

2026 CHLL Intermediate Division Local Rules

The following "local" rules will apply to CHLL Intermediate Division: any/all other rules will be enforced per the official 2026 Little League Baseball Rulebook.

1. There will be a maximum of five (5) runs scored per half inning, except during the Open Inning.
 - a. After 4 innings, 15 run lead (3.5 innings if home team is ahead), then the 5th inning will be open.
 - b. After 5 innings, 10 run lead (4.5 innings if home team is ahead), then the 6th inning will be open.
 - The open inning is the final inning UNLESS the team that is losing scores enough runs to be within the 15/10 runs after their at bat.

*Example: Padres (home team) are beating the Dodgers by 18 runs after 4 innings: the top of the 5th inning is 'open'; if the Dodgers score 4 runs to get within 15 runs, then play on...if not, the mercy rule is invoked.

2. If a batted ball that is hit over the fence results in a home run with one or more runners on base, all runs will be counted. This includes those runs that take a team's total runs in an inning above 5. (Jose Canseco "bounced" home runs are included in this rule.)

2. Pool Player(s) will bat at the bottom of the lineup and must play in the outfield.

3. During all games prior to Saturday, March 21, pitchers will be given one warning before a balk is enforced. Bases will not be awarded to runners when a warning is given, but offense will not be penalized for plays that result in advancement during the balk. On and after March 21, balks will be called and enforced as per Little League rules.

4. A game may not start, or continue, with less than eight players. (See Rule 4.16 and 4.17)

5. When a team starts or plays a game with less than nine players, the ninth position in the batting line-up shall be skipped without penalty (See Rule 6.05(n))

6. TIE GAME: When the completion of seven innings, and the score is tied, starting in the top of the eighth inning, and each half inning thereafter, the offensive team shall begin its turn at bat with the player who is scheduled to bat last in that respective half inning being placed on second base.

EXAMPLE: If the number five batter is the lead-off batter, the number four batter in the batting order will be placed on second base. An eligible substitute or special pinch runner may be inserted for the runner. (Adoption of Tournament Rule 14 for regular season)

Other Highlighted Little League Rules Included for Reference:

- The Intermediate Division utilizes a 'Continuous Batting Order' (CBO). Excluding injury and discipline issues, all players will bat in the batting order. Players arriving after the game starts will be inserted at the bottom of the batting order. (See Rule 4.04)