



**Tri-West Little League Baseball  
2026 Gameplay Guidelines  
Major Division**

**General**

- Ⓢ Tri-West Little League adheres to Little League International's Official Regulations, Playing Rules, and Operating Policies: <https://www.littleleague.org/playing-rules/>
- Ⓢ Major Division will utilize the following field measurements for gameplay: 50 feet for pitching distance and 70 feet for basepath distance.
- Ⓢ Primary Focus: Applying fundamentals, displaying sportsmanship, enjoying the game;
- Ⓢ 6 inning games/no time limit/Playoffs = 6 inning games;
- Ⓢ Mercy Rule: 15 runs after 3 innings or 10 runs after 4 innings - including playoffs.

**Fielding**

- Ⓢ Teams shall field one pitcher, one catcher, and four infielders. 3 players shall be positioned in the outfield;
- Ⓢ Play is not dead until the umpire calls "time".

**Pitching**

- Ⓢ TWLL follows Little League International pitching rules and TWLL requires coaches to report player pitch counts via the Division's GroupMe chat after each game;
- Ⓢ A pitcher is allowed to make a maximum of 75 pitches per day. However, a pitcher is allowed to finish the current batter once 75 pitches is reached;
  - ❖ If a player throws 66+ pitches: required rest = 4 days
  - ❖ If a player throws 51-65 pitches: required rest = 3 days
  - ❖ If a player throws 36-50 pitches: required rest = 2 days
  - ❖ If a player throws 21-35 pitches: required rest = 1 day
  - ❖ If a player throws 20 pitches or less: no required days or rest

- Ⓢ If a player throws to a max pitch count above: 20/35/50/65/or 75, the player may finish only that batter without penalty of another days rest.

### **Batting**

- Ⓢ Teams will bat until 3 outs are recorded or the batting team scores 5 runs;
- Ⓢ The 5-run rule only applies for the first 5 innings. 6<sup>th</sup> inning = unlimited runs;
- Ⓢ In the event of a dropped 3<sup>rd</sup> strike, the batter may attempt to take 1st base only if 1st base is UNOCCUPIED or there are 2 outs;

### **Baserunning**

- Ⓢ Runners may lead off and attempt to steal;
- Ⓢ Runners may attempt to advance bases until the umpire calls “time”.

### **Equipment**

- Ⓢ All batters and baserunners shall wear a helmet at all times while on the playing field;
- Ⓢ Catcher shall wear a helmet, face mask, throat protector, chest protector, cup, and shin guards;
- Ⓢ Only USABat baseball bats are permitted. For more information on the USABat standard and a complete list of bats approved through the USABat Standard visit: <https://usabat.com>

### **Goals to Aim For**

- Ⓢ Successful squeeze bunts;
- Ⓢ Successful run down(s)/pickle.