



## 2026 West Covina Pacific Coast Little League Ground Rules

*These guidelines are provided to support coaches, players, and families, but they are **not** a substitute for the official Little League Rulebook. In every circumstance, **the Little League Rulebook takes precedence** over any local rules, summaries, or interpretations. Please refer to the official rulebook for all final decisions and authoritative guidance.*

1. The HOME team will:
  - a. Prepare the fields before the game.
  - b. Supply the Official Scorekeeper for each game. The Official Scorekeeper will sit in the Major Field score booth for Major Field games, and on the designated scorekeeping table on the Farm Field. Score booth and score keeper's area will be considered the same as the closed dugout. Scorekeepers will not allow themselves to be distracted. Scorekeeper **WILL NOT** sit in stands.
  
2. The VISITORS will:
  - a. Break down the fields if it is the last game of the day.
  - b. Please note, it is common courtesy for the visiting team to help assist in pre-game field preparation.
  - c. Supply the Official Pitch Count Keeper. The Official Pitch Count Keeper will sit in the Major Field score booth for Major Field games, and on the designated scorekeeping table on the Farm Field. Score booth and score keeper's area will be considered the same as the closed dugout. Pitch Count Keepers will not allow themselves to be distracted. Pitch Count Keeper **WILL NOT** sit in stands.
  
3. The official score book will be kept in the Board Room for the entirety of the season and can be used to resolve any disputes that may arise.

4. If injury or illness requires a player to leave the game, it must be logged onto the score sheet and managers must submit a written report to the League Safety Officer via email. Vanessa Lopez, [wcpcllsafety@outlook.com](mailto:wcpcllsafety@outlook.com).
5. In case of an ejection or protest, managers and all umpires must submit the incident in writing to the League President, Ravene Ghelfi, [presidentwcpcll@outlook.com](mailto:presidentwcpcll@outlook.com), within 24 hours. It will be the responsibility of the Executive Board of Directors to meet in a timely manner to resolve the incident or protest.
6. West Covina Pacific Coast Little League will provide two (2) new 'RS' or 'RS-T' marked baseball for each game, more if necessary. Remaining baseballs will be distributed evenly to each team at the end of the game.
7. Line up cards with FIRST AND LAST NAME and UNIFORM NUMBER will be due to the Scorekeeper 15 minutes before the game begins, no exceptions.
  - a. Indicate who your starting pitcher and starting catcher will be.

**8. POOL PLAY GUIDELINES:**

- a. Pool Players can be utilized.
- b. A Pool Player list shall be kept by the League's Player Agent and League President with names of players who wish to be used as pool players. Pool players shall not be contacted by team managers and coaches prior to game time.
- c. Pool players may be utilized to ensure a team has at least nine (9) players available for a game. Pool players must play nine (9) consecutive outs, and bat once in each game and may not pitch.
- d. Pool players should wear their uniform from their regular season team.

**9. TIME LIMITS:**

**a. INTERMEDIATE/JUNIOR/SENIOR/BIG LEAGUE BASEBALL TIME LIMIT:**

- i. No new inning will begin after one(1) hour and forty-five (45) minutes. Drop Dead two (2) hours. If an inning begins prior to the time limit, that inning will be completed. Time will be kept by the home plate umpire.

**b. MAJOR BASEBALL TIME LIMIT:**

- i. No new inning will begin after one (1) hour and thirty(30) minutes. Drop one (1) hour and forty-five (45) minutes. If an inning begins prior

to the time limit, that inning will be completed. Time will be kept by the home plate umpire.

**c. MINOR BASEBALL TIME LIMIT:**

- i. No new inning will begin after one (1) hour and thirty(30) minutes. Drop one(1) hour and forty-five (45) minutes. If an inning begins prior to the time limit, that inning will be completed. Time will be kept by the home plate umpire.

**d. FARM BASEBALL TIME LIMIT:**

- i. No new inning will begin after one (1) hours, thirty (30) minutes. Drop Dead 1:45. If an inning begins prior to the time limit, that inning will be completed. Time will be kept by the home plate umpire.
- ii. If a league does not provide an umpire, the coaches/managers, of the participating teams, will serve as the umpires for each game.

**e. TBALL BASEBALL TIME LIMIT:**

- i. No new inning will begin after one (1) hours, fifteen (15) minutes. If an inning begins prior to the time limit, that inning will be completed. Time will be kept by the home team manager. Games shall be limited to three (3) innings, regardless of the total time played.

**10. DOUBLEHEADERS:**

- a. Doubleheaders are only allowed in the Major Baseball division and above.
- b. There will be a thirty (30) minute break between games, with the second game starting with the first pitch. The home plate umpire shall notate and inform the official scorekeeper with the start time

**11. SPECIFIC GROUND RULES PER DIVISION:**

**ALL DIVISIONS SHALL UTILIZE A CONTINUOUS BATTING ORDER**

**a. TEE BALL**

- i. For the first half of the playing season, ALL players will utilize a batting tee.
- ii. In the second half of the playing season, ALL teams will utilize a Manager/Coach Pitch Policy.
  - 1. Maximum of three (3) pitches will be allowed with the exception that foul balls on the 3rd pitch will extend the at-bat until the ball is put in play or the player strikes out.
  - 2. Once the three (3) pitches have been reached without the player hitting the ball, the ball shall be placed on a tee.

- iii. During defensive play, all players of a team will be allowed to participate and be on the field.
- iv. For the first half of the season, players will advance base by base. In the second half of the season players will advance base by base but can be put out on a play.

**b. FARM**

- i. Pitching Mound:
  - 1. Pitchers will pitch from 44' instead of standard 46' for the first half of the season.
  - 2. 2nd half of season will go to standard 46'
- ii. There will be no base on balls (walks).
  - 1. After the batter has received 4 balls, a coach will pitch from 35' (end of Pitching Mound Line and should be indicated on the field).
  - 2. A batter will receive a total of 3 pitches.
    - a. A batter must be called out if the third pitch is missed.
    - b. If the third pitch is fouled out, the batter will receive another pitch.
- iii. On an overthrow, players can only advance one (1) base on EVERY overthrow.
  - 1. Example: Runner runs to first base and a throw is made to 1st, the runner can advance to 2nd. IF another throw is made to 2nd and there is another overthrow, runner MAY advance to third.

***A widened strike zone will be in effect in order to encourage batting development.***

- iv. Home base is closed for the first half of the season. Home base will be open for second half of season.
- v. An inning will be determined by three (3) outs or five (5) runs, whichever occurs first. Rule 4.04-NOTE 1: Continuous batting order will be in effect.

**c. MINOR BASEBALL**

- i. An inning will be determined by three (3) outs or five (5) runs, whichever occurs first. Rule 4.04-NOTE 1: Continuous batting order will be in effect. e. MAJOR BASEBALL
  - 1. Mercy Rule:
    - a. 15 runs ahead after 3 innings;

- b. 10 runs ahead after 4 innings;
- c. 8 runs ahead after 5 innings: the manager of the team with the least amount of runs shall concede victory to the opponent.

**d. MAJORS & INTERMEDIATE**

i. Mercy Rule:

- 1. 15 runs ahead after 3 innings;
- 2. 10 runs ahead after 4 innings;
- 3. 8 runs ahead after 5 innings: the manager of the team with the least amount of runs shall concede victory to the opponent.

**12.** Makeup games may only be scheduled by the agreement of the League President, the League Vice President and the Coaching Coordinator. Games will be made up on the next available Sunday.

**13.** The League President will handle all protests and any disciplinary action that has to be taken.

- a. The ejection of a player, manager or coach will result in an automatic and mandatory one (1) game suspension. The suspended manager, coach or player may NOT be present at the next physically played game. All ejections will be reviewed by the Executive Board of Directors and if it is a repeated offense, a more severe penalty may be applied.
- b. Any physical or verbal altercation between player, manager, coach, umpire or spectator will require disciplinary action, not to exclude expulsion from the League.

**14. Failure to comply with any Little League Rules/Regulations or the League Bylaws will be subject to review and possible disciplinary action by the Executive Board of Directors.**