

2021 NM District 1 Major/Junior/Senior Softball Inter-league Local Rules:(c)

**The following Local Rules shall apply for all interleague games between teams of two different leagues.
NMD1 COVID Best Practices shall be followed for all interleague games.**

1. There will be no pre-game agreement by managers/coaches to modify any of these rules without prior approval from the District Administrator and a majority of league presidents participating in interleague games. **Protest Committee: DA, DUIC, and the game's league presidents.**
2. Pre-game infield practice shall use 10-10-10 (or 5-5-5) minute drills 30 (15) minutes before **the game's start time ONLY**:
a) 10 minute infield visitor, b) 10 minute infield home, c) 10 minute umpire/managers meeting. Late arrivals forfeit on-field warm-up. Only team players/coaches/manager taking infield should be on the field. No players or coaches should be on the field during the meeting with the umpires. Players/coaches/managers may take a "bathroom break" during their time in their dugout. Infield practice may be omitted when weather, curfews, and/or time limits impact playing time.
3. Home team prepares and lines the field. Home team provides game (a) adult umpires or (b) **(9.03.d) Game Coordinator(GC)** with youth umpires (i.e. no GC no game).
4. Home dugout will be on third base side. A team playing consecutive games will stay in the same dugout for game #2.
5. **Each team** will provide Little League 12 inch softballs while on defense. Umpires cannot handle balls.
6. **Game Enhancements/Alternate Methods (all games under these rules count for tournament eligibility):**
 - (a) **"3-5 Rule": The half inning ends when (1) 3 outs are made; or (2) 5 runs are scored.**
 - (b) **Games can be played with at least 8 players, but the 9th batter is an out.**
 - (c) **Batter starts with 1-1 count and must keep 1 foot in batter's box.**
 - (d) **The inning starts with runners on 1st and 2nd. Runners should be players not on the batting lineup, or when 9-players only, the last two batters from the previous inning.**
 - (e) **Majors: Minor pool players may be used due to Major player shortages. (Reg.V.c)**
 - (f) **15 year olds in the Junior division shall not be allowed to pitch.**
7. Teams shall use the 3-5 Rule through the 4th inning for Major (or 5th inning for Junior/Senior) games. The "5-run" limit is off after the 4th inning for Majors (and 5th inning Junior/Senior).
8. **Game "time limits of 1 hour-45minutes" shall be observed for weekday games. A 2 hour time limit may be used for weekend games.** Games terminated by "time limit" will be regarded as "regulation games" regardless of innings played.. **Rule 4.10.c (15-run or 10-run)** shall end the game regardless of time remaining.
9. **Mandatory Play (Majors/Juniors)** (Reg.IV.i: no time limits=6outs/1bat) or 3 consecutive outs and 1 at bat for games with time limit. Complete half innings ended by 3-5 rule is same as "3-consecutive-outs".
10. Continuous batting order may be used by either team for games **prior to May 29th.** (Rule 4.04). (If a player is pulled from the continuous batting order due to injury, illness, or parents, the following batters move up without penalty, i.e. it is NOT an out. 4.04 Note 2)
11. Regular season pitching rules shall be used for all games **prior to May 29th** and tournament rules thereafter.
12. Prior to the start of night games, teams and umpires shall be made aware of applicable local park/city curfews.
13. Host league is responsible for cleaned dugouts prior to game. Both teams/parents shall be responsible to pick up THEIR own bottles/trash from the dugout and the stands after the game.
14. Both teams must show courtesy and respect for each other. For all Interleague games, both teams will meet at home plate and exchange fist-bumps immediately after the game (weather permitting).
15. Each team must keep a scorebook with: game date, player names, and player jersey number. Game delays such as injuries, weather (rain, lightening, wind, temperature), or facility failures (lights, sprinklers, fencing, etc.) shall be noted in the scorebooks. The home plate umpire shall sign and date all game scorebooks.
16. Host District Local Rules shall be used for intra-District games.
17. **"Zero Tolerance Rule" - Persistent derogatory and/or negative shouting and/or gesturing by fans, parents, players, coaches, umpires, and/or league officials WILL not be tolerated. Violations will result in (1) ejection or (2) termination of game and shall be imposed by umpires for on-field or by league officials for off-field violations.**