

ROOKIES DIVISION LOCAL RULES FOR 2018

Set forth below are the local rules for the 2018 season that will apply to the Poway National Little League Rookie Division, plus selected standard Little League rules are offered for emphasis and importance.

1. Recommended Age: The recommended age for the Rookie Division is league age 7 – 8.

2. Objective: The Rookie Division is designed to teach baseball fundamentals. Winning and losing are secondary to teaching baseball skills. Wins and losses are not recorded. Standings and scores are not kept.

3. Playing Time:

- a) Everyone who is present for the game will be in the batting order for that game. If a player arrives late to a game (after the second inning), that player will be inserted into the lineup and the manager will not be held to the minimum play rule stated in section 3c.
- b) Defensive substitutions: There is no limit to the number of times a player may be substituted in or out of the defensive lineup and no requirements for him/her to go in for the same player.
- c) Each player is to play at least 50% of the game defensively for those innings in which they are in attendance. Because of the time limit, most games may not go more than 4 or 5 innings. Please keep that in mind when making out your defensive lineup.
- d) Any player who did not participate in the required minimum number of defensive outs in a game shall start the next scheduled game and play enough defensive outs to complete both the previous and current requirements before being removed.
- e) No player may play more than 2 innings consecutively at the same position. The catcher position may not apply if there aren't enough catchers.
- f) Everyone should get a chance to play infield in every game. Please keep track of your lineup card to ensure everyone gets a fair chance. Players who did not get to play infield in the previous game must play infield in the next game, unless there are safety reasons.
- g) Managers will field 9 players. Five infield positions (NO PITCHER POSITION), and four outfield positions. Outfield positions must be positioned at least 25 feet beyond the infield baselines.
- h) For the first half of the season, each half inning will end when the team at bat has batted through their complete lineup (bat around). For the second half of the season, the inning will end when three outs are recorded, or after that team bats around.
- i) There will be no 'Stampede Running' after the last batter in the lineup puts the ball in play. If the ball is hit to an infield position, the play will be automatically dead after the batter reaches first base, or after any other defensive out is made. This also means runners who are on base can only move up one base. If the ball leaves the infield, but remains in the outfield, the play will automatically be dead after the batter reaches second base, or when any other defensive out is made. Runners on base can only move up two bases. There are no extra bases on overthrows.

4. Behavior: The actions of players, managers, coaches, umpires and league officials must be above reproach. Any player, parent, spectator, manager, coach, umpire or league representative who is involved in a verbal or physical altercation, an incident of unsportsmanlike conduct, or commits any violation of Little League/Poway National Little League Rules at the game site or any other Little League activity, is subject to disciplinary action by the Local league Board of Directors Grievance Committee.

5. Time limits:

- a) Infield practice will be limited to 10 minutes per team only if time permits.
- b) All games must start and end on time.
- c) Each game shall have a one and one-half hour (1 ½) kill-time, which is counted from the scheduled starting time. The game shall be called regardless of the number of innings played, or which half-inning is in progress. If the start of the game is delayed, it may not be extended and shall not interfere with the start of the following game.

6. Pitching Rules:

- a) A pitching machine shall be used and each batter is allowed six (6) pitches to put the ball into play. After the sixth pitch, if the batter has not hit the ball, the batter will be called out. The last pitch shall not end on a foul ball.
- b) There will be a 10 foot diameter (5 foot radius) circle chalked around the pitching machine. It is the responsibility of the coach or manager operating the pitching machine to ensure that no players enter the circle during play.
- c) Any ball put into play by a batter that comes into contact with the pitching machine shall be ruled a dead ball and the batter shall be awarded first base.
- d) Any ball put into play by a batter that enters and remains in the 10 foot circle shall be ruled a dead ball and the batter shall be awarded first base.
- e) The pitching machine will be set at 40 feet from home plate, and ‘dialed in’ so that it throws the ball in a relatively flat trajectory that passes through the strike zone for an average sized rookie player standing in the batter’s box at home plate. 50 to 51 R.P.M. is the suggested setting on the pitching machine.

7. Catching Rules: The catcher must wear a catcher’s mitt (not a first baseman’s mitt or fielder’s mitt). Catchers must wear the metal, fibre or plastic type cup, a chest protector with pelvic guard and neck collar, shin guards, and a catcher’s helmet and mask with a “dangling” type throat guard. The catcher’s helmet must bear the NOCSAE stamp. Skull caps are not permitted.

8. Coaches on the field: During the first half of the season, the defensive team may have two coaches on the field during play, one operating the pitching machine and one in the outfield. During the second half of the season, the defensive team will have only one coach on the field during play. That coach will operate the pitching machine. A defensive coach will not be permitted in the outfield during the second half of the season. All base coaches and offensive coaches shall remain in foul territory. Two adult coaches are authorized to base coach as long as there is a rostered adult coach in the dugout. In addition, there may be one coach from the offensive team behind the catcher to assist with batting and returning balls to the defensive coach operating the pitching machine.

9. Adults in the Dugout: At least one, rostered coach must remain in the dugout whenever players are present in the dugout.

10. Field Preparation: The home team shall prepare the field for play. The visiting team shall retire the field. Each team is responsible to ensure their dugout and surrounding area is clean before they leave the field. The visiting team of the last game of the day shall be responsible for pulling the trash bags and tying the top and leaving it by the trash can and putting in the new trash bag left on the handle. This is to help expedite the closing process for the board member in charge that night.

11. Batting Team: THERE IS NO ‘ON-DECK’ POSITION. No player in the dugout may have a bat in hand. The batter is the only person that should have a bat in hand. Only the batter, base runners and base

coaches from the batting team are allowed on the field during play. On-deck batters shall not be allowed on the field. All other players must remain in the dugout during play.

12. Bunts: Bunting is not allowed.

13. Base Stealing: Base stealing is not allowed including on passed balls.

14. Fielding Team: All players not fielding a position must remain in the dugout during play.

15. Food in the Dugout: No Food is allowed in the dugout.

16. Uniform: Uniform consists of shirt, hat and long pants. No shorts are allowed. Number 11 and 42 are retired numbers and may not be used by any PNL player.

11) Michael Cammarata – Former LLWS player. Fallen 9/11 firefighter.

42) Jackie Robinson – Former MLB player.