

# Changes to the 2006 Official Regulations and Playing Rules For all Divisions of Little League Softball®

## PROOF-OF-AGE REQUIREMENTS

### ACCEPTABLE FORMS OF PROOF OF BIRTH DATE

1. Original proof of age document, if issued by federal, state or provincial registrars of vital statistics in the country in which the Little Leaguer is participating.
2. If country of participation differs from the country of proof of age document, original proof-of-age document issued by federal, state or provincial registrars of vital statistics, or local offices thereof, are acceptable proof of age, provided the document was filed, recorded, registered or issued within one (1) year of the birth of the child.
3. An original document issued by federal, state or provincial registrars of vital statistics, or local offices thereof, listing the date of birth, with reference to the location and issue date of the original birth certificate, is acceptable. (The original birth certificate referenced must have been filed, recorded, registered or issued within one (1) year of the birth of the child.) Also issued by these agencies are photocopies of the certificate of live birth with the certification also photocopied, including the signature, and include the seal impressed thereon. Such documents are acceptable without "live" signatures, provided the original filed, recorded, registered or issued date of the birth certificate was within one (1) year of the date of birth.
4. For children born abroad of a parent or parents who are U.S. citizens, any official government document issued by a U. S. federal agency or service, is acceptable. For military dependents, Department of Defense identification cards and military hospital certificates are acceptable. These must be originals, not copies, and must refer to a filing, recording, registration, or issue date that is within one (1) year of the birth of the child.
5. A "Statement in Lieu of Acceptable Proof of Birth" issued by a District Administrator is acceptable.

**NOT ACCEPTABLE AS SOLE PROOF OF BIRTH:** Baptismal Certificate; Certificate of Blessing; Certificate of Dedication; Certificate of Circumcision, etc.; Hospital Certificate; photocopied records.

**Note:** Little League International has authorized the Regional Directors for Latin America, Europe (including Middle East and Africa), and Asia/Pacific, to adopt a policy that excludes No. 1 above. Local Little Leagues and districts in those regions will be informed of the regional policy.

### HOW TO OBTAIN ACCEPTABLE DOCUMENTS PROVING DATE OF BIRTH

Certified copy-of-birth records may be obtained from the Registrar of Vital Statistics of each state, province or local office where the child was born. For U.S.-born persons, addresses of these offices or bureaus, fees required, and other pertinent information are supplied by the United States Department of Health and Human Services (National Center for Health Statistics). A database listing the method for obtaining birth records from any U.S. state or territory is available at the following Internet address:

<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/howto/w2w/w2welcom.htm>

Individual states may also have on-line instructions on how to obtain "rush" birth records. To find out a state's latest policies regarding birth records, go to the Internet site listed below and type "birth records" into the search field, designate the appropriate state, then click on "SUBMIT."

<http://www.firstgov.gov/>

Persons in the U.S. who need a copy of a non-U.S. birth record should contact the Embassy or the nearest Consulate of the country in which the birth occurred. Addresses and telephone numbers for these offices are listed in the U.S. Department of State Publication 7846, "Foreign Consular Offices in the United States," which is available in many local libraries. Copies of this publication may also be purchased from the U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402. Such proof-of-birth records must meet the criteria for acceptable proof listed above.

### HOW TO OBTAIN A

#### "STATEMENT IN LIEU OF ACCEPTABLE PROOF OF BIRTH"

When an "Acceptable Proof of Birth" as described previously is not available, then the appropriate number of items in **EACH** of these **FOUR** groups are required so that the participant may obtain a "Statement in Lieu of Acceptable Proof of Birth," which is required for such a participant to be eligible for regular season or tournament play:

**Group 1** – Any one (1) of the following, provided the date of birth is listed: a naturalization document issued by the United States Department of Justice; photocopy of birth certificate; original birth certificate or government record of birth if not containing a filing, recording, registration, or issue date within one (1) year of the date of birth; passport; **PLUS...**

**Group 2** – Any two (2) of the following, provided the date of birth is listed: Baptismal Certificate; Certificate of Blessing; Certificate of Dedication; Certificate of Circumcision; or any other religious-related certificate; Hospital Certificate; School Record (must be dated, and date of issue must be at least two years prior to current season); Social Security document; Welfare Department document; adoption record. Any item in this group must be an original document, not a copy; **PLUS...**

**Group 3** – Any two (2) of the following: A written, signed and notarized statement from...

- ... the doctor who delivered the child;
- ... a hospital administrator where the child was delivered;
- ... the principal or headmaster of the school the child attends;
- ... a Social Worker with personal knowledge of the child's date of birth;
- ... a Priest, Rabbi, Minister, Mullah, or other titled religious figure with personal knowledge of the child's date of birth;
- ... the child's pediatrician or family doctor.

**NOTE:** In each statement in Group 3, the writer must describe his/her responsibilities or his/ her relationship to the child, and must attest to his/her personal knowledge that the child was born on the date claimed; **PLUS...**

**Group 4** – A written, signed and notarized statement from one or both parents, or the legal guardian (as appointed by a court of jurisdiction), attesting to the date of birth claimed.

The league president will forward the above documentation to the District Administrator (or, if the team is traveling, the Tournament Director). If in the opinion of the District Administrator, such evidence is satisfactory, a "Statement In Lieu of Acceptable Proof of Birth" will be issued. This statement will be considered to be acceptable proof of age from that point forward, throughout the child's Little League experience, provided all the information submitted is accurate. (Note: If the District Administrator is unable to review the documents, they may be submitted to the appropriate Regional Headquarters.)

**NOTE:** Situations where players use the name of an adopting family or the name of the family with whom they live, but whose births are recorded under the surname of the natural father or mother, will be handled as follows: The president of the league will obtain from the parents or guardian a document that qualifies under Proof-of-Age Requirements, as well as a copy of the adoption papers (if the player has been legally adopted. If the player was not adopted, a notarized statement from the mother and/or father or legal guardian (as appointed by a court of jurisdiction), saying that the player living under one or the other of their surnames is the same player for whom the birth certificate was issued) is also required.

These documents will be submitted to the District Administrator. If the documents are found to be acceptable, a "Statement in Lieu of Acceptable Proof of Birth" will be issued and all original documents returned. The information submitted will be kept confidential.

## **Regulation I(c) 7B**

The policy must include coverage for claims involving each of the following: 1. athletic participants, and, 2. sexual abuse and molestation.

## **Regulation I (g)**

A local Little League is not permitted to sponsor, administer, underwrite, or otherwise support, any team or teams, any individual or group, for the purpose of participating in a non-Little League Baseball program or event. Violation may result in revocation of charter and/or suspension of tournament privileges. While Little League does not recommend or endorse participation in more than one baseball program, this does not prohibit an individual who plays in a chartered Little League, or a group of such individuals, from participation in a non-Little League program, subject to the provisions of Regulation IV (a) Note 2, and the provisions of the Tournament Rules and Guidelines regarding participation in other programs.

## **Regulation I (a) – Junior/Senior/Big League**

**NOTE 2:** Junior/Senior/Big League players may participate in other softball programs during the regular season and tournament subject to the provisions of Regulation IV.

## **Regulation III (a)**

Note: If a local league elects to roster less than nine (9) players at the Tee Ball and/or Minor League levels, rules 3.03 Note 2, 4.16 and 4.17 do not apply.

## **Regulation III (c)**

**NOTE:** For the 2006 season only, a regular season Little League (Majors) team may carry more than eight (8) players who are league age 12. This will not be the case in 2007 and in subsequent years, when the limit of eight (8) players who are league age 12 per team will again be imposed.

## **Regulation III (f)**

**Regular Season, special games and tournament teams in all divisions of softball must be composed of either: 1. all females, or 2. all males. (Managers and coaches may be of either gender.)**

## **IV - THE PLAYERS**

(a) **Little League (Majors) Division:** Any candidate who will attain the age of 9 years before January 1 and who will not attain the age of 13 before January 1 of the year in question shall be eligible to compete in Little League Softball (subject to the Local League Board of Directors alignment of this division). This means that a youngster who will be 13 years old on January 1 or later, is eligible to play that year; a youngster who will be 13 years old on the previous December 31 or earlier will not be eligible for either Local League play or tournament play at any time during the calendar year in question.

**Minor League Division:** Any candidate who will attain the age of 7 years before January 1 and who will not attain the age of 13 before January 1 of the year in question shall be eligible to compete in the Minor League Division Softball (subject to the Local League Board of Directors alignment of this division). This means that a youngster who will be 13 years old on January 1 or later, is eligible to play that year; a youngster who will be 13 years old on the previous December 31 or earlier will not be eligible for either Local League play or tournament play at any time during the calendar year in question.

**Tee Ball Division:** Any candidate who will attain the age of 5 years before January 1 and who will not attain the age of 9 before January 1 of the year in question shall be eligible to compete in the Tee Ball Division Softball (subject to the Local League Board of Directors alignment of this division). This means that a youngster who will be 8 years old on January 1 or later, is eligible to play that year; a youngster who will be 9 years old on the previous December 31 or earlier will not be eligible for either Local League play or tournament play at any time during the calendar year in question.

**Exception for 2006 only: A child who is league age 4, and who was born from January through July of 2001, is eligible for Tee Ball in 2006. If such participant completes the Tee Ball season in 2006, he/she may be eligible for Minor League Coach Pitch/Machine Pitch in 2007, at the discretion of the local league.**

**Junior League:** Any youngster who will attain the age of 13 years before January 1 and who will not attain the age of 15 years before January 1 of the year in question shall be eligible to compete. This means that a youngster who will be 15 years old on January 1 or later is eligible to play that year; a youngster who will be 15 years old on the previous December 31 or earlier will not be eligible for either Local League or tournament play in the Junior League at any time during the calendar year in question.

**A 12-year-old player who is otherwise eligible under all conditions would be eligible for selection to the Junior League Division tournament team. However, a local Little League's board of directors could decide that players league-age 12 in the league will not try out for the Junior League Division, and will be eligible for only the Little League ("Majors") Division/Minor League Division.**

**If a player is selected to and participates in one or more regular season games on a Junior League team, he/she will be ineligible to participate in the Major Division from that point forward in regular season and/or tournament play.**

**Regarding a player who moves up the Junior League Division during the season, to be eligible for selection to the Junior Division Tournament team, the player would have to play in half of the Regular Season games for which he/she was eligible, as of June 15.**

**Any player who is league age 12 must be permitted to play in the Major Division. The local league cannot force any player who is league age 12 to play in the Junior League Division.**

**Senior League:** Any youngster who will attain the age of 13 years before January 1 and who will not attain the age of 17 years before January 1 of the year in question shall be eligible to compete. This means that a youngster who will be 17 years old on January 1 or later is eligible to play that year; a youngster who will be 17 years old on the previous December 31 or earlier will not be eligible for either Local League or tournament play in the Senior League at any time during the calendar year in question.

**Big League:** Any youngster with amateur status who will attain the age of 14 years before January 1 and who will not attain the age of 19 years before January 1 of the year in question shall be eligible to compete. This means that a youngster who will be 19 years old on January 1 or later is eligible to play that year; a youngster who will be 19 years old on the previous December 31 or earlier will not be eligible for either Local League or tournament play in the Big League at any time during the calendar year in question.

**NOTE:** Little League accident insurance covers only those activities approved or sanctioned by Little League Baseball, Incorporated.

A unit Little League (Majors), Minor League, Tee Ball, Junior, Senior or Big League team shall not participate as a Little League (Majors), Minor League, Tee Ball, Junior, Senior or Big League team in games with other teams of other programs or in tournaments except those authorized by Little League Baseball.

Little League (Majors), Minor League, Tee Ball, Junior, Senior and Big League participants may participate in other programs during the Little League (Majors), Minor League, Tee Ball, Junior, Senior and Big League regular season, provided such participation does not disrupt the Little League (Majors), Minor League, Tee Ball, Junior, Senior or Big League season.

**NOTE 1: See Tournament Rules, Page T-4 ("Participation in Other Programs"), regarding participation in non-Little League programs during the International Tournament ("All-Stars").**

**NOTE 2:** Consistent with a manager's ability to conduct the affairs of his or her team, a manager may remove a player from the team, subject to Board of Directors approval, for the current season if the player repeatedly misses practice or games. If a player is repeatedly missing practices or games, the manager must make the Local League Board of Directors aware of the situation immediately.

- (b) Each candidate must present acceptable proof of age to the league president (or district administrator, if the Big League is administered as a district operation) at least 48 hours before the player selection plan is put into operation. When and if such formal proof of age is not available, the league president (or district administrator, if the Big League is administered as a district operation) shall gather as much documentary evidence as possible and promptly forward it to the District Administrator. If, in the opinion of the District Administrator, such evidence is satisfactory, a statement to that effect will be sent to the league president which shall be acceptable in lieu of a birth certificate. Such statement will be held in the local Little League files (or district files, if the Big League is administered as a district operation) as acceptable proof-of-age.
- (c) The president of the Local League (or district administrator, if the Big League is administered as a district operation) MUST certify and be responsible for the eligibility of each candidate previous to player selection. **Note:** At the time of registration, a player must designate whether he or she will try out for baseball or softball. No player may be on the roster of more than one team in the Little League program.
- (d) "League Age" for a Little League Softball participant in any division is that age attained prior to January 1 in any given season. Thus, a child whose 12th birthday is on the previous December 31 or earlier has a League Age of 12; a child whose 12th birthday is on January 1 or later has a league age of 11. This principle applies regardless of age.
- (e) "League Age" is that age attained prior to January 1 in any given season. Thus, a youngster whose 12th birthday is on the previous December 31 or earlier has a League Age of 12; a youngster whose 12th birthday is on January 1 or later has a League Age of 11. This principle applies regardless of age.
- (f) **Little League (Majors) Division, Junior/Senior/Big League:** Any candidate failing to attend at least 50 percent of the spring tryout sessions, shall forfeit league eligibility unless an excuse is presented which is accepted by a majority of the Board of Directors.

**Minor League and Tee Ball:** Any eligible player who qualifies and becomes available after player assignment should be assigned to a team.

**NOTE:** A Local League should accept registrations until the time of player selections. Thereafter, registration may be closed.

- (g) Player roster forms supplied by Little League Headquarters must be completed and filed no later than June 2, 2006. Players claimed under Regulation II (d) and/or IV (h) must be declared on appropriate forms available from Little League Headquarters annually. It is highly recommended that rosters be supplied to Headquarters via the Little League Data Center. **Look for related information on line at [www.littleleague.org](http://www.littleleague.org).**
- (h) If a person had previously resided within the league boundaries for two years while serving that league as a dedicated manager, coach or member of the Local League Board of Directors for two years, his or her sons and/or daughters are eligible to try out and be selected by teams in that league (1) provided such service to the league from which the person has moved has continued, (2) subject to written agreement from the league within whose boundaries they currently reside and (3) supported by a recommendation of the District Administrator, to Regional Director to the Charter Committee.

#### **Regulation IV(h) – Processing Procedure**

**The league president will process a IV(h) form. Once the president completes the form, he/she must compile "residency requirement" verification that each youngster meets the conditions of IV(h) as outlined above. The league president will present this verification to the District Administrator for review. Once the district administrator verifies the documentation meets the regulations, the district administrator will sign the IV(h) form granting his or her approval. The league and the district will maintain the form and documentation in their files. This verification process is only required once during a participant's career. The league must maintain this form and documentation for this player for the duration of his/her career until the player graduates from the program or breaks service with the league. Tournament team players will be required to carry a copy of this form and documentation with them throughout the tournament. If contested during tournament play, the league will be required to produce the documentation. Additionally, if it is determined at a later date that the player does not meet the conditions of IV(h), the player is ineligible for further participation. Situations in which documentation is not available must be referred to the Charter Committee through the regional office for a decision. The decision of the Charter Committee is final and binding.**

- (i) Every player on a team roster will participate in each game for a minimum of six (6) defensive outs and bat at least one (1) time.

**PENALTY:** The player(s) involved shall start the next scheduled game, play any previous requirement not completed for Section (i) and the requirement for this game before being removed.

The manager shall for the:

A. First Offense - receive a written warning.

B. Second Offense - a suspension for the next scheduled game.

C. Third Offense - a suspension for remainder of the season.

**NOTE 1:** If the violation is determined to have been intentional, a more severe penalty may be assessed by the Board of Directors. However, forfeiture of a game may not be invoked.

**NOTE 2:** There is no exception to this rule unless the game is shortened for any reason, at which time the Local League may elect not to impose a penalty on the manager/coach.

**Big League:** Mandatory play does not apply.

**Minor League and Tee Ball:** If a league uses 15 to 20 player rosters they may reduce the Mandatory Play Rule to three (3) defensive outs and one (1) at bat per game.

- (j) Any request for a waiver pertaining to the eligibility of a player, team, manager or coach must be submitted in writing, by the president of the local Little League through the district administrator, to their respective Regional Director not later than June 3 of the current year. Requests submitted after that date will not be considered.

### **AGE ALIGNMENT FOR JUNIOR LEAGUE, SENIOR LEAGUE AND BIG LEAGUE**

At the Little League 22nd International Congress in Ottawa, Canada, in 2001, District Administrators voted overwhelmingly to alter the age structure in the Junior League, Senior League and Big League Softball Divisions. The new age structure allows greater flexibility in these divisions and is intended to increase participation.

The objectives are: 1. To allow leagues with enough personnel to have a two-year age structure, while smaller leagues could retain a three-year structure for Senior League and/or Big League, and; 2. To aid in the retention of players in all age groups, particularly 13 and 16 year olds.

Under the new structure, Big League Softball will remain available to 16, 17 and 18 year olds. However, with the 14 -16 year olds being the "swing" ages, a league COULD structure its program several ways.

The table below gives each of the possible combinations allowable under the new regulations.

	Junior League	Senior League	Big League
League A	13, 14	15, 16	17, 18
League B	13, 14	14, 15, 16	17, 18
League C	13, 14	14, 15, 16	16, 17, 18
League D	13, 14	14, 15	16, 17, 18
League E	13, 14	15, 16	16, 17, 18
League F	13	14, 15, 16	16, 17, 18
League G	13	14, 15, 16	17, 18
League H	13	14, 15	16, 17, 18
League I		13, 14, 15, 16	15, 16, 17, 18
League J			14, 15, 16, 17, 18

**NOTE:** Players league age 12 are eligible for the Junior League division at the option of the local league board of directors. Any player who is league age 12, and who plays in one or more games during the regular season at the Junior League level, is eligible only for selection to the Junior League Division Tournament Team.

The structure for Tournament Play is: 9-10 Year Old Division (9-10); 11-Year Old Division (11); Little League Division (11-12); Junior League Division (12-13-14); Senior League Division (14-15-16); Big League Division (16-17-18).

### **Regulation VII (j)**

*Girl's softball teams shall not play in games against boy's softball teams.*

### **VIII – MINOR LEAGUES (C)**

Note: Participants are permitted to advance to Minor League Coach Pitch or machine pitch after participation in Tee Ball for one year.

### **IX - SPECIAL GAMES**

- (a) Special Games are defined as games that:
1. are non-regular season games, and,
  2. are not Little League International Tournament games, and,
  3. involve only teams from chartered Little League programs, and,
  4. have been approved in writing by the regional office.

### **Rule 1.06**

**1.06** - First, second and third bases shall be marked by white canvas or rubber covered bags, securely attached to the ground. The first and third base bags shall be entirely within the infield. The second base bag shall be centered on second base. The base bags shall not be less than fourteen (14) nor more than fifteen (15) inches square and the outer edges shall not be more than two and one-fourth (2-1/4) inches thick and filled with a soft material. Bases designed to disengage their anchor are highly recommended. **Beginning with the 2008 season, it will become mandatory that all leagues utilize bases that disengage their anchor. Leagues are encouraged to begin the process of implementing these types of base systems during the current season on all their fields so that the process is completed by the 2008 season.**

**NOTE 1:** If the impact of a runner breaks a base loose from its position, no play can be made on that runner at that base if the runner had reached the base safely. If there is continual action involving a subsequent runner, the base plate becomes the actual base for rendering of the umpire's decision.

**NOTE 2:** Use of the "Double First Base" is permissible at all levels of play. See Rule 7.15.

### **Rule 1.10**

**NOTE 3:** Non-wood bats may develop dents from time to time. Bats that cannot pass through the approved Little League bat ring must be removed from play. The 2 ¼ inch bat ring must be used for bats in all softball divisions.

### **Rule 1.11 (a)**

- (3) Any part of the pitcher's undershirt or T-shirt exposed to view shall be of a solid color. **A pitcher shall not wear any items on his/her hands, wrists or arms which may be distracting to the batter.**

### **Rule 3.17**

Players and substitutes shall sit on their team's bench or in the dugout unless participating in the game or preparing to enter the game. No one except eligible players in uniform, a manager and not more than two coaches shall occupy the bench or dugout. When batters or base runners are retired, they must return to the bench or dugout at once. Batboys and/or batgirls are not permitted. **The use of electronic equipment during the game is restricted. No team shall use electronic equipment, including walkie-talkies, cellular telephones, etc... to communicate to or with any on-field personnel, include those in the dugout, bullpen or field.**

### **Rule 7.14**

Once each inning a team may utilize a player who is not in the batting order as a special pinch-runner for any offensive player. A player may only be removed for a special pinch runner one time during a game. The player for whom the pinch-runner runs is not subject to removal from the lineup. If the pinch runner remains in the game as a substitute defensive or offensive player, the player may not be used again as a pinch runner while in the batting order. However, if removed for another substitute that player or any player not in the line up, is again eligible to be used as a pinch runner. **NOTE: Does not apply if the local league adopts the continuous batting order. See Rule 4.04.**

## Rule 7.15

**Procedures for Use of a Double First Base: The double base may be used for first base only. The base must be rectangular, with two sides not less than 14 inches and not more than 15 inches, and the other two sides not less than 29 inches and not more than 30 inches. The longer sides shall face toward home plate and the right field corner. The outer edges shall not be more than two and one-fourth (2 ¼) inches thick, filled with soft material, and covered with canvas or rubber. Half the base shall be white (entirely over fair territory) and half shall be orange or green (entirely over foul territory). When using the double first base, the following rules must be observed:**

- (a) A batted ball that hits the white section of the double base shall be declared fair. A batted ball that hits the colored (orange or green) section shall be declared foul.
- (b) Whenever a play is being made on the batter-runner, the defense must use the white section of the double first base. A play is being made on the batter-runner when he or she is attempting to reach first base while the defense is attempting to retire him/her.
- (c) The batter-runner must use the colored (orange or green) section on his/her first attempt to tag first base. Exception: On extra-base hits or other balls hit to the outfield when there is no chance for a play to be made at the double first base, the runner may touch either the white or colored (orange or green) section of the base. Should, however, the batter-runner reach and go beyond first base, he/she can only return to the white section of the base.
- (d) When tagging up on a fly ball, the white section of the base must be used by the runner. One foot is permitted to extend behind or on the base into foul territory, as long as the front foot is touching the white section of the base.
- (e) When leaving base on a pitched ball in Little League Baseball (Majors and below), the runner must maintain contact with the white section of the base until the ball has reached the batter. Runners may extend a foot behind the white portion of the base, but must maintain contact with the white section until the ball has reached the batter.
- (f) On an attempted pick-off play, the runner must return to the white section of the base only. This includes a throw from the pitcher, catcher, or any other player, in an attempt to retire the runner at the double first base.
- (g) In Junior, Senior and Big League divisions, when the batter becomes a runner on a third strike not caught by the catcher, the batter-runner and the defensive player may use either the colored (orange or green) or the white section.
- (h) Use of the double first base does not change any other rule concerning Interference or Obstruction at first base. (An errant throw into the three-foot running lane could still result in an obstruction call. Also, the batter-runner must still avoid interference with the fielder attempting to field a batted ball.)

## Rule 8.06

- (d) A manager or coach may confer with **any other player(s)**, including the catcher, during the visit with the pitcher. A manager or coach who is granted a time out to talk to any defensive player will be charged with a visit to the pitcher.

## Tournament Rules

### Managers and Coaches

**Managers/Coaches in the Dugout** - If a tournament team has thirteen (13) or more eligible players in uniform at a game, then the maximum of three (3) adults who are named on the affidavit (or authorized temporary replacements as noted on the affidavit) will be permitted to act as manager/coaches for that game. However, if a tournament team has twelve (12) or fewer eligible players in uniform at a game, then a maximum of two (2) adults must be named at the start of the game as manager and coach. The two named adults must be listed on the affidavit, or must be authorized temporary replacements as noted on the affidavit. If there is a third adult listed on the affidavit, that adult is not permitted to be in the dugout or on the field during that game.

### Participation In Other Programs

**Little League, 9-10 Year Old Division, 11-Year-Old Division: A player may participate in other youth softball programs prior to the first scheduled game involving that player's team. Once play begins for a tournament team, players named on that team's tournament affidavit may not participate in any other youth softball program until that team is eliminated from tournament play. After tournament play has begun, players added to a team's affidavit may not have participated in another youth softball program since their team's first scheduled tournament game. Junior League, Senior League, Big League Division:** Participation in other programs during the International Tournament is permitted, subject to the provisions of Regulation IV (a) Note 2.

## CONDITIONS OF TOURNAMENT PLAY

### Protests

**NOTE 3 - PROTESTS BECAUSE OF A TEAM'S FAILURE TO MEET THE MANDATORY PLAY REQUIREMENTS (SEE TOURNAMENT RULE 9) MUST BE MADE BEFORE THE UMPIRE(S) LEAVE THE PLAYING FIELD. NOTE: MANDATORY PLAY DOES NOT APPLY TO THE SENIOR LEAGUE AND BIG LEAGUE DIVISIONS.**

## TOURNAMENT PLAYING RULES

9. **MANDATORY PLAY: 9-10 Year Old Division, 11 Year Old Division, Little League, Junior League: Every player on a team roster shall participate in each game for a minimum of three (3) consecutive defensive outs and bat at least one (1) time.**
10. **SUBSTITUTIONS/RE-ENTRY:** This tournament rule replaces regular season Rule 3.03 (re-entry) for all levels of tournament play.
  - a. If illness, injury or the ejection of a player prevents a team from fielding nine (9) players, a player previously used in the lineup may be inserted, but only if there are no other eligible substitutes available. The opposing team manager shall select the player to re-enter the lineup. A player ejected from the game is not eligible for re-entry.
  - b. Any player who has been removed for a substitute may re-enter the game in the **SAME** position in the batting order, provided:
    1. the player being removed has played defensively for a minimum of three (3) consecutive defensive outs, and;

2. the player being removed has completed one time at bat during the game.  
**NOTE 1:** See the definitions in Rule 9-e above on complying with this rule defensively and offensively. Tournament rule 10. b 1. and 2. above do not apply to Senior League or Big League Softball.