



## Minor League AAA 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 one (1) inning in the infield and one (1) inning in the outfield with the infield inning occurring within the first four (4) innings of the game.
- If a player does not have an opportunity to fulfill their infield requirement due to a shortened game (either by run-rule or weather), that player's mandatory play for that 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.
- 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.

### 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 and 15 minutes.

- An inning begins immediately upon the end of the preceding inning. Play should begin within two (2) minutes after the start of the inning.
- **Suspended Games / Tie Games:**  
If a game is called before it becomes a regulation game (e.g., due to weather), or if a tie game is stopped due to a time limit, the game shall be suspended and resumed from the exact point of stoppage at a later date, in accordance with Rules 4.10(d), 4.11(e), and 4.12.
- 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.