

West Bend Little League

Junior League 2026 By Laws

Section 1 – Junior League Outline

1. The Junior League will consist of teams with no more than 13 players per team.
2. The season will consist of approximately 14-18 games with interleague games to be played against other teams from District 1 (Grafton or other).
3. The Junior League teams will consist of players league age 13-15 years old. Players who are (1) league age 15 attending high school and not intending to play high school baseball or (2) in eighth grade may play Junior league with the understanding that they will not be eligible to play on the district tournament team. League age 12 year olds may try out for Juniors but must finish in the top 50% of scores and must be above the cut line for team establishment.
4. The manager of each team will schedule a minimum of 2 practices per week prior to the start of the season. During the season the manager will schedule a minimum of 1 practice per week.
5. There will be an end of the season tournament.
6. **Child Abuse Awareness** – All coaches must complete training and provide their certificate to WBLL. If someone learns of any abuse they are required by law to report it to law enforcement within 24 hours. West Bend Little League prohibits retaliation against good faith reports and limits any one-on-one contact with minors.

Section 2 – Junior League Playing Rules

1. It is the responsibility of all managers to make sure their players are properly equipped before the start of each game. No jewelry except a medical ID bracelet is allowed. Catchers must wear a protective cup.
2. All teams will use roster batting. All players in attendance for the game will be in the batting order. Late players may be inserted at the end of the lineup. Players must play a minimum of 3 complete defensive innings in a complete 7 inning game. The innings need not be consecutive.
3. *Time limit* – Games will be seven innings and two hours in length. A new inning may not begin if the time limit has been exceeded. The game will continue if the game is tied and the “California Rule” will be instituted at that point. The game will be considered complete at the end of the inning that the score is no longer tied. (California Rule: the inning starts with one out and the batting team placing a runner (player batting last in the inning) at second base and the game proceeds.)
4. An adult may occupy the first and/or third base coaching boxes provided there is an adult coach in the dugout at all times.
5. Any player warming up a pitcher must have a mask on and wearing a protective cup.
6. Before the start of each game the manager or coach from each team will meet with the umpires to go over the ground rules, etc.
7. There will be a 15-run rule in effect after 4 innings (3 ½ innings if the home team is ahead), 10-run rule after 5 innings (4 ½ innings if the home team is ahead), and 8-run rule after 6 innings (5 ½ innings if the home team is ahead). The manager of the team with the least runs shall concede the victory to the opponent and the game is complete.

8. Metal spikes are allowed.

9. In the event of a rainout, the managers must notify the West Bend Little League scheduler at jimmy.2364@live.com AND the Junior League Director to reschedule the game.
10. **Amend Rule 4.16 and 4.17:** A team may begin a game with 8 players. The 9th position in the batting order will not be recorded as an out. A team will not forfeit due to lack of sufficient players. If a team refuses to play with eight players and is unable to field nine players they may reschedule the game. Teams may borrow players from the other or another team but these players may not pitch or catch for them and must bat at the bottom of the batting order.
11. Pitching rules will follow the official Little League pitching rules:
 1. League age 13-15 can have a maximum pitch count of 95 pitches per day. (Exception: in order to finish a batter when the pitch count is reached, you can exceed this limit.)
 2. **Regulation VI(c)** - A pitcher who reaches 40 pitches may complete the at bat and still maintain ability to catch the remainder of the game. This is now a threshold.
 3. Pitchers league age 14 and under must observe the following schedule for rest:
 - a. 66 pitches or more – 4 calendar days rest
 - b. 51 – 65 pitches – 3 calendar days rest
 - c. 36 – 50 pitches – 2 calendar days rest
 - d. 21 – 35 pitches – 1 calendar day rest
 - e. 20 pitches or less requires no rest

Threshold Rule – Pitchers may complete the current batter's at bat and shall not be counted as exceeding the next pitch count days of rest restriction. Ex. Pitcher has a pitch count of 2-2 on current batter and has thrown 35 pitches. The pitcher may complete the current batter without exceeding their days of rest to two days.

4. A pitcher removed from the mound and remaining in the game may return as a pitcher at any time but only once per game (Reg VI).
5. Coaches will track pitch counts for both teams and sign off each other's form.
6. If a defensive team elects to intentionally walk a batter, no pitches are thrown but four pitches will be recorded on the pitcher's pitch count.
12. **Regulation VI (a)** – a player catching three innings or less during a game can then pitch, deliver up to 20 pitches and still be allowed to return to catch the remainder of the game. Note that the 20 pitch limit is subject to the threshold rule (see above).
13. If a pitcher wears a long sleeved shirt under their uniform it must be a solid color and no lighter in color than medium gray (solid dark colors are recommended).
14. No negative chatter is allowed at any point during games by players, coaches or spectators.
15. No chanting by players, members of the coaching staff or spectators is allowed.

Bat Regulations

All bats must have a league approved USA logo on them or be stamped as BBCOR. Wood bats are also legal to use. Bats less than 2 5/8" diameter may be used but also must have the league approved USA logo on them or be wood.