

Minors Softball Central Iowa Little League 2024 Local Regulations & Playing Rules

Managers & coaches are expected to read & understand the Official Little League Regulations & Playing Rules. This page highlights key regulations & rules. No Rules should be changed unless approved by the CILL Board.

General Rules

- Time Limit: Games will be subject to a 1 hour & 30-minute time limit
 - A new inning cannot start after 1 hour & 25 minutes
- Minors shall use Little League approved 11-inch softballs only
- 35' Pitching distance with an 8' pitching circle
- 5 Run Rule: A half inning ends after 3 outs or 5 runs, whichever occurs first
 - No change to the run rule for the last inning of the game
- Protective Gear: All catchers must have proper protective equipment
 - check your equipment and players prior to game
- Playing with Less Than 9 Players: No penalty
- Mandatory Play: Continuous Batting Order will be used. No player sits out defensively for 2 consecutive innings
- Call-Up Players With approval of the town president, managers may invite Rookies players or Minors players from other teams not having a game that day if they expect a shortage of their normal roster that would place the team at 8 or fewer expected players. Rookie players will be permitted to play in up to 7 games.
 - Rookies players or Minors players from other teams not having a game that day will not be allowed to pitch.
- Jewelry – except items worn to alert medical personnel to a specific condition – is prohibited

Offense

- There is no on-deck circle. All players must remain in the dugout until their turn to bat
- Batting Order: Continuous Batting Order Rule will be used
- Uncaught 3rd strike rule does not apply – a swinging miss or watched 3rd strike is an out
- Sliding is not required, but runners who do not slide may be called out if an umpire believes the runner interfered with a defensive player. Runners must slide feet first when advancing to a base
 - Runners may dive when returning to a base
- Look Back Rule: If the pitcher has the ball in the circle and is not making a play on any runner, the runners may leave their bases & stop once before making an immediate decision to advance or return to their base
- A runner may leave their base when the pitch reaches the batter.
- Stealing Home is in play

Defense

- All catchers must have on protective gear: throat guard, and little league approved chest and head gear. Play will not continue until appropriate protective gear is worn

Pitching

- Pitching Distance: 35' measured from the front of the pitcher's plate to the back of home plate.
- Pitching Limits: A player may pitch in a maximum of 9 innings per game and 18 innings per calendar week (Sunday-Saturday)
- Pitching Records: Date, opponent, location, names of pitchers and number of innings thrown by each pitcher
 - Opposing managers should initial the other's pitching records after each game
- A pitcher who remains in the game & moves to another position may return to pitch, but only once per inning.