

North Bothell Little League FALL BALL 2025 Baseball AA Supplemental Rules

LOCAL RULES - BASEBALL

The following rules apply to all levels of North Bothell Little League:

1. Only FALL BALL registered players may be on the field of play.
2. The **HOME team** is responsible for preparation of the field prior to the game, and to take the third base dugout. The field must be ready in order for the game to start on time. Both teams are responsible for field clean up after the game. No exceptions. Both teams are also responsible for proper storage of field equipment (Bases, etc.), policing the field, dugouts, and stands before leaving, and locking the gates.
3. The OUT-OF-PLAY lines shall be considered an extension of the backstop lines down the first and third base lines. In the interest of safety, any ball going past these lines shall be called dead, whether caught or not caught, batted, or thrown.
4. The usage of non-Little League approved or non-Little League compliant bats is strictly prohibited. In all baseball divisions, composite barrel bats that have not received an approval waiver from Little League International may not be used at any time during practice, games or team events (Team use of commercial batting cages). It is the responsibility of the player and manager to provide documented proof of the Little League waiver upon request by a league official or umpire. Failure to provide an approved waiver from Little League International upon request by a Little League official or umpire will disqualify the composite barrel bat. It is not the responsibility of the umpire to check for composite barrel bat waivers, but it is the umpire's responsibility to enforce the rules.
5. Anyone who is EJECTED must:
 - a. Notify the League President or Vice President and the Division Coordinator of the respective league within 24 hours. He or she will also serve a one game suspension during the next scheduled game that is played.
 - b. Second offense will result in a two-game suspension.
 - c. Third offense is removal from NBLL for the season.
 - d. A Disciplinary Committee appeal may result in missing no games.

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BASEBALL - AA

1. All rules will apply as per the "Little League 2025 Baseball Official Rulebook", except as amended below.
2. All players league age 8, 9, and 10 are eligible to participate in the FALL BALL 'AA' Division.
3. Rosters will be limited to 13 or fewer players.
4. The game will be played using a quality hardball baseball. The **HOME team** will be responsible for supplying 2 game balls to the umpire.
5. All FALL BALL 'AA' Division Games have a hard-stop of 2 hours, the batter may finish their at bat.
6. The Fall Ball AA Division is a non-competitive division and there are no protests. Fall Ball is designed to be recreational, instructional, and above all, fun! Please ensure that you, as Managers and Coaches, as well as your team's parents, set the best possible examples of sportsmanship and courtesy. Scores and overall standings will not be tracked throughout the season
7. In addition to the manager and two coaches, each team should have at least 1 dugout parent in the dugout at all times to monitor, prepare, and coach the players. Players must remain in the dugout or on the bench during games.
8. **Umpires** - Teams will provide umpires for their own games. The **HOME team** will provide home plate umpire and the visiting team will provide the field umpire. Managers are responsible for making sure they have umpires lined up to cover their games as needed. Be sure to check the Jr. Umpire Game Signups to see if one signed up to work your game
9. Scorekeeping is optional for FALL BALL - each team may provide a scorekeeper who is not a manager or coach. The **HOME team** is considered the official scorekeeper. If the home team is unable to provide a scorekeeper who is not a manager or coach, then the visiting team can provide the official scorekeeper.
10. All Volunteers must have an approved background check.
11. If playing on a non-fenced field, the home run line will be marked by cones, if available, at a distance of 160 feet from home plate.
12. Pre-game batting practice at the field is allowed, but must be done in the outfield and in a manner that does not interfere with the opposing team's warm-up. All batters must wear helmets and must be under the strict supervision of a manager or coaches. Hitting sticks, weighted balls, and wiffle balls are the **ONLY APPROVED** equipment for use during pre-game batting practice. Hard balls shall not be used in any manner for hitting / bunting drills during pre-game batting practice.
13. Teams are not allowed to take a full infield / outfield prior to the game. Teams may hit ground balls in foul territory in front of their dugout, and can hit / throw fly balls to players on their side of the outfield.
14. The entire game roster shall be used as the batting order, regardless of defensive position. Players arriving after the game has started shall be placed in the batting order after the last player named in such batting order. Free substitution is allowed for defense.
15. For safety reasons, players are not allowed to hold a bat in the dugout / bench area, or swing a bat outside of the batter's box. Practice swings will be allowed in the batter's box only.
16. After entering the batter's box, the batter must remain in the box with at least one foot throughout the at bat.

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Exceptions:

- a. On a swing, slap, or check swing
- b. When forced out of the box by a pitch
- c. When the batter attempts a drag bunt
- d. When the catcher does not catch the pitched ball
- e. When a play has been attempted
- f. When time has been called
- g. When the pitcher leaves the dirt area of the pitching mound, or takes a position more than five feet from the pitcher's plate after receiving the ball, or the catcher leaves the catcher's box
- h. On a three-ball count for a pitch that is a strike but the batter thinks is a ball

Penalty: If the batter leaves the batter's box or delays play and none of the exceptions apply, the umpire shall warn the batter. After one warning on a batter, the umpire shall call a strike. Any number of strikes can be called on each batter. No pitch has to be thrown, the ball is dead, and no runners may advance.

17. A Batted Ball that:

- a. passes over the coned home run line on the fly shall be a home run.
- b. touches a fielder's glove, or any other part of said fielder, and passes over the coned home run line on the fly, without ever touching the ground prior to passing the cones, shall be a home run.
- c. passes the coned home run line after first touching the ground shall be a ground-rule double, regardless of whether a fielder touched it or not.

18. A batter hit by a coach-pitch does not take first base. During the player pitch portion of the game, a batter hit by a pitch will have the option of taking first base, or remaining at home plate to finish the at bat.

19. There is no stealing during coach-pitch

- a. Stealing second and third base is allowed during kid pitch only, no stealing home until the 6th inning. A runner may leave the base once the ball crosses home plate (no leading off). In an effort to encourage catchers to throw the ball, runners may not advance to another base on an overthrow during a stolen base attempt, except during the sixth inning. The sixth inning is played as real baseball in regard to base stealing. Runners may advance one additional base on an overthrow during a stolen base attempt. Stealing home is allowed in the 6th inning only.

20. A containment rule is used in this division for the ENTIRE GAME To limit the number of bases that runners can advance during each at bat. Our goal is to encourage defensive players to throw the ball and make appropriate baseball plays without the penalty of runners taking unlimited bases on over-throws. Containment is achieved when the ball is in the possession of a defensive player (infielder or outfielder) standing in the infield. There are two types of containment, depending on whether the ball is hit to the infield, or the outfield:

- a. A ball hit in the infield is contained as soon as the defensive player fields the ball. All runners can advance to the next base at the risk of being put out. However, if the defensive player subsequently throws the ball, in an effort to get an out, then all runners shall be entitled to the base they are advancing to, plus one additional base, at the risk of being tagged out, on an overthrow. Subsequent overthrows do not result in additional bases.
- b. On a ball hit to the outfield, regardless of how the ball ends up in the outfield, the ball is not contained until it is in the possession of a defensive player (infielder or outfielder) standing in the infield. When a ball is returned from the outfield and becomes contained, a runner may not advance further than the base they were already advancing to, even on an overthrow.

21. For the entire FALL BALL game the side retires when there are three (3) outs, when five (5) runs score, or when the entire batting order has batted, whichever comes first. EXCEPTION: If a batter hits a home run over the fence or outfield boundary line, or a ground rule double, all runs driven in by that play will score (Maximum of two runs on ground rule double).

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22. Each team will be allowed to use ten (10) defensive players, four (4) of which will be in the outfield. A "Rover" position is not allowed. If a team only has eight (8) players, the game may begin with two (2) outfielders.

23. Minimum Play:

- a. For a completed game of six innings or longer, every player must play at least four (4) defensive innings, with at least two (2) of the four (4) defensive innings being played at an infield position (Positions 1-6).
- b. For a completed game of less than six innings (rain-out, darkness, etc...), every player must play at least two (2) defensive innings, with at least one (1) of the two (2) defensive innings being played at an infield position (Positions 1-6).
- c. A player may not be on the bench for two consecutive innings.
- d. Managers are encouraged to give all players their minimum playing time as soon as possible to ensure compliance in the event the game cannot be completed (Darkness, weather, time limit, etc). Penalties will apply to any team that violates the minimum play requirements.
- e. Any disciplinary actions that impact a player's minimum play time must first be approved by the Fall Ball Director.
- f. Penalties may apply to any team that violates the minimum play requirements. See the league's Disciplinary Policy for more details.

24. For the entire game, the kid pitch will be from a distance of **43 feet**, between the front of the pitching plate and the back corner of home plate.

25. The entire game will be a player / coach pitcher combination. There are NO WALKS in this division. The player-pitcher will pitch to the batter, if the player-pitcher reaches four (4) "Balls", a coach pitcher from the hitting team will take over, assuming the number of strikes called to the batter. The coach-pitcher will pitch till the batter swings to put the ball in play, strikes out swinging or looking on the 3rd strike. A player fouling off a pitch, is allowed another pitch, unless the foul ball is caught on the fly, at which point the batter is out. Coaches are free to pitch in whatever fashion works for their players (i.e., pitch from a knee, pitch from standing, etc.). The coach pitcher must pitch from a distance of 30ft. Coach pitches should be on a line, no lobs or underhand. The player assuming the defensive position of pitcher during this time shall remain even with or behind the line of the pitching mound until the ball is put in play by the batter. The player may choose which side to stand on.

26. Gloves may be worn by the adult pitcher during coach-pitch as a safety measure. However, all defensive handling of the ball is to be done by the players. A live ball coming into contact with the adult pitcher is considered incidental contact, and the ball is live and in play. A live ball caught by the adult pitcher should immediately be dropped and treated as live and in play.

27. Green book rule will be followed for pitch count and rest period required as follows:

Maximum pitch limits are as follows:

- 09 - 10 years old: 75 pitches per day
- 07 - 08 years old: 50 pitches per day

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Pitches thrown	Days of Rest	Pitched on	Rest	Eligible to Pitch
1 - 20	0	Sunday	None	Monday
21 - 35	1	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
36-50	2	Sunday	Mon & Tues	Wednesday
51 - 65	3	Sunday	Mon, Tues, & Wed	Thursday
66 +	4	Sunday	Mon, Tues, Wed, & Thurs	Friday

If a pitcher reaches their maximum pitch count OR reaches a rest threshold while facing a batter, the pitcher may continue to pitch until any of the following conditions occurs: 1) That batter reaches base, or 2) That batter is retired, or 3) The third out is made to complete the half-inning. The pitcher will only be required to observe the calendar day(s) of rest for the threshold he / she reached during that at-bat, provided that pitcher is removed before delivering a pitch to another batter.

A pitcher throwing 40 or more pitches in a game can still play catcher pursuant to the last batter conditions stated above. Once a pitcher has thrown the 41+ pitch to a new batter, that pitcher can no longer play the position of catcher for the remainder of the day. For a complete list of pitchers to catcher or catcher to pitcher rules, please see the GREEN BOOK. In all cases we will adhere to the GREEN BOOK rules.

28. Managers and coaches should make every attempt to keep the game moving along at a good pace.
 - Catchers should be identified in advance of their assigned inning, get geared up and be ready to play when their team takes the field. Note that any player wearing a catcher's mask can warm-up a pitcher and a coach can also warm up the pitcher, if necessary.
 - A Courtesy Runner may be permitted for the catcher and/or pitcher of record when there are two (2) outs. The courtesy runner must be the player in the batting order who made the last out. See LL Rule 7.14(b) for the ruling
29. Outfielders are recommended to start play approximately 15ft behind the infield base lines to encourage proper defensive positioning. Outfielders are permitted to cover bases once the ball is put into play.
30. A thrown ball that passes the coned home run line, shall be called out-of-play by the umpire, and bases awarded to the runners accordingly
31. The "Infield fly" rule is not enforced.
32. There is NO dropped third strike rule
33. Bunting is NOT allowed
34. There is no "must slide" rule. Players are not permitted to slide head first while advancing to a base. However, runners are allowed to dive head first when returning to a base.
35. Any violation of the rules or inappropriate behavior by Coaches, Managers, or Volunteers will be addressed under the league's Disciplinary Policy and the North Bothell Little League Code of Conduct.