

 LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL, INC.
WASHINGTON DISTRICT 6
2025 INTERLEAGUE BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL RULES

Proposed for 2025 Season

The following rules will be enforced in addition to the Official Regulations and Playing Rules of Little League Baseball & Softball. Adopted by WAD6 presidents on 02/11/2025.

***All leagues that have divisions participating in Interleague play shall follow interleague rules even if two same league teams are playing each other.

All managers must have a current copy of the Interleague rules with them. Should a question come up concerning an Interleague rule, game play will be suspended until a copy can be consulted, and the question answered. If any of these rules contradict the LL Rule book the LL Rule book shall be the prevailing source.

I. Washington District 6 Interleague Board

- A. The District Administrator is the chairman of the Interleague Board.
- B. Membership includes all league presidents of WAD6, or their assigned representative. If the league president assigns a representative to the interleague board, they will have all rights and responsibilities as the president they represent.
- C. When an interleague meeting is held, each member who is present will have one vote.
- D. Interleague board duties will include approving interleague rules and game scheduling.
- E. Quorum shall be more than 50% of league presidents in attendance.
- F. Shall meet when convened by the District Administrator to review incidents of concern and may apply additional penalties as allowed by rule 4.07.

II. Interleague Game schedules

- A. Rainout notification- The home team manager is responsible for rainout notification if the game is rained out 1 and ½ hours prior to game time. This manager is responsible for contacting the other team's manager, the umpires and the interleague scheduler for that division.
- B. Cancellations. If the game has been canceled prior to game day, it is the responsibility of the home team manager to contact the other team manager, the umpires and the interleague scheduler for that division.
- C. Reschedules-Rescheduling rainout or canceled games are the responsibility of the managers. Managers need to contact the interleague scheduler for that division.

III. Game Day

- A. Field suitability is determined by the home leagues field policies. If the field is one that is not the home field for either team the host league may decide to not allow play on the field. The host league decision is final. .
- B. The home team is responsible for field preparation regardless of where he game is played. **To avoid potential issues, managers should be reporting & documenting injuries and potential injuries to their league presidents and or player agents within 24 hours of the incident.**

IV. Game Time

A. This rule applies to the Tee Ball Division. No new inning will be **started** after 1 hour from the **scheduled start time** of the game, or after **3 complete innings**. The game will terminate at 1 hour and 30 minutes after **scheduled start time** of the game.

B. This rule applies to the Pee Wee (coach pitch and player pitch divisions). No new inning will be **started** after 1 hour and 15 minutes from the **scheduled start time** of the game, or after **4 complete innings**. The game will terminate at 1 hour and 30 minutes after **scheduled start time** of the game.

C. This rule applies to the Minor division. No new inning will be **started** after 2 hours from the **scheduled start time** of the game. There is a hard stop at 9:00 pm.

D. This rule applies to the Major division. No new inning will be started after 2 hours from the scheduled start time of the game. There is a hard stop time at 9:00 pm Sunday thru Thursday and 10:00 pm Friday and Saturday.

E. This rule applies to the Intermediate, Junior, Senior divisions. No new inning will be **started** after 2 hours 30 minutes from the **scheduled start time** of the game. If there is no game following this rule that does not apply, there is a hard stop at 9:00PM Su. - Thur.

NOTE: If the game does not start within 15 minutes of the scheduled game time, either manager may ask for a reschedule.

F. This applies to all divisions of all levels of SB & BB. Some leagues (usually the home team) have hard stop times applied (either daylight or park closing times) to all games regardless of whether the game is legal or not. Interleague time limits apply to all games and only stop when that game bumps up to the local stopping point.

V. Player Pools

A. Rules governing player pools can be found in Regulation V. Selection of Player (c)

B. Borrowing of players at game time is not allowed. Per Regulation V(c)

C. The player agents of the participating leagues must keep a log of player pool, this log must be available upon request.

VI. Score Keeping & Pitching Record

A. Each manager is required to carry a copy of their team scorebook (**hard copy or electronic**), which includes a pitch count and record for all players. The player agent is responsible to see that players do not violate the pitch count rule, Regulation VI (c) for baseball and Regulation VI (b) for Softball.

VII. Protests and ejections

Game protest policy (see playing Rule 4.19). Any protest must be submitted by the manager first to the umpire on the field of play, if not resolved, noted in the official scorebook and play on. Then after the game, the protesting manager shall report in writing to the local league president within

24 hours. The umpire in chief of the game shall also submit a report with 24 hours to the local league president, District Administrator, and the District UIC. The league president shall then notify the interleague board for resolution.

Ejections shall be reported within 24 hours by the umpire who executed the ejection or the umpire in chief of the game to the local league president of the offending player, coach, or manager. Copies will be sent to the district administrator and district UIC as well. This is mandatory so that the penalty of an additional game suspension will be enforced on the offending person.

VIII. Special Rules by Division

T-Ball (BB/SB 4-7)

PURPOSE: Tee ball programs are for players 4-7 years old who want to learn the fundamentals of hitting and fielding. In Tee Ball, players hit a ball off a batting tee. The primary goals of Tee Ball are to have fun, to instruct children in the fundamentals of baseball & softball and to allow them to experience the value of teamwork.

- A. No umpires will be used in Tee Ball
- B. Extra players are to be placed in the outfield.
- C. Coaches/Managers are permitted on the field for the purpose of instruction only. No more than three coaches or managers are allowed on the field at one time (one at the plate and two in the field).
- D. No manager or coach shall hand a ball to a player while it is in play.
- E. All runners can only advance a maximum of 1 base on an overthrow or passed ball F. Both teams will bat through the line up each inning. Batting order is to remain the same through the duration of the game.
- G. No 5-run rule
- H. No 10-run rule
- I. Play only 3 innings
- J. After 3 outs clear the bases continue batting until the side has batted. Clearing the bases after every 3 outs.

PeeWee - aka Coach Pitch/Player Pitch (BB/SB 5-7)

PURPOSE: Peewee is the next step up from the Tee ball division however are not quite ready for the Minor division. This is the division where they begin to work on their skills as infielders, pitchers, catchers, and outfielders. Remember, each position plays a key role in the game, and it is important that each child has the opportunity to play each position during the regular season of play.

- A. Ball used will be a level 5 safety ball.
- B. Umpires are not allowed for Peewee games. The Honor System will be used to call balls/strikes, safes/outs & fair/fouls by coaches.

- C. Games may be started and continued with 7 players but not less than 7. D. No more than 10 players on defense allowed, if the 10th player is used, they will play in the outfield only and the team is required to maintain 4 outfielders.
- E. Only one coach/manager is allowed in the outfield. This will be for instructional purposes only. At no time should a coach/manager touch a ball that is in play.
- F. Maximum of 5 runs per inning, per team, including the last inning. 15/10 run rule in effect additionally. No unlimited innings will be allowed. Game time limit is still in effect.
- G. Season will start with 2 divisions, 1) coach/machine pitch & 2) player pitch. On the 2nd Monday in May the coach/machine division may switch to player pitch provided that both managers agree prior to the scheduled start time of the game. If both managers aren't in agreement then the game will be played as coach/machine pitch.
- H. Coach/Machine pitch division will not merge with the player pitch division after the 2nd Monday in May or at any time.
- I. Base runners cannot run unless the ball is put in play by the batter (NO STEALING ALLOWED). J. Base runners are not allowed to run on an overthrow or passed ball.
- For clarification, A passed ball is defined as a ball that gets past/behind the catcher and not past a fielder stationed in the field of play (fair territory) that is an overthrow.**
- K. No more than 7 pitches or 3 strikes per batter. The pitcher will throw a maximum of 4 pitches per batter with the coach pitcher to throw the remaining 3 pitches. The batter keeps the count as pitched by the player when the adult assumes the pitching role. At any time during the at-bat, if the batter reaches 3 strikes the batter is out and receives no more pitches. **Batter is out after seven pitches, UNLESS the seventh pitch is a foul ball. Batter may continue the at bat until he or she puts the ball in play or strikes out. A NO swing is a strike.**
- L. Batters will be awarded first base if hit by pitch. If a pitcher hits 3 batters during the course of the game, they will be replaced as a pitcher on the third infraction.
- M. Both SB and BB – When the pitcher is in possession of the ball and is either in the pitching circle (SB) or on the pitching mound (BB), all play will end.
- N. All inning count (SB) or pitch count (BB) applies, and rest periods must be observed as listed in the rule book.

Minor Softball & Baseball (BB 5-12 / SB 5-11)

- A. Continuous batting per Rule 4.04 will be used.
- B. There is a maximum of 5 runs per inning, per team. 15/10/8 run rule applies additionally. If a game reaches the 6th inning, then the 6th inning may be played as an unlimited runs inning. Game time limit(s) are still in effect.
- C. Any batter not able to complete their turn at bat is removed from the batter's box and the next batter is allowed to enter the batter's box with a 0 ball & 0 strike count.
- D. Any player unable to take a turn at bat due to injury is just skipped. No out is applied.
- E. Pitching records must be recorded and available for review by managers of future games.
- F. Pitchers must observe all appropriate rest periods per the rule book/regulations.

Major Softball & Baseball (BB/SB 9-12)

- A. Batting order will be continuous as described in the rule book.
- B. 15/10/8-run rule applies in both SB & BB. 5 run rule not allowed by rule.
- C. Any batter not able to complete their turn at bat is removed from the batter's box and the next batter is allowed to enter the batter's box with a 0 ball & 0 strike count.
- D. Any player unable to take a turn at bat due to injury is just skipped. No out is applied.
- E. Pitching records must be recorded and available for review by managers of future games.
- F. Pitchers must observe all appropriate rest periods per the rule book/regulations.

Intermediate, Junior, Senior Leagues Softball & Baseball

(BB Intermediate 11-13 / Junior 12-14 / Senior 13-16 - SB Junior 12-14 / Senior 13-16)

- A. Intermediate BB plays per Junior League rules
- B. 15/10/8 run rule applies to all divisions
- C. Pitching records must be recorded and be available for review by managers of future games.
- D. Pitchers must observe all appropriate rest periods per the rule book/regulations

Clarification or Minors, Majors, Intermediate and Juniors

A. Divisions listed above shall use continuous batting. Teams may start and end with 8 players. When the 9th spot in the lineup comes up in the batting order, that spot will be skipped and no out applied.

B. Teams may use a courtesy runner for the pitcher and or catcher only when there are two outs. Courtesy runner will be last out.

Significant rule changes 2025

Baseball, Softball, and Challenger – Rule 1.10 – A.R. 2 [1 in Challenger] – Alterations or Modifications made to the Bat: Clarifies that products, such as, but not limited to, choke-knobs, choke-up assists, or thumb protectors are considered alterations to the bat and are not permitted.

Softball – Rule 1.11(a)(3) – Pitcher's Undershirt: Clarifies that any part of the pitcher's undershirt or T-Shirt exposed to view cannot be the same color of the ball being used in the game.

Baseball – Rule 1.11(a)(3) – Neoprene Sleeves: Permits neoprene sleeves to be worn without being covered by an undershirt, provided the neoprene sleeve is a solid color and not white or gray.

Baseball, Softball, and Challenger – Rule 1.11(j) – Jewelry: Removes Rule 1.11(j) [1.11(d) in Challenger] to remove the requirement that jewelry, other than medical alert, should be removed, permitting jewelry to be worn.

Softball – Rule 1.15(c) – Items Worn on the Hands or Wrists: Clarifies that a pitcher may wear items on the glove hand, wrist, or arm (non-pitching arm) of a solid single color, provided it is not the same color as the ball being used in the game.

Baseball, Softball, and Challenger – Rule 1.16 – Helmet Stickers: Permits the use of helmet stickers or decals, provided that such usage is not excessive, is not offensive, and does not make inappropriate references, such as that to drugs or alcohol.

Baseball and Softball – Rule 2.00 – At-Bat (NOTE 1 and NOTE 2): Clarifies that when using the continuous batting order, players do not need to meet the running portion of mandatory play.

Baseball and Softball – Rule 2.00 – Courtesy Runner, Rule 3.04, Rule 7.14(b), and Tournament Rule 3(d): This change provides clarifications for using a courtesy runner with both the traditional batting order and the continuous batting order. It also clarifies that when using the continuous batting order, the offense may use a courtesy runner for both the pitcher and catcher of record at the same time when there are two outs.

Baseball, Softball, and Challenger – Rule 3.01 – Pregame Equipment Inspection: Removes the requirement for umpires to check equipment prior to the start of the game by placing responsibility for legal and proper equipment on the manager.

Softball – Regulation VI(c), Rule 3.03(c), Tournament Rule 4(c), Tournament Rule 4(d), Tournament Rule 9(a), and Tournament Rule 10(c) – Pitchers Removed from the Circle: This change allows a pitcher who has been removed from the circle to return as pitcher regardless of whether he/she moves to a different defensive position or the bench.

Baseball – Regulation VI(b), Rule 3.03(c), 8.06(b)-Note, Tournament Rule 4(c), Tournament Rule 9(a), and Tournament Rule 10(h) – Pitchers Moving to a Different Defensive Position Once Removed from the Mound: Provides consistency and clarification in the wording that a pitcher, in the Intermediate (50/70) Division/Junior/Senior Baseball, remaining on defense in the game but moving to a different defensive position, can return as a pitcher anytime in the remainder of the game, but only once per game. To return as pitcher, once removed from the mound, the player must remain in the game defensively.

Significant rule changes 2025 (continued)

Baseball and Softball – Rule 3.17 – Electronic Devices: This change permits a team to use one-way communication to the catcher while the team is on defense.

Baseball and Softball – Rule 6.06(d) – Use of an Illegal Bat: This change updates the penalty for the usage of an illegal bat as listed in 6.06(d) to remain consistent with the penalty included in the change to Rule 3.01.

Baseball – Rule 7.15(g) – Procedures for the Use of a Double First Base: Makes the wording of 7.15(g) consistent with the wording provided in the Softball Rulebook for the same rule.

Softball – Rule 8.02(a)(1) – Approved Substances on the Pitching Hand or Fingers: Clarifies non-approved substances on the pitching hand or fingers versus the use of approved substances under the judgement of the umpire.

FINAL VERSION

Rainout Contact Information for 2025

Battle Ground - www.bgll.org & Facebook

Glenwood www.glenwoodlittleleague.com & Facebook

Hazel Dell - Facebook

Highlands www.highlandsl.org & Facebook

Kalama - Facebook or 360-910-2050

La Center 503-714-5162 or www.lacenterlittleleague.com

Lewis River - Facebook

North Clark - Facebook

Ridgefield - www.ridgefieldlittleleague.com

Salmon Creek - Facebook (@SalmonCreekLL)