

Idaho District 2 Inter-League Rules  
Softball Rookie Division  
2026 Season

All teams shall follow the rules as set forth in the current Little League Softball Official Regulations and Playing Rules, with the following options/exceptions/additions.

Objective: This program is designed to concentrate on the basic mechanics of the game and learn good sportsmanship.

1. Each team will furnish a minimum of one (1) Umpire for all inter-league games. The home team should provide the plate umpire. If only one Umpire shows up a manager, coach or parent may umpire in the field. If more than two umpires are available, one shall be designated Umpire-in-Chief and the other umpires shall be field umpires [Rule 9.03(b)].
2. Prior to the start of the game, the home team shall provide two (2) new balls to the home plate umpire. The plate umpire may require additional balls during the game and select the best used balls from the teams. [Rule 3.01]
3. The **HOST** league shall prepare the field before each game. **BOTH** teams shall help with clean up after the game, especially the stands and dugouts. **HOST** teams shall break down the fields as needed.
4. Weekday games will begin promptly at 6:15pm.
5. As a courtesy, during times of severe inclement weather it is requested that playing conditions be reviewed and games canceled by 4pm, or two hours prior on non-weekday games, to save teams from traveling to a site that is unplayable.
- 6.
7. Time Limit: No inning will begin after one hour and thirty minutes from scheduled start time. All games will have a drop-dead time two hours from the scheduled game time.
8. This division will adopt the reduced minimum play rule for rosters of 15 or more players. [Reg IV(i)]
9. This division will adopt when a team has only eight players in the game; this division will not assess an out when the missing ninth batter position comes up to bat. [Rule 4.04, 6.05(n)]
10. This division will adopt the option to continue play with only 8 players [Rule 4.17]
11. This division will adopt the courtesy runner for pitcher/catcher with two outs. The courtesy runner must be the last previous out. [Rule 7.14(b)]
12. N/A
13. This division will NOT adopt the option to allow the plate umpire to call balls/strikes from behind the pitching mound. [Rule 9.04(a)]
14. N/A
15. This division will NOT adopt the option to suspend the five (5) run limit. [Rule 5.07]
16. PITCHING: This league is coach/machine pitch only and, because this is an instructional league, the adult may verbally coach from the eight foot circle. The coach must pitch within the eight foot circle. Each batter may have a maximum of five (5) pitches. If the batter does not hit the ball by the fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) pitch, the batter will be allowed to hit off a batting tee. There will be no strikeouts.
17. No stealing. All pitches are dead balls, unless put in play by the batter. Runners may only advance on a hit or other play where they are required to advance (e.g. base-on-balls.)

- 18. No more than six defensive players are allowed on the infield. No limit on outfield players. [Rule 4.01 Note 1]
- 19. N/A

Approved/Acknowledged via unanimous vote by the League Presidents at the Presidents Meeting **TBD**

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