

# National/ Double A Division Rules

Revised 2024

## REMEMBER- THEY ARE JUST KIDS AND IT IS ONLY A GAME!

The National/Double A division will follow the rules of Little League as they appear in the current Official Rule Book with the following exceptions:

### General Playing Rules:

1. NYBS requires players to attend and complete 50% of scheduled games to maintain eligibility to attend tryouts for summer baseball
2. All coaches, players, and parents will follow NYBS Code Of Conduct at all times. Any infraction will result in immediate discipline by the board.
3. A minimum of one junior umpire is required for each game. NYBS has a zero tolerance policy for anyone who is disrespectful to an umpire. Any coach, player, or parent that is ejected from a game is automatically suspended for two (2) games, barred from any contact with or attending any team activities, and **must** attend a disciplinary hearing with the executive board before they can be reinstated.
4. Every player bats in the line-up. Line-up cards will be exchanged between managers prior to the start of the game.
5. If a player misses their turn in the batting order for any reason, other than injury, sickness, or any of the exceptions noted below, an out will be recorded in that spot and they will not be allowed to re-enter the batting order (if the player has left the complex). The player is allowed to re-enter, in their original spot in the order, if they overcome their injury or sickness. If a player has to leave the game and field complex for any other reason...AAU, other sport, non sport reason (other than an emergency) an out will be recorded in that spot in the batting order.
6. No player(s) shall sit more than 3 innings per 6 inning game. Player(s) shall not sit out more than two (2) of the first four (4) innings. This rule does not apply if a player sustains an injury or illness during the game. Coaches should see that the same player(s) are not always sitting and should be rotating who sits amongst their team. Players **must** play a minimum two (2) innings in the infield.
7. Games will be six(6) innings & played on a 46/60 diamond. See **Pitching** section for distances for ages & bases at 60ft.
8. Prior to the end of the second inning, late arriving players will be placed at the end of the line-up. Once a team has batted through the batting order once, no additions will be made regardless of inning making that late player ineligible to play.
9. Use of any tobacco, vaping, or alcohol is not allowed during any NYBS game, practice, or any other function.
10. **NO** chanting or singing of cadence of any kind is allowed.

11. NYBS is a volunteer program and everyone must do their part in the upkeep the fields and complex. The "Away" team is responsible for preparing the field prior to the game. This includes but not limited to: lining the foul lines and batter's boxes, dragging the infield, hand raking the mound and bases, setting up scoreboard. The "Home" team is responsible for clean up after the game including but not limited to dragging the infield, hand raking the mound, bases, batters box, setting the bases in the proper plugs (if needed). **EACH** team is responsible for **their** side of the field (dugout, grandstands, etc.) to make sure all trash is removed and as required, trash cans emptied into dumpster located at the rear of the complex.

12. At the conclusion of the game the winning coach is required to confirm with the losing coach final scores and innings pitched and email both to the league contact within 24 hours to be entered into the standings on the NYBS website. The name of contact and email address to be provided. Failure to report both score and innings pitched will result in a forfeit.

13. All games are assigned an official start time. This is the time that the first pitch should be thrown. If a team is short handed a 15 minute grace period is allowed; however the game must start when nine (9) players are available for both teams. If a manager knows the team will be short handed he may request a substitute player from the player agent (name and email address to be provided). Please see **Player Call Up** section. No new inning may start after 1 hour and 45 minutes from the scheduled start time. The inning deemed the "last inning" should be played to completion. In the event, the umpire(s) determine a "regulation" game (see **Rule 17**) can not be completed, as dictacted in **Rule 15**. the final score will then revert back to the last complete inning unless game is stopped in the bottom of the inning with the home team ahead. **Exception:** Playoff games must be played to their entirety. Forfeited games will be recorded as a 6-0 loss in the standings.

14. Unlimited (free) field substitutions are allowed throughout the game, with the exemption of pitchers re-entering the game – see **Pitching** section

15. Once the first pitch is thrown, the umpire(s) are in charge of the game. From that point forward **ALL** decisions on temporary halt, suspensions, cancellation and declaring end of game are with the umpires. The Umpires will take into account light available, weather, and the safety of the players. It is at the sole discretion of the umpire(s) to call a game or identify which will be the last inning of play. This decision needs to be made at the start of a new inning only.

16. All non pitching protests shall be lodged verbally at the point of the infraction, during the game, to the umpire and the opposing coach. The league vice president must then be notified within 24 hours. By law procedures will be followed from that point forward. The vice president's name and email address to be provided. Judgment calls by an umpire may **not** be protested.

17. Little League "Run Rule" is **NOT** in effect.

18. All players must slide or attempt to avoid the defensive player. Failure to slide or attempt to avoid will result in a player being called out.

19. A courtesy runner may be used for the catcher when on base, at any point, to speed up gameplay. This runner **must** be the last recorded out.

20. Bunting is allowed, but no slash bunting. (Square to bunt then pulling the bat back and taking a full swing). Batter will be called out--dead ball, no advancement of runners

21. Stolen Bases: There is a maximum number of two (2) steals per inning per team. Leading is **NOT** allowed at this division. A player is **NOT** allowed to advance when the ball goes behind the catcher on any pitch. In order to steal a base, the pitch **MUST** be caught or blocked to the front or side of the catcher. Stealing of second and third base is allowed. Double Stealing is allowed if a team hasn't previously stolen a base in the inning. A double steal counts for both steals. There will be **NO** advancement on an overthrow. For example, if a runner steals second and the throw goes into center field this will not permit the runner to advance to third base. Stealing of home is **NOT** allowed. Once the pitcher is in possession of the ball on the pitcher's mound, the ball is dead and runners **MUST** go back to the base as deemed by the umpire. There will be **NO** head-first sliding into any base. If a player does head-first slide into an advancing base(s) they will be called out. **Exception:** Players may head-first slide back to a base.

22. Any player at the catcher's position in four (4) or more innings is **not** eligible to pitch on that day.

23. Four outfielders **will** be used. All outfielders must be positioned an equal distance from each other across the outfield. No short fielder can be used. No outfielder may be positioned directly behind second base. If number of available players dictate, 3 outfielders can be used and **both** teams must agree **and** utilize this amount.

24. Bats- Only bats certified USA Bat will be allowed. No BBCOR or USSSA bats are allowed. The barrel may not exceed 2 -5/8" inch barrel diameter..and can be any alloy, composite or hybrid as long as they are USA Bat approved. Wood bats are allowed, as long as they meet the specifications of Official Baseball Rule 1.10.

25. The offensive team is limited to scoring three (3) runs in an inning, except in the last inning of play when there is no scoring limit.

### **Player Call Ups:**

If a Head Coach needs to call up a player, the head coach **MUST** notify, via email, the Player Agent. The Player Agent will contact eligible players from the Call Up list based on spring evaluations. When a player has been called up, the next player on the list will be selected the next time. Head Coaches are **NOT** allowed to contact a player, or parent of a player, until they have confirmed the call up player with the Player Agent. Any players provided **MUST** bat at the bottom of the batting order and will not be allowed to pitch or catch.

## Pitching:

1. The pitching week runs Monday to Sunday.
2. All pitchers will be limited to 2 innings per game, and 6 innings in a week. One pitch thrown will count as one inning pitched. Although coaches are not required to monitor actual pitches thrown, they are encouraged to and to keep the kids under 50 pitches per game.
3. Pitching distances:
  - 7 year olds will pitch from 40 ft.
  - 8 year olds will pitch from 43 ft.
  - 9 year olds will pitch from 46 ft.
4. **No** Balks will be called
5. **NO** breaking balls allowed. A breaking ball is a pitch in which the pitcher snaps or breaks his wrist to give the ball spin and movement. This includes the curveball, slider, and slurve, but not the various kinds of fastball and change-up or knuckleball.  
**Penalty:**
  - 1st time is a ball.
  - 2nd time batter awarded first base.
  - 3rd time batter awarded first base with pitcher and head coach ejected from the game.The third time rule will be in effect throughout the remainder of the game with the acting coach being ejected etc.
6. Any pitcher that hits 3 batters in an inning shall be removed.
7. This division is kid pitch, however, in recognition that these kids are still developing their ability to pitch and understanding of the game the pitching rules will be slightly different between the first and second half of the season:  
**For the first half of the season**, the games will be kid pitch with assistance from the coaches to ensure developmental opportunities for pitching, fielding, and hitting. A kid pitcher will start each at-bat. If the kid pitcher pitches 4 balls, the batter will not walk. The coach of the team in the field will finish the at-bat resulting in the batter making contact or striking out. **The strike count for the batter will reset when the coach comes into pitch.**
  - **After half of the season**, or an earlier date if agreed upon by the coaches in the division, it is expected that all teams will begin 100% kid pitch which means the coach will not step in to finish the pitch count. If a pitcher throws four balls, the batter will walk.
8. A pitcher who walks Four (4) batters in an inning **MUST** be replaced with another pitcher. This only counts in the second half of the season when walks are in effect.
8. A pitcher may be removed from pitching at any time, but **must** be removed on the managers/coaches second trip to the mound in the inning. A coach stepping into pitch after ball four does not constitute a mound visit.

9. There is no re-entry allowed as a pitcher once a new pitcher throws a pitch. That player however may re-enter any other fielding position at any time.

10. There are **NO** Intentional Walks

11. Violation of any pitching rules **will** result in a forfeit, which may be invoked at any time after the violation takes place. The only requirement is that the violation must be cited and verified.

### **Playoffs**

1. The playoffs shall observe the same innings pitched rules as the regular season.

2. Playoff games must be played in their entirety and do not have a time limit.

3. Little League "Run Rule" is in effect. "Where if after a game becomes regulation (3 ½ innings if home team ahead or 4 complete innings) and one team is ahead by 10 or more runs."

### **NYBS Pitching Chart:**

<b>AGE</b>	<b>Max# of Pitches</b>	<b>1 Day Of Rest</b>	<b>2 Days Of Rest</b>	<b>3 Days Of Rest</b>	<b>4 Days Of Rest</b>
7	50	21 -35	36-50		
8	50	21 - 35	36-50		
9	75	21 - 35	36 - 50	51-65	66 - 75
10	75	21 - 35	36 - 50	51 - 65	66 - 75
11	85	21 - 35	36 - 50	51 - 65	66 - 85
12	85	21 - 35	36 - 50	51 - 65	66 - 85
13	95	21 - 35	36 - 50	51 - 65	66 - 95