

LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL, INC.  
WASHINGTON DISTRICT 6  
2021 INTERLEAGUE BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL RULES

For Approval 4/1/21

The following rules will be enforced in addition to the Official Regulations and Playing Rules of Little League Baseball & Softball. Adopted by D-6 presidents on (Date).

\*\*\*All leagues that have divisions participating in Interleague play shall follow interleague rules even if two same league teams are playing.

All managers must have a current copy of the Interleague rules with them. Should a question come up concerning an Interleague rule, game play will be suspended until a copy can be consulted, and the question answered. If any of these rules contradict the LL Rule book the LL Rule book shall be the prevailing source.

I. District 6 Interleague Board

- A. The District Administrator is the chairman of the Interleague Board.
- B. Membership includes all league presidents of D6, or their assigned representative. If the league president assigns a representative to the interleague board, they will have all rights and responsibilities as the president they represent.
- C. When an interleague meeting is held, each member who is present will have one vote.
- D. Interleague board duties will include approving interleague rules and game scheduling.
- E. Quorum shall be more than 50% of league presidents in attendance.
- F. Shall meet when convened by the District Administrator to review incidents of concern and may apply additional penalties as allowed by rule 4.07.

II. Interleague Game schedules

- A. Rainout notification- The home team manager is responsible for rainout notification if the game is rained out 1 and ½ hours prior to game time. This manager is responsible for contacting the other team's manager, the umpires and the interleague scheduler for that division.
- B. Cancellations. If the game has been cancelled prior to game day, it is the responsibility of the home team manager to contact the other team manager, the umpires and the interleague scheduler for that division.
- C. Reschedules-Rescheduling rainout or cancelled games are the responsibility of the managers. Managers need to contact interleague scheduler for that division.

III. Game Day

- A. Field suitability is determined by the home leagues field policies. If the field is one that is not the home field for either team the host league may decide to not allow play on the field. The host league decision is final.
- B. The home team is responsible for field preparation regardless of where the game is played.

To avoid potential issues, managers should be reporting & documenting injuries and potential injuries to their league presidents and or player agents within 24 hours of the incident.

#### IV. Game Time

A. This rule applies to the Tee Ball Division. No new inning will be **started** after 1 hour from the **scheduled start time** of the game, or after **3 complete innings**. The game will terminate at 1 hour and 30 minutes after **scheduled start time** of the game.

B. This rule applies to the Pee Wee (coach pitch and player pitch divisions). No new inning will be **started** after 1 hour and 15 minutes from the **scheduled start time** of the game, or after **4 complete innings**. The game will terminate at 1 hour and 30 minutes after **scheduled start time** of the game.

C. This rule applies to the Minor division. No new inning will be **started** after 2 hours from the **scheduled start time** of the game. There is a hard stop at 9:00 pm. **Per regulation VII, or rule 4.10 and 4.11, games that exceed 1 hour and 45 minutes will be a legal game. TWO HOUR TIME LIMIT STILL APPLIES!**

D. This rule applies to the Major division. No new inning will be started after 2 hours from the scheduled start time of the game. There is a hard stop time at 9:00 pm Sunday thru Thursday and 10:00 pm Friday and Saturday. **Per regulation VII, or rule 4.10 and 4.11, games that exceed 1 hour and 45 minutes will be a legal game. TWO HOUR TIME LIMIT STILL APPLIES!**

E. This rule applies to the Intermediate, Junior, Senior divisions. No new inning will be **started** after 2 hours 30 minutes from the **scheduled start time** of the game. If there is no game following this rule does not apply, there is a hard stop at 9:00PM Su. - Thur.

NOTE: If the game does not start within 15 minutes of the scheduled game time, either manager may ask for a reschedule. **Per regulation VII, or rule 4.10 and 4.11, games that exceed 1 hour and 45 minutes will be a legal game. TWO AND A HALF HOUR TIME LIMIT STILL APPLIES!**

F. This applies to all division all levels of SB & BB. Some leagues (usually the home team) have hard stop times apply (either daylight or park closing times) to all games regardless of whether the game is legal or not. Interleague time limits apply to all games and only stop when that game bumps up to the local stopping point.

#### V. Player Pools

A. Rules governing player pools can be found in Regulation V. Selection of Player (c)

B. Borrowing of players at game time is not allowed. Per Regulation V(c)

C. The player agents of the participating leagues must keep a log of player pool, this log must be available upon request.

#### VI. Score Keeping & Pitching Record

A. Each manager is required to carry a copy of their team scorebook **(hard copy or electronic)**, which includes a pitch count and record for all players. The player agent is responsible to see that players do not violate the pitch count rule, Regulation VI (c) for baseball and Regulation VI (b) for Softball.

## VII. Protests and ejections

Game protest policy (see playing Rule 4.19). Any protest must be submitted by the manager first to the umpire on the field of play, if not resolved, note in the official scorebook and play on. Then after the game, the protesting manager shall report in writing to the local league president within 24 hours. The umpire in chief of the game shall also submit a report with 24 hours to the local league president, District Administrator and the District UIC. The league president shall then notify the interleague board for resolution.

Ejections shall be reported within 24 hours by the umpire who executed the ejection or the umpire in chief of the game to the local league president of the offending player, coach or manger. Copies will be sent to the district administrator and district UIC as well. This is mandatory so that the penalty of an additional game suspension will be enforced on the offending person.

## VIII. Special Rules by Division

### T-Ball

**PURPOSE:** Tee ball programs are for players 4-7 years old who want to learn the fundamentals of hitting and fielding. In Tee Ball, players hit a ball off a batting tee. The primary goals of Tee Ball are to have fun, to instruct children in the fundamentals of baseball & softball and to allow them to experience the value of teamwork.

- A. No umpires will be used in Tee Ball
- B. Extra players are to be placed in the outfield.
- C. Coaches/Managers are permitted on the field for the purpose of instruction only. No more than three coaches or managers allowed on the field at one time (one at the plate and two in the field).
- D. No manager or coach shall hand a ball to a player while it is in play.
- E. All runners can only advance a maximum of 1 base on an over throw or passed ball
- F. Both teams will bat through the line up each inning. Batting order is to remain the same through the duration of the game.
- G. No 5-run rule
- H. No 10-run rule
- I. Play only 3 innings
- J. After 3 outs clear the bases continue batting until the side has batted. Clearing the bases after every 3 outs.

### Peewee (aka Coach Pitch/Player Pitch)

**PURPOSE:** Peewee is the next step up from the Tee ball division, but are not quite ready for the Minor division. This is the division where they begin to work on their skills as infielders, pitchers,

catchers and outfielders. Remember, each position plays a key role in the game, and it is important that each child have the opportunity to play each position during the regular season of play.

- A. Ball used will be a level 5 safety ball.
- B. Umpires are not **allowed** for Peewee games. The Honor System will be used to call balls/strikes, safes/outs & fair/fouls by coaches.
- C. Games may be started and continued with 7 players but not less than 7.
- D. No more than 10 players on defense allowed, if the 10<sup>th</sup> player is used, they will play in the outfield only **and the team is required to maintain 4 outfielders.**
- E. Only one coach/manager is allowed in the outfield. This will be for instructional purposes only. At no time should a coach/manager touch a ball that is in play.
- F. Maximum of 5 runs per inning, per team, including the last inning. 15/10 run rule in effect additionally. No unlimited innings will be allowed. Game time limit is still in effect.
- G. Season will start with **2 divisions, 1) coach/machine pitch & 2) player pitch.** On the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday in May the coach/machine division will switch to player pitch from the remainder of the season.
- H. **Coach/Machine pitch division will not merge with the player pitch division after the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday in May or at any time.**
- I. Base runners cannot run unless the ball is put in play by the batter (NO STEALING ALLOWED).
- J. Base runners are not allowed to run on an overthrow or passed ball.

#### For Clarification Purposes -

A passed ball is defined as a ball that gets past/behind the catcher and not past a fielder stationed in the field of play (fair territory) that is an overthrow.

**K. No more than 7 pitches or 3 strikes per batter. Player pitcher will throw a maximum of 4 pitches per batter with the coach pitcher to throw the remainder 3 pitches. The batter keeps the count as pitched by the player when the adult assumes the pitching role. At any time during the at-bat, if the batter reaches 3 strikes the batter is out and receives no more pitches. Batter is out if the ball is not put in play after the 7 pitches. (ADDED 2019)**

- L. Batters will be awarded first base if hit by pitch. If a pitcher hits 3 batters during the course of the game, they will be replaced as a pitcher on the third infraction.
- M. Both SB and BB – When the pitcher is in possession of the ball and is either in the pitching circle (SB) or on the pitching mound (BB), all play will end.
- N. All inning count (SB) or pitch count (BB) applies and rest periods must be observed as listed in the rule book.
- O. Any six (6) year olds that are playing in Pee Wee with player pitch, shall be identified with a green arm band as a reminder to switch to coach or machine pitch for those 6 year olds. Reg IV

(c) prohibits 6 year olds from pitching. Reg III (c) restricts age 6 to receive pitches only from coaches or pitching machines.

## Minor Softball & Baseball

- A. Continuous batting per Rule 4.04 will be used.
- B. There is a maximum of 5 runs per inning, per team. 15/10 run rule applies additionally. If a game reaches the 6<sup>th</sup> inning then the 6<sup>th</sup> inning may be played as an unlimited runs inning. Game time limit(s) are still in effect.
- C. Any batter not able to complete their turn at bat is removed from the batter's box and the next batter is allowed to enter the batter's box with a 0 ball & 0 strike count.
- D. Any player unable to take a turn at bat due to injury is just skipped. No out is applied.
- E. Pitching records must be recorded and available for review by managers of future games.
- F. Pitchers must observe all appropriate rest periods per the rule book/regulations.
- G. Teams may now start or end a game with 8 players. The 9<sup>th</sup> players spot in the batting order will be skipped without an out to the offense.
- H. 7.14 Courtesy runner is allowed for catcher and pitcher when there are two outs. PLEASE REFER TO RULE FOR FURTHER DETAILS. Use of courtesy runner does not eliminate the mandatory play requirements for the base runner. Please refer to RULE 2 for Mandatory play.

## Major Softball & Baseball

- A. Batting order will be continuous as described in the rule book.
- B. 15/10-run rule applies in both SB & BB. 5 run rule not allowed by rule.
- C. Any batter not able to complete their turn at bat is removed from the batter's box and the next batter is allowed to enter the batter's box with a 0 ball & 0 strike count.
- D. Any player unable to take a turn at bat due to injury is just skipped. No out is applied.
- E. Pitching records must be recorded and available for review by managers of future games.
- F. Pitchers must observe all appropriate rest periods per the rule book/regulations.
- G. Teams may now start or end a game with 8 players. The 9<sup>th</sup> players spot in the batting order will be skipped without an out to the offense.
- H. 7.14 Courtesy runner is allowed for catcher and pitcher when there are two outs. PLEASE REFER TO RULE FOR FURTHER DETAILS. Use of courtesy runner does not eliminate the mandatory play requirements for the base runner. Please refer to RULE 2 for Mandatory play.

## Intermediate, Junior, Senior Leagues Softball & Baseball

- A. Intermediate BB plays per Junior League rules
- B. 15/10 run rule applies to all divisions
- C. Intermediate division will play continuous batting order.  
Junior and Senior baseball and softball will bat straight nine.
- D. Pitching records must be recorded and be available for review by managers of future games.
- E. Pitchers must observe all appropriate rest periods per the rule book/regulations
- F. Teams may now start or end a game with 8 players. The 9<sup>th</sup> players spot in the batting order will be skipped without and out charged to the offense.

G. 7.14 Courtesy runner is allowed for catcher and pitcher when there are two outs. PLEASE REFER TO RULE FOR FURTHER DETAILS. Use of courtesy runner does not eliminate the mandatory play requirements for the base runner. Please refer to RULE 2 for Mandatory play.

**AS A REMINDER THE FOLLOWING CHANGES WERE MADE FOR 2019 AND STILL APPLY**

**IX - The following playing rules have been adopted for use in the 2019 regular season by LL. These are paraphrased for brevity. There are 5 other Regulation or Tournament changes.**

## READ THE FULL TEXT FOR THE FULL RULE/REGULATION

Regulation VI (a),(c) note – For Baseball Pitchers, a player who has played the position of catcher for 3 innings or less, moves to become the pitcher, delivers 21 pitches or more (for age 14 and younger), or 31 pitches (for age 15/16), may not return to the position of catcher for the remainder of the day. (See exceptions in actual text).

Rule 1.10 – Allows Tee Ball bats to be used in Coach Pitch/Machine Pitch. Please note that Player pitch is not included.

BBCOR standard bats are allowed for use in Im/Jr/Sr Baseball.

Rule 3.11 – Was intentionally deleted as it is already covered by 4.13.

Rule 8.02 (a) (1) – Baseball & Softball – Provides guidance on when the pitcher's hand may come in contact with the pitcher's mouth or lips.

Rule 8.06 AR – Baseball & Softball - Provides guidance on what is considered a visit to the pitcher

## **NEW RULES FOR 2021**

### **PLEASE REFER TO THE RULE BOOK FOR COMPLETE RULE**

Rule 1.01 Allows a team start with not less than 8 players. Refer to rules 4.04,4.16,4.17 and 6.05.

Rule 2.00 Defines minimum play requirements.

Rule 2.00 Allows for courtesy runner for catcher and pitcher when there are two outs. Refer to rules 3.04 and 7.14 for clarification.

Rule 4.12(d) allows minors to play one doubleheader and majors to play two doubleheaders per week.

Rule 4.10 and 4.11 allows a minimum time limit for a game of 1 hour and 45 minutes. District 6 has chosen to keep with the 2 hour and 2 ½ hour limits as previously set. Games ended after the 1:45 mark will be counted as a complete game.

Rule 6.08(a) now allows a manager to intentionally walk a batter at any point of the at bat. Now allows intentional walks in all divisions of softball without throwing pitches.

Rule 8.01(g) A.R 2- SOFTBALL permits pitcher to remove herself from the pitchers plate with either foot prior to the hands coming together.

Rule 8.01 SOFTBALL JUNIORS revises the penalty for an illegal pitch to only a ball on the batter, and not advancing any runners. Refer to rule 8.05.

## *Rainout Contact Information for 2020*

Battle Ground - [www.bgll.org](http://www.bgll.org) & Facebook

Glenwood [www.glenwoodlittleleague.com](http://www.glenwoodlittleleague.com) & Facebook

Hazel Dell - Facebook

Highlands [www.highlandsl.org](http://www.highlandsl.org) & Facebook

Kalama - Facebook or 360-910-2050

La Center 503-714-5162 or [www.lacenterlittleleague.com](http://www.lacenterlittleleague.com)

Lewis River - Facebook

North Clark - Facebook

Ridgefield - [www.ridgefieldlittleleague.com](http://www.ridgefieldlittleleague.com)

Salmon Creek - Facebook (@SalmonCreekLL)