

## Rules for All Divisions:

1. The only acceptable reasons for game reschedule are rainout / field closure, and umpire availability.
  - a. If a team is short on players, they may borrow players from other teams. Borrowed players must be registered and active players for D3 Little League in the current season. Borrowed players must be placed at the bottom of the batting order. Borrowed players must meet the age requirements.
    - i. Borrowed players must wear the jersey of their primary team while playing for another team so that they can be easily identified.
    - ii. Borrowed players are not allowed to play pitcher or catcher for the team they are subbing for.
    - iii. Borrowed players can be borrowed from older leagues only if that player is age eligible for the league they are being borrowed in.
  - b. **For Rookies, Minors and Majors league only** - a borrowed play may only play outfield positions. This rule is to be monitored / tracked by the coaches, not the umpire. There shouldn't be a question about this, and it shouldn't need to be challenged. The rule is clear here; it has been modified based on collective feedback across all leagues from past seasons; this is why we are all agreeing to adjust it.
    - i. **If there are only eight (8) players and/or not enough players to fill the infield (injury or not enough players) then one (1) of the borrowed players may play the infield and be rotated with the other borrowed players to fill the missing infield position.**
      1. A borrowed player may play an infield position three (3) different innings per game only - e.g., a borrowed player can only play shortstop for one (1) inning, second base for one (1) inning, third base for one (1) inning or first base for one (1) inning.) This means they can play 3 of the 4 infield positions of the coach's choice. If the game goes beyond three (3) innings and the borrowed player has exhausted all infield positions, the borrowed player must play in the outfield for the remainder of the game.
      2. If a regularly rostered team player arrives late, then they play the infield and the borrowed moves to the outfield and remain in the outfield. A borrowed player may play an infield position 3 different innings per game only. (E.g., a borrowed player can only play shortstop for one (1) inning, second base for one (1) inning or third base for one (1) inning) So that means they can play three (3) of the four (4) infield positions of the coach's choice. If the game goes beyond three (3) innings and the borrowed player has exhausted all infield positions, the borrowed player must play in the outfield for the remainder of the game.
2. Rookies and Minors – During the regular season teams may borrow up to three (3) players to get to 10 players max.
3. Rookies and Minors – During the post season or playoffs teams may borrow up to two (2) players in to get to 10 total players
4. Majors and Juniors/Seniors – During the regular season teams may borrow up to three (3) players to get to nine (9) players total.
5. Majors and Juniors/Seniors – During the postseason or playoffs teams may borrow up to two (2) players to get to nine (9).

Teams need at least eight (8) players to start a game.

## Minor League Softball – Minors Division Rules

### General:

1. This division plays on a 60-foot diamond with a pitching distance of 35 feet.
2. No player may sit twice before every player sits once. Local mandatory play rule
3. On deck batters are **NOT** allowed.
4. No new inning may start after the game time limit of 1 hour and 30 minutes. During the regular season, no new inning will start at the five-minute mark, unless the game is tied. If tied, then one additional inning will be allowed.
5. A regulation game consists of six (6) innings of play, or game played and time expires. A game is official after four (4) innings of play if called by weather or other circumstance. If a team is ahead by 15 runs after three (3) innings or 10 runs after four (4) innings or later, the game shall end and is considered official.
6. Coaches on fielding teams must remain in the dugout with one coach positioned at the opening. No buckets or seating is allowed outside of the dugout. No coach can be positioned on the field (e.g., down the third base line, etc.)
7. Each batting team shall also be allowed two (2) baserunning coaches. One coach can be positioned at first base. Once coach can be positioned at third base
8. During the regular season, no new inning will start at the 5-minute mark, unless the game is tied. If tied then one more inning will be allowed.
9. Rule 7.08 (3) states "A.R. - There is no must slide rule."

### Pitching:

10. A player shall pitch. Following four balls to a batter and after there have been three previously walked or hit-by-pitch batters in the inning, the batting team is allowed a coach-pitcher to deliver up to three pitches to the batter. The batter assumes the strike count when the coach-pitcher enters to pitch.
11. Immediately following the fourth ball on the fourth walk, the ball is dead. Runners should return to the base that they occupied before that pitch.
12. The coach-pitcher must be the same person throughout the entire game.
13. The coach-pitcher must attempt to deliver a flat pitch. A coach-pitch in excess of a four-foot arc, in the umpire's judgement, shall count against the batter as one of their allowed number of coach-pitches.
14. Coach pitcher must start with one foot on the pitching rubber.
15. The batter will be ruled out after three strikes or if the ball is not put into play after the allowed number of coach-pitches.
16. The batter is entitled to subsequent pitches if the last pitch is fouled and not caught.
17. The player-pitcher returns to pitch with the next batter. The coach-pitcher returns to pitch each time four (4) balls are delivered to subsequent batters during that inning.
18. Once the batter puts the ball into play, the coach-pitcher must stop coaching and allow the base coaches to communicate with the base runners.

### Fielding:

19. In a regular six-inning game, no player may play more than three innings at the same position in one game, including pitchers and catchers. If a game goes into extra innings, a player may return to any position with no further defensive rotation restriction.
20. All players in the field must wear a fielder's mask at all times.

**Batting:**

21. All players in attendance bat in a continuous order.
22. Bunting and slashing are permitted. However bunting and slashing are not permitted during coach pitch
23. The dropped 3<sup>rd</sup> strike rule is **NOT** in effect.
24. The infield fly rule is in effect.
25. A batter hit by a pitched ball shall be awarded first base after every hit pitch. Hit by pitch does count as a walk. Catcher interference does not count towards the walk count.
26. No team can score more than 5 runs in an inning for the first 3 innings. The side is retired after three outs, when all players on the roster have batted one time in the half-inning, or (during the first 3 innings) when the offensive team scores five runs.

**Base Running:**

27. Look Back Rule is in effect: when the pitcher has control of the ball in the pitcher's circle and is not attempting to make a play on a runner (including a fake or threatened throw); any runner stopped on a base must stay on the base, and any runner not on a base must immediately either advance toward the next base or return to the previous base. Any subsequent change in direction or stop by the runner while off the base will result in the runner being called out, so long as the pitcher does not attempt to make a play. IN efforts to educate coaches and players on the rule, During the first time during a game, that a runner would be called out due to this rule, there will be a warning and explanation provided. Runner will return to the previous base occupied and will not be called out. On the second time during the game for the same team the runner will be called out. Both teams will get one warning.
28. Base runners may attempt to advance at their own risk on overthrows of any base.
29. Base runners may advance home on any live ball play, including wild pitches, passed balls, and throws back to the pitcher, or throws to any base.
30. Head-first sliding while advancing is **NOT** allowed. Violations will result in the runner being called out.
31. Leadoffs are permitted after the ball reaches the batter.
32. Base stealing is permitted, except stealing is not permitted while the coach is pitching
33. A courtesy runner is permitted for the pitcher and/or catcher of record with two outs. The courtesy runner should be the player in the batting order who made the last out.