

Tigard Diamond Sports

2025 AA Rules and Regulations

General

1. Purpose of AA Baseball

- The AA level is still considered to be a developmental level of baseball.
- TDS expects players to get the opportunity to play in all positions that they can play safely. Do not leave a child in the outfield all season! Likely, they will not choose to play baseball again after that experience. You are highly encouraged to allow every player to play a minimum of 1 inning in the infield each game (it has been done before).
- The batting line-up should change from game to game. The same players should not be batting first and last every game.
- No regular season scores or standings are kept.
- Random draw determines first round pairings for end-of-season AA tournament.

2. Game Times

- Games are on Saturdays and Sundays. First two weeks only Saturday games.
- Saturday and Sunday games start as early as 9:00 and as late as 5:00
- One game per week for the first 2 weeks, then 2 games per week.

3. Length of Game

- Four (4) innings minimum, six (6) innings maximum
- Tie games remain with both teams winning.
- No new inning begins after 1 hour and 45 minutes of play. Drop dead at 2 hours. The umpire and coaches may use discretion as deemed practical to shorten or extend any game time due to weather or other playing conditions as long as deviations from official rules are agreeable to all involved. If coaches cannot agree, the umpire decides.
- An inning is defined as three (3) outs or five (5) runs (whichever occurs first), except for an **open inning**. An open inning is defined as the 6th inning or the inning that begins on or after one (1) hour and 30 minutes of play. The open inning time should be established by the umpire and scorekeeper at game start. There is no limit to the number of runs that can be scored during the open inning. If no new inning begins between 90 and 105 minutes of play, there is no open inning. Coaches and umpires may agree to call the open inning earlier if all parties concur. The open inning is always the last inning of the game.

4. Playing Fields

- Practices: Templeton South
- Games: Templeton South, Cook 2

5. Player Rules:

- **A game may not be started with less than eight (8) players on each team. In the event a game starts with eight (8) players, a team may skip over the 9th position in the batting order without penalty.**
- If both teams cannot field a full team, then the game may be played with less than 9 players; each team fields the same number of defensive players.
- **Each player must play a minimum of four (4) innings per game.**
- Substitutions may occur freely **at the beginning** of each defensive turn. Fielder substitution **during** defensive play may **only** occur as necessary for pitcher change and replacement of injured players.
- Players who are not playing in the field (on defense) or at bat, on base, or coaching a base (on offense) must remain in the dugout at all times during the game, with the exception of pitcher warm-up or use of the restroom. No food is permitted in the dugout during the game with the exception of sunflower seeds or bubble gum, Manager permitting (food required for a medical condition is acceptable).

Pitching

6. General

- The pitching distance is 40 feet (from the point of home plate to the front of the pitching rubber).
- An official Little League baseball (hardball) is used at all games.
- Each manager must keep a pitch count log to record number of pitches thrown by each player. This information must be available to the manager of the opposing team and must be reported to the league at the end of each game.
- **Failure to report pitching information for a period of two consecutive games will result in the suspension of the Manager for the next scheduled game.**

7. Pitcher Eligibility

- Only players may pitch the ball to the batter during a game at this level.
- There is no limit to the number of pitcher substitutions.
- A pitcher, once removed from the mound, cannot re-enter the game as a pitcher.
- Any player who has played the position of catcher in 4 or more innings in a game is not eligible to pitch on that calendar day.
- A pitcher who delivers 41 or more pitches in a game cannot play the position of catcher for the remainder of that day.
- **TDS follows LL Pitch Count rules, see section VI of LL Rule Book for details**
- **Daily pitch count maximum:**

11-12 year olds, 85 pitches

9-10 year olds, 75 pitches

7-8 year olds, 50 pitches

Pitchers can exceed daily pitch count maximum to finish pitching to a batter

- **Mandatory Rest:**

If pitcher throws 66+ pitches, 4 days of rest required

If pitcher throws 51-65 pitches, 3 days of rest required

If pitcher throws 36-50 pitches, 2 days of rest required

If pitcher throws 21-35 pitches, 1 days of rest required

- League-approved Managers and Coaches **are allowed** to warm up the pitcher.
- **Violation of the pitching rules will result in the suspension of the Manager for the next scheduled game.**

8. Pitching Safety

- If a pitcher hits a 3rd batter during the game, the pitcher is removed from the pitching mound for the remainder of the game.

Infield

- The infield fly rule **does not** apply.

Batter/Runner

- All players present at the game are on the batting roster and cycle through the batting order accordingly.
- No **on-deck** batter is allowed.
- Players must slide feet first while advancing forward. A runner is declared out otherwise.
- Bat throwing is not allowed. For the first offense, the **team** is warned of the violation by the umpire. For the second offense, each subsequent batter that throws the bat is called out.
- Bunting **is** allowed.
- Base coaches: The purpose of an adult base coach at this level is to teach players how to be base coaches. Two (2) adult base coaches are allowed, only if there is an adult bench coach in the dugout. There must also be a helmeted player in the coaching box. Base coaches must stay in the chalked coaching box and not make physical contact with the runner. Adult base coaches must be the league-approved Manager and/or Coach of the team. A player may be a base coach in place of an adult.
- Teams may use a courtesy runner for the catcher and/or pitcher of record when there are two (2) outs. The courtesy runner must be the player in the batting order that made the last out.

Base Stealing

- **During the month of April, there is no base stealing or taking additional bases on overthrows or passed balls.** Managers and coaches should be concentrating on

teaching the fundamentals of hitting and fielding. No stealing, advancing on passed balls, or advancing on overthrows.

- **During the month of May except for End of Season Tournament, base stealing will only occur on passed balls and overthrows.** A passed ball is defined as a ball that is outside of the reach of the catcher while in the catcher's box (i.e. the catcher has to move out of the catcher's box to retrieve the ball).
- **During End of Season Tournament, all teams will play "live ball."**
- Managers and coaches may NOT agree to deviate from these rules during any given game.
- When base stealing is permitted, **leading off is not allowed.** Runners must be on base when the pitcher sets to pitch and may not leave the base until the ball has reached the batter.

Scheduling of make-up games

- The Home team manager will contact the visiting team manager within 72 hours of a game's postponement and offer 3 available make-up dates, time, field options – all within 14 days of postponed game.
- Visiting team will accept one of these choices, and game will be scheduled with approval from baseball vice president and umpire scheduler.
- Failure to do so is subject to TDS board intervention, including forfeit by both teams.