

2010 Little League Softball Tournament Rule Difference Chart

| Divisions | 9 & 10 Softball | 10/11 Year Softball | Little League Softball | Junior League Softball | Senior League Softball | Big League Softball | | |
|--|--|--|-----------------------------------|--|---|---|-----------------|--|
| Eligibility (League Age) | 9/10 yrs old From Major or Minor Divisions | 10/11 yrs old From Major or Minor Divisions | 11/12 yrs old Major Division Only | 12, 13, or 14 years old 13 to 14 Senior, or Big League | 13, 14, 15, or 16 years old 14 to 16 Senior, or Big League | 14, 15, 16, 17, & 18 years old Junior, Senior, or Big League | | |
| Roster Size | Maximum Team Roster 14 players. | | | | | | Max. 15 Players | |
| | Total 13 players or more at start of the game. 1 Manager and 2 Coaches | | | | | | | |
| Mandatory Play Requirements | MUST complete one time at bat, AND play three (3) consecutive defensive outs during the game; (may be protested) unless game is shortened for any reason Manager suspended for 2 games POSSIBLE team forfeiture and disqualification | | | | None Required | | None Required | |
| | | | | | Total 12 players or less at start of the game. 1 Manager and 1 Coach | | | |
| Softball Size | 11 in. softball | 12 inch softball | | | | | | |
| Pitching Distance T-12 | 35 Feet | 40 Feet | | | 43 Feet | | | |
| Innings Pitched Allowed | Seven (7) innings per day. | | Nine (9) innings per day | | Ten (10) innings per day . T-14 (e) | | | |
| Pitching Rest T-13, T14 | If a player pitches in less than three (3) in a calendar day, no rest is required. | | | If a player pitches in less than five (5) innings in a calendar day, no rest is required T-14 | | | | |
| Pitching In Suspended Games T-14 | Games suspended by darkness or other reasons resumed the following day, the pitcher of record may pitch to the extent of their eligibility that pitcher would have had the previous day. No pitcher may pitch more than (9) innings, or (7) for 9-10, 10-11 in any game. | | | Games suspended by darkness or other reasons resumed the following day, the pitcher of record may pitch to the extent of their eligibility that pitcher would have had the previous day. No pitcher may pitch more than ten (10) innings in any game. T-14 | | | | |
| Pitching In Consecutive Calendar Days and Levels of Tournament T-13 | If a player pitches in three (3) or more innings in a calendar day, one day's rest is required. This also applies between regular season games following Tournament elimination or Special Games following Tournament. | | | If a player pitches in five (5) or more innings in a calendar day, one day's rest is required. This also applies between regular season games following Tournament elimination or Special Games following Tournament. T-14 | | | | |
| Pitchers Returning to the Mound T-13, T14 | Pitcher's remaining in the game, but moving to a different defensive position, can return as a pitcher any time in the remainder of the game, but only once in the same inning as he/she was removed. Visit counts on that pitcher does not reset. | | | | | | | |
| Substitution and Re-Entry Starter or Substitute T-16 | A starter may be removed for a substitute BEFORE meeting MPR Any player who has been removed for a substitute may re-enter the game in the SAME position in the batting order. A substitute entering the game for the first time may not be removed prior to completion of her/his mandatory play requirements , (3) consecutive defensive outs AND completed one time at bat. | | | | A starter (including the DH) who has been removed for a substitute may re-enter the game once, provided such player occupies the same position in the batting order. A substitute (removed) may not re-enter. | | | |
| Line-up Changes T-17 | Defensive substitutions must be made while the team is on defense. Offensive substitutions must be made at the time the offensive player has her/his turn at bat or is on base. | | | | | | | |
| Multiple Games | Two games with Regional Approval Only | | | No more than two (2) games in one day allowed | | | | |
| Offensive Conferences | Only one (1) per inning | | | | | | | |
| Defensive Visits Pitcher/Player T-15 | Two (2) in an inning; Third (3) in same inning pitcher must be removed; Fourth (4) visit in a game, pitcher must be removed. Visit count resets for new pitcher. | | | | | | | |
| Regulation Game (Complete) | Six full innings, 5 1/2 if home team is ahead | | | Seven full innings, 6 1/2 if home team is ahead | | | | |
| Games Called T-18 | 4 full innings or 3 1/2 if home team is ahead | | | 5 full innings or 4 1/2 if home team is ahead | | | | |
| Little League Curfew | No new inning may start after midnight. | | | After 12:30 AM | | No new inning may start after 1:00 AM | | |
| Local Curfew | Local curfews stopping game before LL curfew must be suspended and completed the following day. | | | | | | | |
| Designated Hitter | Not allowed | | | | | Allowed - Rule 3.03 (e) 10 (h) | | |
| 10 Run Rule | After 4 innings, 3 1/2 if home team is ahead | | | After 5 innings, 4 1/2 if home team is ahead | | | | |
| Special Pinch Runner | Allowed (Rule 7.14) - once per inning, any player not presently in the lineup may be used. A player may only be removed for a special pinch runner one time during a game. | | | | | | | |
| Bunt | A bunt is a batted ball not swung at but intentionally met with the bat and tapped slowly. Holding the bat in the strike zone is considered an attempted bunt. In order to take a pitch the batter must withdraw the bat backwards away from the ball. | | | | | | | |
| Uncaught 3rd Strike | Does not apply | The batter becomes a runner when the third strike called by the umpire is not caught, providing (1) first base is not occupied or (2) first base is occupied with two out. NOTE: a batter forfeits the opportunity to advance to first base when he/she enters the dugout or any other dead ball area. | | | | | | |
| Equipment 1.11 T-8 | Re-painted and re-applied decals on helmets not allowed unless by written approval from manufacturer. | | | | | | | |
| | No metal cleats; Catcher must wear long or short model chest protector; NOCSAE helmet with dangling throat protector. 6 NOCSAE batting helmets required. | | | Metal cleats are allowed; Catchers must wear long or short model chest protector, protective cup, for male catchers; NOCSAE helmet with dangling throat protector for all catchers helmets. 7 NOCSAE batting helmets required. | | | | |
| Bats 1.10 Length/Diameter | No baseball bats are allowed. An illegal bat must be removed | | | | | | | |
| | Max. length 33"; max. diameter 2 1/4 | | | Max. length 34"; max diameter 2 1/4" | | | | |
| | Wood bats may not be less than (15/16) inches in diameter (7/8 inch for bats less than 30 inches) at its smallest part. | | | | | | | |
| Protests: T-10 to T-12 | Playing Rule: Must be made before the next pitch/play/or attempted play. Ineligible Pitcher or Mandatory Play: Must be made before the umpires leave the playing field. Ineligible Player: When facts become known to complainant, but before the next game for either team. Improper Substitution: Protest not resolved before the next pitch or play shall not be considered. | | | | | | | |