



LITTLE LEAGUE SOFTBALL
CALIFORNIA DISTRICT 25
2009
DISTRICT 25
INTERLEAGUE SOFTBALL RULES

(INTER-LEAGUE PLAY FALLS UNDER DISTRICT JURISDICTION)
THE OFFICIAL SOFTBALL PLAYING RULES SHALL
GOVERN INTERLEAGUE PLAY

MINOR, MAJOR AND JUNIOR SOFTBALL

- Games will be played at all participating league's fields.
- It is mandatory for Managers to carry all medical release forms for their Players to all games.
- The hosting league is to provide Umpires and Scorekeepers. If hosting league supplies paid Umpires and visiting team does not show-up for their scheduled game, the visiting league is responsible to reimburse the hosting league for the cost of the Umpires. If Umpires do not show up, a Coach from each team can umpire the game.
- Managers shall contact opposing Manager to report postponement or cancellation of games, at least 48 hours in advance, or as soon as possible. Remember it is very difficult to reschedule these games so make every effort to make these games happen. Do not call the District with cancellation.
- Each team must have its own scorebook and should always be available when the team travels. Teams will keep accurate pitching records.
- The home team must supply two new softballs per game. Optic yellow balls are preferred.
- Both teams are responsible to clean up their dugouts after each game.
- **MANDATORY PLAYING RULE WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED.** Reg. IV(I)
If the violation is determined to be intentional, the Manager will sit out the next game, the second time, the Manager will be removed from participating, and will not be certified for TOC.

- **BATTING ORDER:** Teams will use a continuous batting order for the regular season. All Players in attendance shall be included in the batting order. There will be free substitution of Players on defensive positions with continuous batting only.
Note: this does not apply for TOC or All Stars.
- **MERCY RULE:** If after 5 innings, 4 1/2 innings if the home team is ahead, one team has a lead of ten runs or more, the Manager of the team with the least runs shall concede the victory to the opponent. Junior division will be 6 innings, 5 ½ if home team is ahead. Any Player(s) who does not complete their mandatory playing time, shall complete their remaining requirement at the beginning of the next scheduled game.
- Should a **Player, Manager, or Coach** be ejected from the game, that person shall be suspended from the next scheduled game. Said Player, however, shall be expected to appear at the game and to occupy the bench in full uniform. If Player does not show-up, that Player will sit out the next scheduled game and may be subject for suspension.
- If a **Player, Manager or Coach** is ejected for fighting, that individual may be removed from the program. It must be reported immediately to District.
- Profane language will not be tolerated from Players, Managers and/or Coaches. **PENALTY: One Game Suspension.**
- It is strongly recommended that there is a **League Representative** in attendance during each game; this should be at home games and when the team travels.
- Protests must be resolved before play continues. Umpire(s) decision shall be final, or game should continue under protest.
- Teams are asked to show-up at least one-half (1/2) hour before game time.
- All complaints and/or remarks should be addressed to **DISTRICT** and not to the League President or Representative.
- **ANY DISCREPANCY MUST BE REPORTED IMMEDIATELY TO DISTRICT.**
- **No food in the dugout.** Drinks are allowed provided they are in plastic bottles or paper cups. The use of gum or sunflower seeds is not allowed.
- Two (2) adult base Coaches may be used during the games, one (1) adult Coach must be in dugout.
- In the event that one (1) team does not have at least nine (9) Players to begin the game, one (1) or more Players from the opposing team may play for that team. All Player(s) must be registered Little League Players.

JUNIOR SOFTBALL

- **TIME LIMIT:** The first new inning after two (2) hours from scheduled starting time shall be the last inning.

MAJOR SOFTBALL

- **RUN LIMIT:** The side is retired when three (3) outs occur, or during the first five (5) innings when five (5) runs have scored. There is no limit to the number of runs per inning after the fifth inning. The Umpire shall ensure that every game shall have at least one (1) inning of unlimited runs, and shall have discretion to waive the five (5) run rule as may be necessary. In such event, the Umpire shall notify both Managers at the beginning of the inning that the five (5) run rule has been waived.
- **TIME LIMIT:** The first new inning after one (1) hour and forty (40) minutes from scheduled starting time shall be the last inning. The five (5) run rule shall be waived for this final inning.
- **STANDINGS:** There will be no standings or records kept for District, except for pitching. Teams will keep accurate pitching records.
- **FIELDING POSITIONS:** Ten (10) Player defense will be allowed during the regular season only. If ten (10) Players are used, four (4) Players must be positioned in the outfield.

MINOR SOFTBALL

- **RUN LIMIT:** The side is retired when three outs occur, or during the first five (5) innings when five (5) runs have scored. There is no limit to the number of runs per inning after the fifth inning. The Umpire shall ensure that every game shall have at least one (1) inning of unlimited runs, and shall have discretion to waive the five (5) run rule as may be necessary. In such event, the Umpire shall notify both Managers at the beginning of the inning that the five (5) run rule has been waived.
- **TIME LIMIT:** The first new inning after one (1) hour and thirty (30) minutes from scheduled starting time shall be the last inning. The five (5) run rule shall be waived for this final inning.
- **STEALING:** Stealing is optional upon agreement by both Managers. Stealing shall be allowed with the following limitations. No runner shall advance more than one base on a steal after any one pitch. No stealing of home before May 1. Ball is dead when catcher releases throw back to pitcher. No stealing during Coach pitch.
- **CATCHING:** 12 year old catchers may only catch for three (3) innings per game.
- **BUNTING:** Bunting is not allowed at any time before May 1. (Regular Season Only)

- **INFIELD FLY:** Infield fly rule shall not be called until May 1. (Regular Season Only)
- **PITCHING:** Players must pitch from thirty-five (35) feet. Players may not pitch in more than three (3) innings per game (six (6) per week). No walks will be allowed. If the pitcher throws four (4) pitches that are called balls, a Coach of the batter's team will pitch to the batter. If the batter does not hit a fair ball after three (3) pitches from the Coach Pitcher the batter will be declared out. The batter will be allowed additional pitches from the Coach Pitcher if the third and subsequent pitches are hit foul. No balls and strikes will be called on pitches from the Coach Pitcher. If a batted ball hits the Coach Pitcher, the ball is declared dead and no pitch will be counted. The Coach Pitcher shall not coach any base runners while the ball is in play. The Player Pitcher will return to pitch to any subsequent batters.
- **FIELDING POSITIONS:** A ten-Player defense will be allowed during the regular season only. If ten (10) Players are used, four (4) Players must be positioned in the outfield.