

CHANGES TO 2005 OFFICIAL REGULATIONS

Regulation I - The League (Baseball and Softball)

- (b) The league shall be governed by a Board of Directors elected from and by the membership, consisting of volunteer personnel. As a condition of service to the league, all managers, coaches, Board of Directors members and any other persons, volunteers or hired workers, who provide regular service to the league and/or have repetitive access to, or contact with players or teams, must complete and submit an official "Little League Volunteer Application" to the local league president. Annual background screenings must be completed prior to the applicant assuming his/her duties for the current season. Refusal to annually submit a fully completed "Little League Volunteer Application" must result in the immediate dismissal of the individual from the local league. (See also Reg. I (c) 8 and 9.)

Officers shall be elected by the Board (i.e. president, one or more vice presidents, secretary, treasurer, safety officer and player agent or agents). A president **may** manage, coach or umpire **provided he/she does not serve on the Protest Committee nor serve as tournament team manager or coach**. Player agents shall not manage, coach or umpire in their respective divisions. Vice Presidents may manage, coach or umpire provided they do not serve on the Protest Committee.

President, with approval of Board of Directors, shall appoint managers, coaches and umpires annually. Manager/coach representation on the Board shall not exceed a minority. **NOTE:** All members of the local league Board of Directors, as well as managers and coaches, whose activities in another youth baseball/softball program are deemed detrimental to the operation of the local league, can be removed by a majority vote of the Board of Directors. **(Tournament Rule variation, Note: An individual that manages or coaches in another youth baseball program is not eligible to be appointed to manage or coach a tournament team in the Little League program at the same age division as defined in Regulation I (a) unless a waiver is granted by the appropriate regional director.)**

Regulation 1(c) (Baseball and Softball)

5. adopt and play a separate schedule of games as provided for in Regulation VII. Interleague play and practice with another league(s) may be permitted during the regular season with the **approval of the district administrator. The district administrator must verify that all leagues involved in the interleague combination are properly chartered and insured. Interleague play during the regular season between leagues from two districts must be approved by the regional office. Leagues involved in interleague play will field separate tournament teams. Players shall not be transferred from one league to another. Requests to combine for tournament play must be submitted through the district to the regional offices for approval per guidelines established by Little League. Districts will be required to submit interleague play forms with all insurance claims that result from interleague play.**

Regulation III - The Teams (Baseball and Softball)

- (a) The league shall, at least 10 days prior to the first regular game, establish the number of players on each team. No team may have more than 15 players (18 for Big League) nor less than 12. **Minor League and Tee Ball: There will be no minimum or maximum established at the Minor League and Tee Ball levels.**

The manager of a team must, at least five days prior to the first regularly scheduled game, register the regular team roster. All teams in a particular league must carry the same number of players on their rosters.

Regulation IV - The Players (Baseball and Softball)

- (g) Player roster forms supplied by Little League Headquarters must be completed and filed no later than **June 3, 2005**. 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 online at www.littleleague.org.
- (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.

Regulation VI - PITCHERS (Softball only)

- (c) A pitcher remaining in the game, but moving to a different position, can return as a pitcher anytime in the remainder of the game but only once in the same inning as he/she was removed.
(Removed the restriction from a Little League Softball pitcher moving to another position and returning later in that inning or that game.)

Regulation IX - Special Games (Baseball and Softball)

- (c) With the approval of the Charter Committee of Little League Headquarters, and on recommendation of the Regional Director and District Administrator, chartered leagues may engage in Special Games during and after the regular season but prior to the opening of the school term or September 1st, whichever comes sooner.

Regulation XV – APPEARANCE OF LITTLE LEAGUERS IN THE MEDIA (Baseball and Softball)

- (a) The appearance of Little League players in uniform in advertisements of any kind, or on commercial television programs, or in motion pictures, without the written approval of Little League Baseball International, is forbidden.

- (b) Brief, televised reports of games and activities on news programs are permitted.
- (c) The televising of regular season games, special games, or International Tournament games on a local or regional basis is permitted, provided a contract (available to District Administrators and tournament directors) is in place, and provided written permission from Little League Baseball International has been received to televise the specific game(s) or tournament(s).
- (d) Radio broadcasts of regular season games and special games are permitted, provided a "Little League Regular Season Radio Contract" (available to District Administrators) for the specific game(s) is properly completed and on file with the local league.
- (e) Radio broadcasts of International Tournament games are permitted, provided a "Little League International Tournament Radio Contract" (available to District Administrators and tournament directors) for the specific game(s) or tournament is properly completed and on file with the district.
- (f) Internet web casts of regular season games and special games are permitted, provided a "Little League Regular Season Internet Web Cast Contract" (available to District Administrators) for the specific game(s) is properly completed and on file with the local league.
- (g) Internet web casts of International Tournament games are permitted, provided a "Little League International Tournament Internet Web Cast Contract" (available to District Administrators and tournament directors) for the specific game(s) or tournament is properly completed and on file with the district.

CHANGES TO 2005 OFFICIAL PLAYING RULES

1.00 - OBJECTIVES OF THE GAME

Rule 1.10 (Baseball only)

NOTE 3: Beginning with the 2007 season, non-wood bats used in divisions of play Little League (Majors) and below must be printed with a BPF (bat performance factor) rating of 1.15 or less.

NOTE 4: 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, and in the Tee Ball, Minor League and Little League Baseball divisions of baseball. The 2 ¾ inch bat ring must be used for bats in the **Junior League, Senior League and Big League divisions of baseball.**

Rule 1.10 (Softball only)

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, and in the Tee Ball, Minor League and Little League Baseball divisions of baseball. The 2 ¾ inch bat ring must be used for bats in the **Junior League, Senior League and Big League divisions of baseball.**

Rule 1.11 (Baseball and Softball)

- (3) Any part of the pitcher's undershirt or T-shirt exposed to view shall be of a

uniform solid color, not white or gray. However, if the uniform is a vest type uniform and the Little League shoulder patch is attached to the undershirt, that undershirt is then considered part of the uniform and may be either white or gray.

Rule 1.16 and 1.17 (Baseball and Softball)

Warning! Manufacturers have advised that altering helmets in any way can be dangerous. Altering the helmet in any form, including painting or adding decals (by anyone other than the manufacturer or authorized dealer) may void the helmet warranty. Helmets may not be re-painted and may not contain tape or re-applied decals unless approved in writing by the helmet manufacturer or authorized dealer.

7.00 - THE RUNNER

Rule 7.14 (Baseball and Softball)

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.

8.00 - THE PITCHER

Rule 8.03 - (Softball only)

- (c) **Junior/Senior/Big League Intentional Walk Rule:** Before a ball is delivered to the batter, the catcher must inform the umpire-in-chief that the defensive team wishes to give the batter an intentional base-on-balls. The umpire-in-chief waves the batter to first base. The ball is dead.

Rule 8.04 (Baseball only)

Junior/Senior/Big League Intentional Walk Rule: Before a ball is delivered to the batter, the catcher must inform the umpire-in-chief that the defensive team wishes to give the batter an intentional base-on-balls. The umpire-in-chief waves the batter to first base. The ball is dead.

Rule 8.06 and 8.06 (d) (Baseball and Softball)

8.06 - This rule, which applies to each pitcher who enters a game, governs the visits of the manager or coach to the pitcher **at the mound**.

- (d) A manager or coach may confer with **any other player**, including the catcher, during the visit with the pitcher.

APPROVED RULING 1: At the time a pitcher is removed, a visit shall not be charged to the new pitcher.

APPROVED RULING 2: A conference with the pitcher or any other fielder to evaluate the player's condition after an injury shall not be considered a visit for the purposes of this rule. The manager or coach should advise the umpire of such a conference, and the umpire should monitor the conference.

CHANGES TO 2005 TOURNAMENT RULES AND GUIDELINES

Managers and Coaches (Baseball and Softball)

The president of the League, the District Administrator or District Staff shall not serve as manager or coach.

Little League: The manager and coach (es) shall be regular season team managers and/or coaches from the Little League Baseball/Softball (Majors) Division.

9-10 Division & 11 Year Old Division: The manager and coach (es) shall be regular season team managers and/or coaches from the Little League Baseball/Softball (Majors) Division or Minor League Division.

Junior League: The manager and coach(es) shall be regular season team managers and/or coaches from the Junior Division or Senior Division.

Senior League: The manager and coach(es) shall be regular season team managers and/or coaches from the Junior Division, Senior Division or Big League Division.

Big League: The manager and coach (es) shall be regular season team managers and/or coaches from the Senior Division or Big League Division.

NOTE: An individual that manages or coaches in another youth baseball/softball program is not eligible to be appointed to manage or coach a tournament team in the Little League program at the same age division as defined in Regulation I (a), unless a waiver is granted by the appropriate regional director.

Participation in Other Programs (Baseball and Softball)

Little League, 9-10 Year Old Division, 11-Year-Old Division: **A player may participate in other youth baseball/softball programs prior to the first game involving that player's team. Once play begins for a tournament team, players named on that tournament team's affidavit may not participate in any other youth baseball/softball program until that team is eliminated from tournament play. *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.**

Tournament Eligibility Affidavit

It shall be the league president's responsibility to review and certify the birth records (league age) and residence (as defined by Little League Baseball, Incorporated) of all players. When the league finally decides on the makeup of the team, names must be entered on the league's Eligibility Affidavit. Once the District Administrator certifies the eligibility affidavit, the tournament team will be required to have in its possession:

1. the tournament affidavit;
2. copies (originals not required) of the records used to verify date of birth for all players on the affidavit;
3. a map showing the actual boundaries of the league, with locations noted for the residences of the parent or legal guardian (court appointed) of every participant

- named on the affidavit.
4. three or more documents to determine residency of the parent(s) or guardian for each player named on the tournament affidavit.
 5. **waivers (i.e. II(d), IV(h), Charter Committee, etc...)**

IMPORTANT: Alternates are not authorized. They shall not accompany the team and shall not be listed on the Eligibility Affidavit.

Eligibility Affidavit must be certified by the District Administrator or his or her designated appointee and presented by the team manager to the Tournament Director before every game. NOTE: The Eligibility Affidavit becomes official once the team plays its first tournament game.

League Eligibility (Baseball and Softball)

In order for a Little League program to be eligible to enter a team or teams into the International Tournament (including 9-10 Year Old Division and 11 Year Old Division) the following must be accomplished no later than **June 3, 2005**:

- 1) The league must be chartered in the division(s) for which they wish to enter a tournament team(s). (Examples: Chartered in Little League Majors to enter a Major Division team (11-12 year old); chartered in Senior League to enter a Senior Division team, etc.);
- 2) All required waivers submitted and approved prior to cutoff date established in Regulation IV (j). (Examples: Regulation II (d), Regulation IV (h), player out of boundaries, etc.);
- 3) All regular season team rosters must be submitted to Little League Baseball in accordance with requirements outlined in Regulation IV (g);
- 4) Fees incurred by the league must be paid in full by **June 3, 2005**.

Failure to meet any of the listed requirements could result in a team or teams being declared ineligible by the Tournament Committee at Little League Baseball.

Player Eligibility (Baseball and Softball)

Big League - Any player League Age 16, 17 or 18, with amateur status, who has participated as an eligible player in one-half the regular season games (**special games may be counted toward this requirement**) by the start of Tournament Play in their respective District, with the exception of the high school or college baseball season, on a:

1. Big League Baseball Team, or;
2. Senior League Baseball Team.

Tournament Playing Rules (Softball only)

4. **PITCHING RULES - LITTLE LEAGUE SOFTBALL, 9-10 YEAR OLD SOFTBALL, AND 11 YEAR OLD DIVISION**
 - d. A pitcher remaining in the game, but moving to a different position, can return as a pitcher anytime in the remainder of the game, but only once in the same inning as he/she was removed.

Tournament Playing Rules (Baseball and Softball)

7. **VISITS:** A manager or coach may not leave a dugout for any reason during a game without receiving permission from an umpire. The manager or coach may be removed from the field for the remainder of the game for violation of this rule. When

permission is granted the manager or coach will be permitted **to go to the mound** to confer 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.

A manager or coach may come out twice in one inning to visit with the pitcher, but the third time out, the player must be removed as a pitcher. The manager or coach may come out three times in a game to visit with the pitcher, but the fourth time out, the player must be removed as a pitcher. The rule applies to each pitcher who enters a game.

NOTE: Only one offensive time-out will be permitted each inning.

9. **MANDATORY PLAY: 9-10 Year Old Division, 11 Year Old Division, Little League, Junior League, and Senior 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.**

- b. There is no exception to this rule unless the game is shortened **for any reason**. **NOTE:** A game is not considered shortened if the home team does not complete the offensive half of the sixth or seventh inning (or any extra inning) due to winning the game.

