



**Little League  
Baseball and Softball  
Rules and Regulations Changes  
2013**



# REGULATION CHANGES



**Regulation II(a) has been amended to read:** *Applies to: Challenger Rule Book*

-A Little League Challenger Division team should not have more than 15 players per team on its roster.



# REGULATION CHANGES



**Regulation III(d) Note 3 has been amended to read, in part: *Applies to: All Divisions***

-NOTE 3: If a medical professional, Umpire in Chief, the player's coach, the player's manager or the player's parent has determined a player sustains a possible concussion, the player must be, at a minimum, removed from the game and/or practice for the remainder of that day. The league must also be aware of its respective state/ provincial/municipal laws with regards to concussions and impose any additional requirements as necessary.

-His/her return to full participation is subject to:

- 1.The league's adherence to its respective state/provincial/municipal laws,
- 2.An evaluation and a written clearance from a physician or other accredited medical provider and
- 3.Written acknowledgement of the parents



# REGULATION CHANGES



**Regulation IV(a) has been amended to read, in part: Applies to: Baseball Rule Book**

- Intermediate (50-70) Division: Any participant who will attain the age of 11 years before May 1 and who will not attain the age of 14 years before May 1 of the year in question shall be eligible to compete in the Intermediate (50-70) Division.
- A 12 year old player who is otherwise eligible under all conditions would be eligible for selection to the Major League, Intermediate (50-70) Division or Junior League tournament team.
- If a player only participates in sixty (60) percent of the Regular Season games in one division (Major, Intermediate (50-70) Division or Junior League) as of June 15, he/she is only eligible to participate with that particular division in tournament play.
- A player may only be selected to and participate on one (1) tournament team.



# REGULATION CHANGES



**Regulation IV(g) has been amended to read, in part: Applies to: All Divisions**

- Player, manager and coach data must be supplied to Little League International annually. Leagues may submit information from registration by April 1, 2013 or team rosters by June 5, 2013. Players claimed under Regulation II (d) and/or IV (h) must be declared on appropriate forms available from Little League Headquarters annually. It is highly recommended that data be supplied electronically in approved formats to Headquarters via the Little League Data Center. Look for related information online at [www.LittleLeague.org/DataCenter](http://www.LittleLeague.org/DataCenter).



# REGULATION CHANGES



**Regulation VI (d) has been amended to read, in part:** **Applies to Baseball & Challenger Rule Books**

-EXCEPTION: If a pitcher reaches a day(s) of rest threshold while facing a batter, the pitcher may continue to pitch until any one of the following conditions occurs:

1. That batter reaches base;
2. That batter is retired;
3. The third out is made to complete the half-inning.

The pitcher will only be required to observe the calendar day(s) of rest for the threshold he/she reached during that at-bat, provided that pitcher is removed before delivering a pitch to another batter.



# RULE CHANGES



**Rule 1.07 has been amended to read:** **Applies to: Softball Rule Book**

-The pitcher's plate shall be a rectangular slab of whitened rubber 24 inches by 6 inches. It shall be set in the ground as shown in Diagrams 1 and 2, so that the distance between the front side of the pitcher's plate and home base (the rear point of home plate) shall be:

- 1.Minor League: 35 feet
- 2.Little League (Majors): 40 feet
- 3.Junior/Senior/Big League: 43 feet



# RULE CHANGES



**Rule 1.10 has been amended to read:** **Applies to: Softball Rule Book**

-The bat must be a softball bat which meets Little League specifications and standards as noted in this rule. It shall be a smooth, rounded stick and made of wood or a material tested and proved acceptable to Little League standards. The bat shall be no more than 33 inches (34 inches for Junior/Senior/Big League) in length, not more than two and one-quarter (2-1/4) inches in diameter, and if wood, not less than fifteen/sixteenth (15/16) inches in diameter (7/8 inch for bats less than 30 inches) at its smallest part. Non-wood bats shall be printed with a **BPF (bat performance factor) of 1.20**. Bats may be taped or fitted with a sleeve for a distance not exceeding 16 inches from the small end. Colored bats are acceptable. A non-wood bat must have a grip of cork, tape or composition material, and must extend a minimum of 10 inches from the small end. Slippery tape or similar material is prohibited. An illegal or altered bat must be removed.





# RULE CHANGES



**Rule 2.00 has been amended to read, in part: *Applies to: Softball Rule Book***

-An ILLEGAL BAT is a bat that has been altered or a bat that is not approved for play because it does not meet specifications with regard to length, weight, barrel diameter, labeling or performance standard for the division which it is being used.



# RULE CHANGES



**Rule 6.06(d) has been amended to read:** **Applies to: Softball Rule Book**

-(d) the batter enters the batter's box with one or both feet entirely on the ground with an illegal bat (see bat specifications rule 1.10) or is discovered having used an illegal bat prior to the next player entering the batter's box.

NOTE: If the infraction is discovered before the next player enters the batter's box following the turn at bat of the player who used an illegal bat:

- 1.The manager of the defense may advise the plate umpire of a decision to decline the penalty and accept the play. Such election shall be made immediately at the end of the play.
- 2.For the first violation, the offensive team will lose one eligible adult base coach for the duration of the game.
- 3.For the second violation, the manager of the team will be ejected from the game. Any subsequent violation will result in the newly designated manager being ejected.



# RULE CHANGES



**Rule 8.01(f) has been amended to read: [Applies to: Baseball Rule Book](#)**

-A pitcher must indicate visually to the umpire-in-chief, the batter and any runners the hand with which he/she intends to pitch, which may be done by wearing his/her glove on the other hand while touching the pitcher's plate. The pitcher is not permitted to pitch with the other hand until the batter is retired, the batter becomes a runner, the inning ends, the batter is substituted for by a pinch-hitter or the pitcher incurs an injury. In the event a pitcher switches pitching hands during an at-bat because he/she has suffered an injury, the pitcher may not, for the remainder of the game, pitch with the hand from which he/she has switched. The pitcher shall not be given the opportunity to throw any preparatory pitches after switching pitching hands. Any change of pitching hands must be indicated clearly to the umpire-in-chief.



# TOURNAMENT RULE CHANGES



## **Tournament Eligibility Affidavit Rule has been amended to read, in part:**

### **Applies to: Baseball & Softball Rule Books**

Once the District Administrator certifies the Eligibility Affidavit, the tournament team will be required to have in its possession:

- 1.The Eligibility Affidavit;
- 2.A map showing the actual boundaries of the league, with locations noted for the residences of the parent or legal guardian (court appointed) of every participant named on the affidavit;
- 3.Tournament verification form for each player;
- 4.Copies (originals not required) of the records used to verify date of birth for all players on the affidavit;
- 5.Three or more documents to determine residency of the parent(s) or guardian for each player named on the tournament affidavit;
- 6.Waivers (i.e. II (d), IV (h), Charter Committee, etc...)

**IMPORTANT: Alternates are not authorized. They shall not accompany the team and shall not be listed on the Eligibility Affidavit.**

**Eligibility Affidavit must be certified by the District Administrator or his or her designated appointee and presented by the team manager to the Tournament Director before every game. Each Tournament Team must have twelve (12) eligible players for the District Administrator to certify.**

**EXCEPTION: A District Administrator may certify the Eligibility Affidavit for those teams that provide a justifiable reason for not having twelve (12) players.**



## TOURNAMENT RULE CHANGES



**Release of Names Rule has been amended to read:** *Applies to: Baseball & Softball Rule Books*

-The release of names of players selected for the tournament team shall not be made before June 15, or two weeks prior to the start of the tournament within their respective division (whichever is earlier), and not until the availability and eligibility of all prospective team members have been established. (Little League accident insurance for tournament teams will not go into effect until June 15, or the date of the release of the names of Tournament Team members, whichever is earlier).

**IMPORTANT:** *Violation of this rule may be cause for revocation of tournament privilege by the Tournament Committee.*



## TOURNAMENT RULE CHANGES



**Player Eligibility Rule has been amended to read, in part:** Applies to: Baseball & Softball Rule Books

-EXCEPTION: The local league board of directors may permit a player to be eligible for selection, who does not meet the 60 percent (60%) requirement, if they provide a physician's note documenting an injury or illness prior to or during the current season prohibiting his/her participation and such note releases the player for the balance of the Regular Season and/or Tournament Play.



## TOURNAMENT RULE CHANGES



**League Eligibility Rule has been amended to read, in part:** Applies to: Baseball & Softball Rule Books

-4) All regular season team rosters, player registrations and coach assignments must be submitted to Little League International in accordance with the requirements outlined in Regulation IV (g), not later than April 1, 2013.

**Summary and Implementation: For the 2013 International Tournament, added wording making it mandatory to submit player and coach information to Little League International by April 1, 2013, as a condition of eligibility.**



## TOURNAMENT RULE CHANGES



**Tournament Team Practice Rule has been amended to read:**

**Applies to: Baseball & Softball Rule Books**

-Try-outs or practices by tournament teams shall not be held before June 15 or two weeks prior to the start of the tournament within their respective division. Tournament team practice may only take place against other teams within the same or contiguous districts in the same division, providing such practice is done out of uniform. (Little League accident insurance for tournament teams will not go into effect until June 15, or the date of the release of the names of tournament Team members, whichever is earlier).

**IMPORTANT: Violation of this rule may be cause for revocation of tournament privileges by the Tournament Committee.**





## TOURNAMENT RULE CHANGES



**Curfew Rule has been amended to read:** Applies to: Softball Rule Book

No inning shall start after midnight prevailing time (12:30 a.m. prevailing time for Junior League Softball; 1:00 a.m. prevailing time for Senior/Big League Softball).

**NOTE:** An inning starts the moment the third out is made completing the previous inning.



## TOURNAMENT RULE CHANGES



**Tournament Rule 3(a) has been amended to read, in part:** [Applies to: Baseball & Softball Rule Books](#)

-In all Tournament levels and divisions, the penalty for use of an illegal bat [see Rule 6.06 (d)], if discovered before the next player enters the batter's box following the turn at bat of the player who used an illegal bat, is:

- i. The batter is out (NOTE: The manager of the defense may advise the plate umpire of a decision to decline this portion of the penalty and accept the play. Such election shall be made immediately at the end of the play), and;
- ii. The manager of the team will be ejected from the game, the batter who violated the rule will be ejected from the game, and the offensive team will lose one eligible adult base coach for the duration of the game.



## TOURNAMENT RULE CHANGES



**Tournament Rule 4(e) has been amended to read, in part: [Applies to: Baseball Rule Book](#)**

-EXCEPTION: If a pitcher reaches the limit imposed above for his/her league age while facing a batter, the pitcher may continue to pitch until any one of the following conditions occurs:

1. That batter reaches base;
2. That batter is retired;
3. The third out is made to complete the half-inning.

The pitcher will only be required to observe the calendar day(s) of rest for the threshold he/she reached during that at-bat, provided that pitcher is removed before delivering a pitch to another batter.



## TOURNAMENT RULE CHANGES



**Tournament Rule 9 has been amended to read, in part:** Applies to: Baseball & Softball Rule Books

-MANDATORY PLAY: 9-10 Year Old Division, 10-11 Year Old Division, Little League, Intermediate (50-70) Division, Junior League:

If a tournament team has **thirteen (13) or more eligible players in uniform at a game**, then every player on a team roster shall participate in each game for a **minimum of one (1) at bat**.

If a tournament has **twelve (12) or fewer eligible players in uniform at a game**, then every player on a team roster shall participate in each game for a **minimum of six (6) consecutive defensive outs and bat at least one (1) time**.