



2025 Season

Approved: August 30, 2023

Fall Ball Rules & Guidelines

Little League California District 49

Little League California District 49 is a volunteer organization, run by District and Local League volunteers, is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization and is incorporated with the California Secretary of State. Our local leagues teach the youth in the High Desert life lessons and leadership and use baseball & softball as the outlet to teach those lessons.

**ATTENTION: USE CURRENT UPDATE
ALL PREVIOUS COPIES ARE OBSOLETE**

FALL BALL RULES

1. Any rule not specifically covered in these ground rules shall follow the regular season rules in the Little League Official Rules & Regulations based on the following divisions:
 - a. 6u Baseball & Softball
 - i. TBall rules
 - b. 8u Baseball & Softball
 - i. Minor Baseball/Softball rules
 - ii. Coach/Machine Pitch Only.
 - c. 10u Baseball & Softball
 - i. Minor Baseball/Softball rules
 - d. 12u Baseball & Softball
 - i. Major Baseball/Softball rules
 - e. 13u Baseball
 - i. Intermediate Baseball rules
 - f. 16u Baseball & Softball
 - i. Senior Baseball/Softball rules
2. **GAME BALLS:** Each team will be responsible for supplying one new game ball per game. They also need to have a supply of balls in good shape with them if more are needed.
3. **FIELD PREPARATION:** It is the responsibility of both teams to prepare the field.
4. **MERCY RULE:** The Mercy Rule, as stated in 4.10(e) of the Official Playing Rules, shall be in effect for the 10u Baseball & Softball divisions and above.
5. **GAME TIME:**
 - a. 6u Baseball/Softball
 - i. No new inning after 1 hour.
 - b. 8u Baseball/Softball
 - i. No new inning after 1 hour, 30 minutes.
 - c. 10u Baseball/Softball
 - i. No new inning after 1 hour, 45 minutes
 - d. 12u Baseball/Softball
 - i. No new inning after 2 hours.
 - e. 13u Baseball & 16U Baseball/Softball
 - i. No new inning after 2 hours, 15 minutes.
6. **SCOREBOOKS/PITCH COUNT:**
 - a. The home team shall be responsible for maintaining the Pitch Count. No Official Scorebook will be kept as this is a Training and Development season and the focus should not be on winning but on training. Neither the official scorekeeper nor official pitch counter shall be allowed on the field or in the dugouts.
 - b. The final pitch count for each pitcher shall be recorded on the District pitch count tracking form and signed off by both managers.

7. **LINEUP:** The lineup for all divisions will be continuous, free substitutions. All players will be required to receive mandatory play during a game [rule 4.04].
8. **RUN LIMITS:** There is a five run limit per half-inning rule implemented for all divisions of play. 6u divisions shall bat through the entire lineup, regardless of runs scored in the inning. After the 5th inning (6th inning in 13u Baseball and 16u Baseball/Softball), an inning will be determined by three (3) outs.
9. **UMPIRE REQUIREMENTS:** The home team shall provide at least one umpire for the 10u division games and above. Umpires may be reimbursed or may be volunteers. Games will not be canceled or rescheduled if an umpire fails to show. If no umpire is present the teams may designate a coach or coaches to officiate the game.
10. **PITCHING:** Pitching requirements from the REGULAR SEASON shall be used. All players will be considered eligible to pitch at the start of the season.
 - a. 6u Baseball/Softball
 - i. The coach will pitch three pitches and then use the tee if needed.
 - b. 8u Baseball/Softball
 - i. One of the offensive coaches will pitch to the batter.
 1. Maximum of five (5) pitches will be allowed with the exception that foul balls on the 5th pitch will extend the at-bat until the ball is put in play or the player strikes out.
 - c. 10u Baseball/Softball 12u Baseball/Softball, 13u Baseball, 16u Baseball/Softball
 - i. Player pitch
 - d. In divisions utilizing coach pitch, both the coach and the pitcher must remain:
 - i. SOFTBALL: within the pitching circle.
 - ii. BASEBALL: ten feet from the pitching rubber.
11. **POOL PLAY:** Pool Play is available at all levels of play and must follow Little League Regulations regarding Pool Players.
12. **TEAM COMPOSITION:** Each team shall not have more than eight (8) players of the same league age rostered on their team. All team rosters will be submitted to the District Administrator prior to the start of play.
13. In all other instances, the current Little League Official Rules and Regulations shall be enforced.

APPENDIX A

Training & Development Age Structure

SECTION 1

All leagues in District 49 shall, when registering players for the Training & Development Fall Season, use the child's league age as it would be for the ensuing year.

SECTION 2

Leagues participating in the Fall Ball Training & Development programs are recommended to structure their ages to align as stipulated:

- a. 6u Baseball Division (league ages 4 to 6)
 - a. Shall play using TBall rules.
 - b. Players will play with a tee, coach or machine pitch only; no player pitch.
- b. 8u Baseball Division (league ages 6 to 8)
 - a. Shall play using Minor Baseball rules.
 - b. Coach/Machine Pitch Only.
- c. 10u Baseball Division (league ages 8 to 10)
 - a. Shall play using Minor Baseball rules.
- d. 12u Baseball Division (league ages 9 to 12)
 - a. Shall play using Major Baseball rules.
- e. 13u Baseball Division (league ages 11 to 13)
 - a. Shall play using Intermediate League rules.
- f. 16u Baseball Division (league ages 13 to 16)
 - a. Shall play using Senior League rules.
- g. 6u Softball Division (league ages 4 to 6)
 - a. Shall play using TBall rules.
- h. 8u Softball Division (league ages 6 to 8)
 - a. Shall play using Minor Softball rules.
 - b. Coach/Machine Pitch Only.
- i. 10u Softball Division (league age 8 to 10)
 - a. Shall play using Minor Softball rules.
- j. 12u Softball Division (league ages 9 to 12)
 - a. Shall play using Major Softball rules.
- k. 16u Softball Division (league ages 13 to 16)
 - a. Shall play using Senior League rules.