

N.A.B.L. Major League Rules 2017
(11-12 year olds)

Except for local exceptions as explained below, official Little League rules will be in effect.

Game Length

Six (6) innings shall constitute a game. No inning will start after one hour and forty-five minutes from the first pitch unless the head coach from each team agrees prior to the start of the game to play longer and only the extended time does not interfere with the schedule of any other games. The Mercy Rule, is if after 3 complete innings a team is leading by fifteen (15) runs or after 4 completed innings a team is leading by twelve runs (12) or after 5 innings if a team is leading by ten (10) runs the game will be called unless both coaches agree to continue.

Limitation on Pitching

For the safety and well-being of the players, no player may pitch more 85 pitches within a week.

Hit Batters

After the 3rd hit batter in an inning by the same pitcher, or 4th total, a pitcher must be removed from pitching.

Balk

A balk is an illegal act or movement by the pitcher with a runner or runners on base, entitling all runners to advance one base. A pitcher will be allowed 2 warnings in one inning and 3 total warnings before the balk rule or the advancement of runner(s) will be applied. A runner(s) cannot be called out if picked off base if the pitcher has balked, but is only given a warning.

Base Stealing

Base stealing shall be permitted and lead offs will be permitted.

Equipment

Metal spikes shall not be permitted. Only 2 ¼ inch bats may be used and must be approved by Little League Baseball of America.

Bases, Pitching and outfield Fence Distance

The distance between the bases shall be 70 feet and the pitching distance shall be 50 feet. The pitching mound shall have a pitching plate that is approximately six (6) inches above home plate and the batter's box shall be three (3) feet by five (5) feet.

Re-entry

Starters may re-enter as subs at any spot in the lineup after missing an at-bat; this allows more innings for the first sub and gives the coach flexibility.

Pitcher's Re-Entry: Pitchers taken out will not be allowed to return as pitchers.

Number of Players

Teams must have a minimum of 7 players to play a game. Teams will have a maximum of 9 players defensively and must bat 10 players. The only exception to batting 10 players would be in the event a team only has 9 players. Late arriving players will be inserted at the bottom of batting order. If the team is on defense with only 8 players, then the player can be inserted immediately. Otherwise he cannot enter until the start of the next inning. Teams with less than 9 players at any time during the game will be required to take an out for the open spot(s) in the batting order the first time the team bats through that spot in the lineup.

Play Rule

All players must play 6 outs in the field and bat at least once every game. In the event that a game is called early due to weather or because of a Mercy Rule and a player has not played the required 6 outs / 1 at bat, that player must start and play at least 4 innings and bat twice in the next game. If these rules are not enforced, the manager will receive a one game suspension per incident. The only exception is if a manager holds a player out for disciplinary reasons. If so, he must notify the other coach, scorekeeper and the parent or guardian of the player prior to the game, of the disciplinary suspension and the reason(s) why.

Infield Fly Rule

Will be used. An Infield Fly is a fair fly ball (not including a line drive or an attempted bunt) which can be caught by an infielder with ordinary effort, when first and second, or first, second and third bases are occupied, before two are out. The pitcher, catcher and any outfielder who stations himself in the infield on the play shall be considered infielders for the purpose of this rule. When it seems apparent that a batted ball will be an Infield Fly, the umpire shall immediately declare "Infield Fly" for the benefit of the runners. If the ball is near the baselines, the umpire shall declare "Infield Fly, if Fair." The ball is alive and runners may advance at the risk of the ball being caught, or retouch and advance after the ball is touched, the same as on any fly ball. If the hit becomes a foul ball, it is treated the same as any foul. If a declared Infield Fly is allowed to fall untouched to the ground, and bounces foul before passing first or third base, it is a foul ball. If a declared Infield Fly falls untouched to the ground outside the baseline, and bounces fair before passing first or third base, it is an Infield Fly.

Umpires

Umpires will deal with managers ONLY for discussions. Managers will be given one warning for conduct. A second conduct warning will result in the manager being ejected from the game. Any manager and/or coach who is ejected will serve a mandatory one game suspension with no exceptions. Umpires will have a list of rules prior to the game. Protests on rule book calls must be made within 24 hours to a league player agent(s).

Restrictions

Pitchers will be allowed 5 warm-up pitches per half inning. No team meetings prior to taking the field. Except for coaching a base, managers and coaches must remain in the dugout or outside the field of play. A coach may go to the mound to visit the pitcher a maximum of 2 times in a single inning or a maximum of 3 times a game per pitcher. Thus, a 2nd visit in an inning or 3rd total visit will require the pitcher to be removed.

Obstruction and Interference Rules

Will go by Official Little League Regulations & Playing Rules.

Final Scores

The Home Team Manager will report the final score to the designated Player Agent.

Sliding

A player must slide or attempt to avoid contact when advancing to the next base when there is a play at the given base. A player is not required to slide if there is not a play at the given base. A fielder may not obstruct the base path if there is no play at the given base.

Head First Sliding

A player may slide head first into any base or plate. He may also slide head first attempting to return back to a base during a pick off.

Dropped Third Strike

The dropped third strike rule will NOT be in effect.

Slash Bunt / Fake Bunt

It will be illegal to fake a bunt, pull back and attempt or make a swing to hit the ball. The first time this happens, the team gets a warning. The second time this happens in the same game, the batter is out. Runners may not advance under any circumstances.

Post-Game Clean-Up

The Home Team is responsible for removing and raking the bases after the last game of the evening. The Visiting Team is responsible for emptying the trash in each dugout after the last game of the evening.

Travel Players

Travel players are welcome to play in the N.A.B.L. House Leagues. However, an N.A.B.L. House League team may not consist of more than six (6) travel players. A travel player is defined as a player who plays games on another non N.A.B.L. House team during the regular season. The only exception to this rule would be in the event that an N.A.B.L. House League does not have enough teams to equally distribute the travel players or by special permission of the N.A.B.L. League Presidents.

N.A.B.L. Travel Players must play in the N.A.B.L. House League and cannot participate in any other House Leagues outside of the N.A.B.L., unless a player is needed to make a roster complete.

Adopted: April 8, 2015 (rev. 2)

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