

Boys Instructional League Rules

Revised 1/09

Complete Game

- Six innings constitute a game.
- In case of rain or darkness, three and one-half innings for home team or four innings for visiting team, if ahead, shall constitute a game
- Rainouts should be rescheduled as soon as possible on a date agreed to by both coaches. Both coaches should work directly with the schedule coordinator to reschedule rainouts.
- Innings 1-5 are finished when 3 outs OR a maximum of 5 runs are made, whichever ever occurs first. Inning 6 (the final inning) is finished when 3 out are made. An unlimited amount of runs will be allowed so that the home team has a chance to catch up in their half of the inning if needed.

Team and Playing Time

- Game time is 6:00 pm on weekdays
- Each team is allowed 10 players defensively, tenth man to play roving outfielder on the grass
- No inning may be started after 8:15 pm on weekdays
- All games will have a maximum time limit of 2 hours.

Playing Area and Equipment

- Playing area is an imaginary line from backstop, running parallel to 1st and 3rd foul line.
- Playing field is the area bounded by home plate down each foul line.
- Base distance is 55 feet
- Pitching rubber distance is 46 feet. Distance will be adjusted to batter's ability.
- Little League or T-ball bats and reduced injury factor (Worth RIF level 5) balls are required.
- It is **mandatory** that catchers wear full protective gear, including cup protection, while catching

Substitution

- Coaches may freely substitute defensively
- All players on the team will be placed in the batting order. The batting order will be maintained throughout the game. Batting orders should differ from game to game.
- All players play at least two innings

Pitching

- Coaches pitch overhand to their own players, to the opposing catcher
- Five swings maximum, no balls and strikes will be kept.
- If the batter fouls off on the final swing, he gets another pitch/swing until he misses or puts the ball in play.

- Batter is out if he fails to hit on the fifth swing
- Any ball that hits the pitcher/coach is still a ball in play. Every effort should be made by the coach/pitcher to get out of the way of a live ball in play
- Runner is entitled to one base only on an overthrow out of playing area.
- Overthrow in playing field, runners may advance as far as possible. When the ball reaches the infield, the runners stop.
- No lead-offs are allowed.
- No stealing is allowed
- No bunting is allowed
- Players must avoid contact when a play is pending. The offensive or defensive player that promotes contact will be ruled against. Sliding is deemed as an attempt to avoid contact. If contact is imminent, the offensive player must slide into the bag or plate. A player positioning his body between a runner and his destination is considered promoting contact. Umpires discretion will stand.

Coach Responsibilities

- Home team must set up the field
- Coaches review league and field play rules with opposing coaches before the game
- It is the responsibility of coaches to constantly set an example for players and arbitrate all disputes in a positive and sportsmanlike fashion.
- One defensive coach will be allowed inside foul lines.