



Minor League AA Baseball Division **Local Rules – Effective Spring 2026**

The 2026 Little League Baseball Rules and Regulations will govern all play not specified below.

Mandatory Play

- No player shall sit out two (2) consecutive innings, nor shall any player sit out a second inning prior to all eligible players having sat out one (1) inning. No player shall sit out a third inning prior to all eligible players having sat out two (2) innings.
- All players must play at least two (2) innings in the infield and one (1) inning in the outfield. A player must fulfill one of their infield innings within the first four (4) innings of the game.
- If a player does not have an opportunity to fulfill the two (2) innings in the infield requirement due to a shortened game (either by run-rule or weather), that player's mandatory play for the game is considered met. However, in the next game that player **MUST** meet their full mandatory infield play for that game within the first four (4) innings.
- Infield positions are defined as 1st, 2nd and 3rd bases, as well as shortstop, catcher, and pitcher.
- Game may start with eight (8) players. Note that this is the exception and not the rule. Teams who will be at roster sizes of 10 and below for a given game should use pool players as first option. When starting with 8 players an out is called for 9th player.

The Defense

- The defense shall field a maximum of nine (9) players.
- All outfield players shall be positioned at least 20 feet beyond the outfield grass cut.
- A player in the outfield may not make a put out in the infield unless acting as a back-up on a run down. The outfielder must throw the ball to an infielder for an out.
- Once the bases are loaded, one (1) coach may be positioned behind the catcher to retrieve balls and improve pace of play.
- No other coaches are permitted to be positioned in the field of play.

The Runner

- Runners may advance one (1) base on an overthrow at their own risk with only one advance on an overthrow on the same play per runner. If the defensive team chooses to try and make a play on the runner taking the additional base which results in ANOTHER overthrow, one additional base may be taken for each subsequent attempt made against a runner.
- Runners cannot advance to another base once the ball reaches the kid pitcher and is under his control while positioned on the pitching mound. Runner may continue to the next base in this situation, but must return to the previous base if they were no more than half the distance to the advancing base at the time of the ball is under the pitcher's control.
- Runners may not advance on an overthrow while attempting to steal.

- Runners are not permitted to steal home.

Courtesy Runners

- **Courtesy Runners:** A courtesy runner may be used for the catcher at any time and for the pitcher only when there are two outs. The courtesy runner is the player who made the last out. If there have been no outs in the inning, use the last out from the previous inning. If there have been no outs in the game, the team must wait until the first out is recorded. If both the pitcher and catcher reach base with two outs, courtesy runners are assigned in the order the runners reached base, using the most recent outs.

The Offense

- During each of the first five innings each team may continue rotating through their batting order until either three (3) outs or five (5) runs are scored – in other words, a batter may make more than one plate appearance in each half inning.
- In the sixth (6th) inning and subsequent innings, each half inning shall end after three (3) offensive players are legally put out, called out by an umpire, or when all players on the roster have batted **one time only** in the half inning. It does not matter if the teams have a different number of batters. (No five-run limit)

Starting and Ending the Game

- For purposes of time limits, the game immediately starts at the conclusion of the plate conference.
- No new inning may start after 1 hour and 45 minutes.
- The game will end and there will be no pitch after 2 hours.
- An inning begins immediately upon the end of the preceding inning. Play should begin within two (2) minutes after the start of the inning.
- There will be no time limit in playoff games.
- **Run Rule:**
A game shall be declared over and scored as a regulation game if a team is ahead by **15 runs after three (3) innings, 10 runs after four (4) innings, or 8 runs after five (5) innings.**

*** **Double First Base – Safety Bag:** When a double first base (orange safety bag) is present, it is in effect and must be used in accordance with LL Rule 7.15.