

2018 Little League Baseball Tournament Rule Summary

Updated 30-May-2018

	8/9/10 year old	9/10/11 year old	Little League (10/11/12)	Intermediate (11/12/13)	Juniors (12/13/14)	Seniors (13-16)	
Max Roster Size	14	14	14	14	14	16	
Non-wood Bats	USABat Certification Required			USABat or BBCOR		BBCOR	
Mandatory Play	13+ players: Minimum of 1 at bat. 12 or fewer: Minimum of 1 at bat and 6 consecutive defensive outs. Substitute entering game for first time may not be removed until this is met.					Does not apply	
No new inning after	Midnight			12:30 AM		1:00AM	
Pitchers	Pitches/Day	8-year-old: 50	9- or 10-year-old: 75	11- or 12-year-old: 85	13- to 16-year old: 95		
	Rest	1 – 20 pitches: no rest 21 – 35 pitches: 1 calendar day 36 – 50 pitches, 2 calendar days rest. 51 – 65 pitches, 3 calendar days 66+: 4 calendar days.				1 – 30: no rest; 31 – 45: 1 day; 46 – 60: 2 days; 61 – 75: 3 days; 76+: 4 days.	
	Multiple Games	May only pitch in one game per day			May pitch in two games if 30 or fewer pitches thrown in first game.		
	Consecutive Games	Pitching in consecutive games is allowed, subject to rest requirements. May not pitch in 3 consecutive days regardless of circumstances.					
	Suspended Game Resumed Next Day	If pitcher pitched 20 or fewer pitches, may continue – pitch count starts at zero. If 21-40 pitches, may continue – pitch count picks up from previous game. If 41 or more pitches, not eligible. If another game intervenes, see Rule 4(h)				Same, except 30/60 pitches instead of 20/40	
	Returning to Mound	Pitchers once removed from the mound may not return as pitchers.			A pitcher remaining in the game, but moving to a different position, can return as a pitcher, but only once per game.		
		Special case: See Rule 10.c Note 2			N/A		
	Catching	A pitcher who delivers 41 or more pitches in a game cannot play catcher for the remainder of that day. A player who has played catcher in four or more innings in a game may not then pitch on that calendar day.					
Intentional Walk	Prior to any pitches being thrown, defense may request an "unpitched" intentional walk. 4 added to pitch count.			Pitches must be thrown.			
Player Re-entry	Any player who has been removed for a substitute may re-enter the game in the SAME position in the batting order. A substitute entering the game for the first time may not be removed prior to completion of his/her mandatory play requirements.					Starters may re-enter to their original spot in the batting order <u>once</u> . Subs may not re-enter.	
Substitutions	Defensive: Must be made as team takes the field, or while team is in the field. Offensive: Must be made as player comes to bat, or while player is on base.						
Defensive Conferences	Pitcher must be removed on 3rd visit in inning or 4th visit in game.	Pitcher must be removed from mound on second visit in inning or third visit in game.		Same. Each pitcher has his/her own "count" of visits, which resumes if pitcher returns to mound later in the game.			
Mercy Rule	15 runs after 3 innings, 2 ½ if home team is ahead. 10 runs after 4 innings, 3 ½ if home team is ahead.			15 runs after 4 innings, 3 ½ if home team is ahead 10 runs after 5 innings, 4 ½ if home team is ahead			
3rd Strike not caught	Batter is out	Batter is out if first is occupied with less than two outs. If first is unoccupied or there are two outs, batter becomes runner and defense must put him/her out.					
On-Deck Batters	Not allowed.			Allowed.			
Illegal Bat	Batter is out (unless defense opts for result of play). Batter and manager both ejected.						
Batter's Box	Batters must keep one foot in the batter's box except for certain specified conditions. Penalty: Warning, then strike.						
Special Pinch Runner	Once per inning, no more than twice per game, any player not currently in the batting order may run. A player may only be removed for a special pinch runner once per game.						
Adults	1 manager and 2 coaches allowed regardless of number of players.						
Base Coaches	Two adult base coaches may be used at all levels, provided there is an adult in the dugout.						
Protests	Playing rule or improper substitution: Must be made before next pitch, play or attempted play. Mandatory play: As soon as the facts become known. Ineligible pitcher or player: As soon as facts become known, but before either teams' next game.						
Unsportsmanlike Conduct	The stealing and relaying of signs to alert the batter of pitch selection and/or location is unsportsmanlike behavior. If, in the judgment of the umpire, this behavior is occurring, both the player and the manager shall be ejected from the game.						

This chart is intended as a reference summary of the various tournament rules. It does not cover every possible circumstance, and is not a substitute for reading and fully understanding the regular season and tournament rules sections of the Official Playing Rules.