

## 2026 Majors Division Baseball Rules

These rules will govern the Majors Division for the 2026 season. They reflect mainstream practices used by successful Little League programs and align with official Little League regulations while keeping our league's developmental philosophy at the forefront.

### Game Operations & Equipment

- **Game Balls:** Both teams supply one (1) new Little League-approved baseball at the plate meeting. The umpire will select the game ball; backups should be available.
- **Umpires:** If no district or assigned umpire is present, the Home team must provide an umpire.
- **Catcher Safety:** All catchers must wear a mask with a throat guard and cup for all warmups, innings, and bullpen activities. This includes hockey-style masks.
- **No Forfeits:** Borrow players when needed/able to ensure every game is played.
- **Weeknight / Lighting Adjustments:** Games shall not be scheduled for non-lighted fields after sunset.

### Division and Game Format

- **Ages:** 10–12 (league age). Advanced 9-year-olds may play up with board approval.
- **Field dimensions:** 60-foot bases; 46-foot pitching distance.
- **Games** will be a maximum of 6 innings, and no new inning may begin once 1 hour and 45 minutes have elapsed from the first pitch.
- **Continuous batting order** is required for all games.
- **Official scorebook** is kept by the Home team. Pitch counts are verified and recorded each half-inning.
- **Standings** are maintained throughout the season. Seeding is determined by win/loss record for an end-of-season playoff tournament.

### Pitching Rules

- **Pitchers** throw from 46 feet and must follow Little League pitch-count and rest-day regulations.
- A pitcher who starts a batter under the daily limit may finish that at-bat before being removed.

- If a pitcher hits three (3) batters in a game, regardless of the same or different innings, they must be removed from the mound for the remainder of the game.
- No balks are called. Illegal pitches are enforced as balls. Quick pitches, hesitation moves, and deceptive stops are prohibited.
- A pitcher may have two mound visits by a coach in each inning. A third visit results in the pitcher being removed from the mound for the remainder of the game.
- Once a pitcher is replaced on the mound by another player, the pitcher may not return to the mound later in the game
- A player who has pitched in a game may not catch that same day if she has delivered 21 or more pitches. A player who has caught in three (3) or more innings may not pitch that day.

### **Batting Rules**

- Bunting is permitted.
- Dropped third strike is in effect. The batter becomes a runner if the third strike is not caught with first base unoccupied or with two outs.
- All batters and runners must wear approved helmets; face guards or C-flaps are recommended.
- USABat standard bats are required for this division per Little League guidelines

### **Base Running Rules**

- No leading off. Runners may not leave their base until the pitch reaches the batter.
- Stealing of all bases, including Home, is permitted once the pitch reaches the batter.
- On overthrows that leave the field of play, runners advance one base. Live-ball overthrows are at runners' risk.
- Sliding feet-first only when advancing; head-first slides to advance result in an out. Players may dive back to a base to avoid a tag.

### **Fielding and Defense**

- Standard 9-player defensive alignment is used. Coaches should provide fair rotation opportunities consistent with skill and safety.
- Infield Fly Rule is in effect at this level.
- Defensive coaches may not be on the field during live play.

### **Scoring and Conduct**

- Each half-inning ends after three (3) outs. There is no per-inning run limit in Majors.

- A 10-run rule is in effect after four (4) complete innings. A 15-run rule may be applied after three (3) innings by mutual agreement between managers.
- Emphasize instruction, effort, and sportsmanship alongside healthy competition. Disrespectful behavior toward umpires, opponents, or teammates will not be tolerated.

### **Rule Authority and Precedence**

These local rules serve as operational guidance for the Parsippany Troy East Little League and are intended to complement the Official Little League Rules and Regulations. All games are governed first and foremost by the Official Little League Rulebook. If any discrepancy or conflict exists between these local rules and the Official Rulebook, the Official Little League Rules shall take precedence.