flexible assignment of teams**, and players to teams, to provide different levels of instruction and development. This is done to:
  - a) *The accommodation of the "ball player" who views the Fall Ball program as an extension of the regular season and wants to improve on skills that may already exist and: **THIS IS KNOWN AS OUR BLENDED APPROACH!***
  - b) To provide an entry point into Little League Baseball.
  - c) To provide the player an instructional environment for skill development.

**District Seven Responsibilities:**

1. When appropriate, secure the services of umpires.
2. Pay bills for uniforms, utilities, field use and maintenance to the city of Mesa and Mesa School District.

**League Responsibilities:**

1. All insurance claims must be filed through the local league.
2. Assist in the recruiting of managers and coaches for teams that come from their league boundaries. The actual recruitment of managers/coaches is with the local league where the Fall Ball Team originates.

**Supplemental Guidelines:**

**Visitor's** - Listed first on Schedules - Use first base side  
**Home Team** - Listed last on schedules - Use third base side

**Game Times & Limits:**

**8 THROUGH 12 YEARS OLD**

1. No inning may start after 1 hour 15 minutes from the **scheduled** start time of the game (i.e. from 6:00 PM or 7:45 PM).
2. Exception: a batter will always complete his or her time at bat, and then the game will end.

Game 1		Game 2	
Start Time	6:00 PM	Start time	7:45 PM
Last Inning	7:15 PM	Last Inning	9:00 PM
Game Over	7:30 PM	Game Over	9:15 PM

**13 THROUGH 15 YEARS OLD**

1. No inning may start after 1 hour 30 minutes from the scheduled start time of the game (i.e. from 6:00 PM or 8:00 PM).
2. Exception: a batter will always complete his or her time at bat, then the game will end.

Game 1		Game 2	
Start Time	6:00 PM	Start time	8:00 PM
Last Inning	7:30 PM	Last Inning	9:30 PM
Game Over	7:45 PM	Game Over	9:45 PM

**Game Schedules:**

1. **Changes:** Once the official game schedule has been released, there will be no changes that have not been authorized by the Coordinator except in cases of irrigation or inclement weather, or incomplete games, which may be rescheduled by the division coordinator. The Fall Ball Program will not be responsible for any bills, i.e. umpires, lights that are associated with any games that are not scheduled by the Fall Ball Program.

### Teams Are Responsible For The Following:

1. Drag infield; chalk baselines, pitcher's mound, and batter's box; put down bases.
2. Get pylons, and umpire gear.
3. If one is used, provide a third base umpire.
4. If necessary, if the umpire is late start with a volunteer umpire, provided by the home team.

**\*\* IF BOTH MANAGERS AND COACHES ARE AT THE FIELD EARLY, IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF BOTH MANAGERS TO HELP WITH FIELD PREPARATION; WE ARE THERE TO HELP EACH OTHER.**

### Player Responsibilities:

1. Pick up all trash after each game.
2. Stay in the dugout area while not playing.
3. No eating during the game.
4. Keep all equipment in an orderly fashion in the dugout during the game.
5. **Obey All Safety Rules. Self-discipline is the key.**

### **Ball Field Guidelines:**

1. Absolutely no other team shall be on the premises other than the scheduled team. Make prior arrangements with scheduled team for practice game.
2. Do not hit hard balls into bullpen screens, batting cage screens or backstop (SOFT TOSS). Use soft balls or whiffle balls.
3. Warm-up. If possible, do not use the infield for this purpose.
4. *Manger and coach of record are responsible for returning equipment to the room, neatly, and ensuring that the room is locked. Do not assume that parents or players will lock it or put the equipment away.*
5. Please be courteous when waiting for the school teams to clear from their practice or game. Stay out of the in-play areas, marked by the extension of a line from the dugout fence.
6. Rake home plate and mound areas to fill in holes before leaving field! After late games, rake to fill in areas around 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> bases. Drag the field; dampen mound, batter's boxes and base paths to settle dirt.
7. Have players clean up dugout and surrounding areas before leaving.
8. Please try to limit the traffic on the infield. Use the outfield for pre-game or pre-practice warm-ups

### **Clean Up: City of Mesa Ball Field Guidelines:**

1. Leagues are responsible for removing all trash from dugout areas.
2. Leagues are responsible for all trash pick up for the entire ball field complex
3. Leagues are responsible for emptying all trashcans daily.

## SUPPLEMENTAL LOCAL RULES:

1. All Little League rules regarding equipment are also used in the Fall Ball Program, i.e. no metal cleats except in Juniors and above, and no more than 2 games in 1 day for the Junior / Senior divisions.
2. Skill Development, Coaches are strongly encouraged to give each player the opportunity to play each position in the infield and outfield. Give the players the opportunity to try, and to attempt to learn the skills of all positions on the team. This includes pitching and catching.
3. Managers and Coaches are permitted to give instruction to players within the context of the game. A manager or coach may be on the field to instruct a player on technique for a short period (a maximum of 2 defensive/offensive plays), during instructional sessions. If it is a game i.e. Saturday, then the manager is not permitted on the field while play is in progress, IT IS STILL FOR THE KIDS TO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO PLAY SOME BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL.
4. In Fall Ball, two (2) managers or coaches are permitted on the field in the coaching boxes on the first and third base lines. See number 3 for limitations of managers/coaches on the field.
5. Manager and coaches or record on the only adults permitted on the field and in the dugout. Substitute coaches are permitted on a game-by-game basis. All substitute managers and coaches are expected to comply with the rules of Little League and Fall Ball. It is the responsibility of the manager of record to ensure compliance to the rules by substitute coaches.
6. Batting Lineup: The original lineup will be the batting order and will remain the lineup for the game. All players will bat whether they are playing in the field or are in the dugout. **There Is Open Substitution of Players:**

Pitchers - number of innings to be pitched. NO PLAYER MAY PITCH MORE THAN 2 CONSECUTIVE INNINGS, *but may return to the mound during the game after 1 innings rest*

**NO LEAGUE AGE PLAYERS 16 YEARS OLD WILL PITCH TO ANY 13-YEAR OLD PLAYERS.**

**NO LEAGUE AGE PLAYERS 13 YEARS OLD WILL PITCH TO ANY 12 AND UNDER PLAYERS**

7. Players - each player will play a minimum of 9 (if possible) defensive outs per game.

***THE MANAGER & COACHES ARE ON THE HONOR SYSTEM TO FOLLOW THE SUBSTITUTION and ALL RULES of Little League and the Fall Ball program. We expect each participant in the Fall Ball program to exercise the highest integrity***

*in the application of all the rules of the Little League Fall Ball program. Managers or coaches who ignore any rule of the program are subject to removal from the program. Once removed as a manager or coach in the Fall Ball Program, the manager or coach will not be permitted to return to the program in successive years without special review of the Fall Ball Board of Directors.*

***Forfeits!!!*** *There are none, you are to use players from the opposing team to fill positions. Remember we are there to play ball.*

8. **Inning:** Will be 3 outs or batting through the teams lineup at all levels of play.
9. **Runs:** No more than six (6) runs per inning will be allowed (All Divisions) (No 10 run-mercy rule).
10. **Additional players:** A coach may not add additional players to his or her team without the approval of the league. Remember, an unregistered player may not be covered by our insurance, YOU are increasing your liability should anything happen.
11. **Baseballs/Softballs:** Home team supplies the baseballs for the game. The fall ball program will provide the baseballs/Softballs to the coaches
12. **Bases:** District 7 does not own or provide bases, the program is the guest of various city and school facilities. The city provides bases at their facilities, we use local leagues bases at school fields and any team that loses bases will be responsible for replacing them.

**Field maintenance:** See above ball field guidelines, this has not been followed in the past. Remember we are the GUESTS of the city, the schools, and we use other Leagues home fields.

### ***Uniforms: - Players***

The Fall Ball Program Provides uniforms for the Players.

1. The Uniform consists of a Shirt and a Hat.
2. The player may substitute a personal hat for the Fall Ball Hat.
3. **There will be no alteration of the shirt.** Any player who alters the shirt may be required to replace the shirt at his/her own expense before playing future games. The player may not be permitted to play until such time he/she gets a shirt that complies with the Little League Fall Ball standard.
4. The shirt and hat provided by the Little League Fall Program is the standard, any coach ordering special shirts and hats is responsible for payment of the bill. According to Little League Rules, every player on the team needs to have the same uniform.
5. **THERE WILL BE NO SHIRTS OR OTHER ITEMS WORN BY LITTLE LEAGUE PLAYERS FROM OTHER BASEBALL/SOFTBALL PROGRAMS I.E. MICKEY MANTEL, SANDY KOFAX, BABE RUTH AND ASA TEAMS DURING FALL BALL ACTIVITIES (that is they have a emblem etc that indicates the program).**

### *Uniforms: - Managers/Coaches*

1. THERE WILL BE NO SHIRTS OR OTHER ITEMS WORN BY ADULT MANAGERS AND COACHES FROM OTHER BASEBALL/SOFTBALL PROGRAMS I.E. MICKEY MANTEL, SANDY KOFAX, BABE RUTH AND ASA TEAMS DURING FALL BALL ACTIVITIES.

### *Games:*

1. The Fall Program issues a schedule for 10 to 12 games for the Season.
2. As in the regular Baseball season we have:
  - a) A LIMITED NUMBER OF FIELDS FOR ALL LEVELS (even worse in the Fall)
  - b) Weather
  - c) Irrigation
3. **Whenever we have to cancel a game, there is no guarantee that the game will be replayed.**
4. **There is no guarantee to the number of games that will be played.**

### *Umpires:*

1. Umpires are provided at the Major and Junior/Senior Levels in Fall Ball. This is not a **GUARANTEE** that all games will have umpires. Again, as in regular season, we have no shows. **IT IS THE INTENT TO ONLY PROVIDE UMPIRES ON THE WEEKEND GAMES. FALL BALL IS NOT ABOUT THE UMPIRES, IT IS ABOUT PROVIDING THE KIDS A PROGRAM ON A MORE INFORMAL AND RELAXED BASIS.**
2. If an umpire does not show, then the coaches need to provide the umpires. Remember this is Fall Ball and the lack of an umpire should not be an issue as to whether the game is played.

## **Standards of Conduct Players**

- A. Shall conduct themselves in an exemplary manner at all times.
- B. No abusive or foul language.
- C. Shall not throw equipment – this includes helmets and bats.
- D. Shall remain seated in the dugout. Base coaches must be in their respective boxes; these plus the defensive team are the only players permitted on the field.
- E. No player may leave the field or dugout without the permission of an umpire after the game has started.
- F. No player will make any exhibition or demonstration about a judgment call by an umpire, including strikes, balls, out, fair, or foul balls.
- G. Must hustle between innings – both offensive and defensive players
- H. NOTE: Managers should review this section with the players at the beginning of each game if necessary.

## **Manager, Coaches and Others**

All of the above and the actions of managers, coaches, umpire and League Officials must be exemplary at all times. No profanity or unsportsmanlike conduct by any managers, coaches or players will be tolerated: