



Pennsylvania District 22 Policy Statement

Subject; **SCOREBOARD ETIQUETTE**

Effective Date – **02/10/2010**

I. Reference: Little League 10.0 “What’s the Score” publication.

A. **THE OFFICIAL SCORER**

Being the Official Scorer involves many responsibilities in reports of Little League Baseball/Softball games. Like umpires, scorers cannot satisfy everybody – sometimes not even themselves. Afterthoughts sometimes contradict original judgments.

The scorer must realize that he or she is passing judgment on the feats and the failures of players of school age, and keep in mind the necessity of encouraging the players. The Little League scorer has to use good and impartial judgment, even if he or she is affiliated with one of the teams in some way.

Because young boys and girls are involved in Little League games, scoring requires mature and sound judgment, consistent with ideals of the program. As a rule of the thumb, Little League scorers use common sense and some latitude in judgment without sacrificing the basic principles of scoring.

II. District 22 – Policy for the use of a scoreboard.

A. **THE OFFICIAL SCORER, GAME OFFICIALS & UMPIRES**

Even though the host leagues are required to have a scoreboard, if used, it is a non-official vehicle to inform the game attendees of the score of the game. It’s provided as a courtesy to those in attendance, and is no way required to be used or provided if it becomes a contradiction to the ideas of PA District 22 and/or of Little League Baseball & Softball Inc.

If a scoreboard is used during Little League play, the scoreboard does not reflect the official score which resides with the official scorer as stated in section I of this policy.

If a scoreboard is used during Little League play, it should be used with good judgment. As stated in section I of this policy, *“the scorer must realize that he or she is passing judgment on the feats and the failures of players of school age, and keep in mind the necessity of encouraging players.”* With this stated, the operator of the scoreboard should abide by the following:

The scoreboard operator should know the importance of his/her job and be respectful of all Little League rules. He or she should be impartial and record the score to the best of his or her ability when working with the official scorer.

The scoreboard should be removed, turned off or remain idle when the following occurs:

The score differential is 15 or more runs. This will encourage ballplayers to do their best and not be distracted by de-motivating statistics.

The scoreboard continues to be inaccurate throughout the duration of the game. This adds confusion and introduces unnecessary churn amongst game players, coaches, umpires, officials and fans.

The Game Officials and or the Umpire-In-Chief asked that it not be used.

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