



NEW JERSEY DISTRICT 12 SOFTBALL INTER-LEAGUE PLAY RULES

The rules and regulations for NJ District 12 Little League Softball are those contained in the Minor League, Little League, Junior League and Senior League Softball Official Regulations and Playing Rules as published annually by Little League Baseball, Inc. with the following supplements:

	Junior Minor/ Rookies 7, 8, 9	Minors 8, 9, 10	Majors 10, 11, 12	Juniors 13, 14 & 15,16
Ball:	11"	11"	12"	12"
Time:	No new inning after 2 hrs. or darkness or where local rules apply	No new inning after 2 hrs. or darkness or where local rules apply	No new inning after 2 hrs. or darkness or where local rules apply	No new inning after 2 hrs. or darkness or where local rules apply
Innings:	6	6 Last declared inning is 6 th , as defined in book.	6 Last declared inning is 6 th , as defined in book.	6 Last declared inning is 6 th , as defined in book.
Players on Field:	9; 6 minimum	9; minimum 8 *should the game be played with only 8 players an out will <i>not</i> called for what would be the 9 th batter)	9; minimum 8 *should the game be played with only 8 players an out will <i>not</i> called for what would be the 9 th batter)	9; minimum 8 *should the game be played with only 8 players an out will <i>not</i> called for what would be the 9 th batter)
More than 9 players on the field is a violation of your insurance policy at all levels of play.				
Pitching Rules:	Coach pitch ONLY. Innings pitched by book. Chart pitchers innings in book.	Innings pitched by book. Chart pitchers innings in book. Rest by book. The rules below will apply through May 7, 2023. Beginning May 8, 2023 interleague games will be all Player Pitch. <u>Rules through May 7, 2023</u> If a batter is hit by a <u>player</u> pitched ball, the batter <u>MUST</u> go to 1 st base. Upon ball 4, the hitting team's coach will pitch starting with the number of strikes in the count (continuous count). The coach will pitch to the batter and the umpire will continue to call balls and strikes. Upon strike 3, the batter is out. Example: If the batter has a count of 1 strike upon ball 4 being called, the batter will be given two more strikes to hit the ball or strike out. There is a limit of 6 pitches that a coach may throw until the ball is put in play or the batter strikes out. A ball accidentally fielded by the coach pitcher shall be considered a "do-over". No coaching from the mound. This does not include the coach-pitcher telling the batter how many pitches she has left and that she must swing at the sixth and last coach pitch. This rule specifically refers to coaching base runners from the mound, which is prohibited.	Player Pitch. Innings pitched by book. Chart pitchers innings in book. Rest by book.	Player Pitch. Innings pitched by book. Chart pitchers innings in book. Rest by book.
Pitching Circle:	35 ft. Distance	35 ft. Distance	40 ft. Distance	43 ft. Distance



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	8 ft. Radius	8 ft. Radius	8 ft. Radius	8 ft. Radius
Runs & Mercy 4.10(e):	Max. 5 runs per inning 10 runs after 4 innings (3 ½ if the Home team is ahead).	Max. 5 runs per inning until May 7, 2023. Max. 3 runs per inning after May 8, 2023. (any runs scored on an over the fence home run would be counted irrespective of the run limit – up to 8 runs can be recorded through May 7 and 6 runs beginning May 8) 10 runs after 4 innings (3 ½ if the Home team is ahead).	No new batter after 6 th run scores; a play must be made. Up to 9 runs recorded in an inning. 10 runs after 4 innings (3 ½ if the Home team is ahead).	No new batter after 6 th run scores; a play must be made. Up to 9 runs recorded in an inning. 10 runs after 4 innings (3 ½ if the Home team is ahead).
Batting Order:	Continuous batting order including all players present at the start of the game. Free defensive substitution provided mandatory play is met. (Rule 4.04). Mandatory play is one at bat and 6 defensive outs. Any players arriving after the start of the game will be placed at the bottom of the batting order.	Continuous batting order including all players present at the start of the game. Free defensive substitution provided mandatory play is met. (Rule 4.04). Mandatory play is one at bat and 6 defensive outs. Any players arriving after the start of the game will be placed at the bottom of the batting order.	Continuous batting order including all players present at the start of the game. Free defensive substitution provided mandatory play is met. (Rule 4.04). Mandatory play is one at bat and 6 defensive outs. Any players arriving after the start of the game will be placed at the bottom of the batting order.	Continuous batting order including all players present at the start of the game. Free defensive substitution provided mandatory play is met. (Rule 4.04). Mandatory play is one at bat and 6 defensive outs. Any players arriving after the start of the game will be placed at the bottom of the batting order.
Stealing:	No stealing	No stealing of home through May 7, 2023. Starting on May 8, 2023 stealing of home is permitted. Only 2 Attempts to steal 2 nd Base/ inning. Leave when pitch reaches the batter.	Unlimited Stealing Leave on Release	Unlimited Stealing Leave on Release
Bunting:	No Bunting	Bunting is permitted. Bunting is permitted while the Coach Pitcher is on the field. Slap bunting is not permitted and will result in an out. Slap bunting is when the hitter “shows” bunt by taking a bunting stance and then pulls the bat back and hits away, usually “slapping” at the ball. Slap hitting is allowed. Slap hitting is where the batter, usually from the left side, takes a half swing at the ball trying to hit it while starting to run towards first base. Fake bunting is permitted.	Bunting is permitted. Slap bunting is not permitted and will result in an out. Slap hitting is allowed. Fake bunting is permitted.	All type bunting permitted
Infield Fly:	None.	None.	Applies.	Applies.
Dropped 3rd Strike:	None.	None.	Applies.	Applies.

Reminder: There is no On Deck in any Little League game. Only the player at bat may have a bat in their hands at any time.