

SALEM LITTLE LEAGUE

2019 PLAYING RULES

1. GENERAL RULES FOLLOWED BY ALL DIVISIONS EXCEPT WHERE NOTED

- 1.01 Trading of players will not be allowed.
- 1.02 In player option cases the player agent shall follow Little League procedures to determine the round a player is taken in. This includes when a new manager takes their child from an existing team.
- 1.03 A manager may declare an option(s) on his son or daughter, or brothers and sisters of players already on their team. To do so, a manager must declare the option(s) prior to the draft. A manager may also declare an option on available brothers and sisters of drafted players, but the manager must declare that option immediately during the draft. (2001)
- 1.04 If requested by a parent/guardian, the sibling of a player already on a team has the option of being placed in the draft instead of automatically being placed on the same team. This may result in siblings being placed on two different teams in the same league.
- 1.05 There is no option in the draft for the child of a new coach. The Little League Operating Policies (page 185) says a 'new' coach cannot be approved until after completion of the draft. This is to prevent what Little League calls 'Red Shirting'. The manager of a team with a coach(s) that has been with him/her for at least one year is allowed an option, with board approval, for the son/daughter of that coach to be placed the team.(2016) In 2019, SLL Major Baseball will be operating under the Plan B - Redraft, Alternate Method, and as such, this rule does not apply as there are no options for coaches under this method. Should SLL go back to Plan A draft in the future, 1.05 will apply.
- 1.06 Each manager will only be allowed to have one person assist them at the draft.
- 1.07 Bats 100% composite are banned from Salem LL. Bats with composite handle (Hybrid) will be allowed, no composite barrel. Bats are to be checked by the umpire prior to the start of each game. All baseball bats must have the 'USA Baseball' logo imprinted upon them. For Senior and Major Softball, the "no composite barrel bats" rule only applies to "in-town" games, or games that are between two Salem LL softball teams. Games between a Salem LL Softball team and a team from another Little League program in another city/town will follow Little League Softball bat regulations. (2014, 2017, 2018, 2019).
- 1.08 Any manager, player or coach who uses tobacco products (on or off the field) during their game will be automatically thrown out and suspended for the next game. (2004, 2012) Cell phone use is allowed for emergencies only and must be done off the playing field. (2012)
- 1.09 All graduating players from Salem Little League will be fitted for sweatshirts when they register. Awards are presented to the players at the discretion of the Board of Directors. (2006, 2012)
- 1.10 Maximum of 2 sets of trophies will be given out in Major/Minor Baseball, Senior/Major softball. (2014)
- 1.11 Players must wear equipment and uniforms properly during games. Uniforms cannot be altered or personalized except for Tee Ball. Should a team as a whole wish to wear different color pants, the entire team must change their pant color with the color being approved by the league director. Funds to purchase different pants cannot be solicited from the parent/guardian of any player and will not be purchased by the league. All teams must use the uniforms they are provided with from the equipment manager. Use of other uniforms without board authorization is prohibited. Manager and coaches should not wear tank tops, open toed shoes, or cut offs and must wear hats properly. (2012, 2015, 2016)
- 1.12 Uniforms and caps must be worn and shirts tucked in by all players.
- 1.13 No organized practice of any kind prior to the scheduled start date set by the president, no practices are allowed on parade day.

- 1.14 All scheduled games must be played, if they affect, in any way, the overall standing with regards to the playoffs. It is strongly recommended that all scheduled games be played, regardless of their significance.
- 1.15 Infield practice for games will be allowed only if it does not delay the scheduled start of the game. If infield practice is allowed, both teams must be allowed the same amount of time. The home team can choose to go first or last.
- 1.16 Refer to Little League Operating manual for process of selecting managers. A resume is required for all applicants who are not presently Little League volunteers. All volunteers are required to complete a CORI form and must be cleared by the president before they are allowed to participate. (2012)
- 1.17 You are only allowed to manage one team during the regular season. This does not include T-Ball.(2001)
- 1.18 If the team manager approved by the board cannot be present for a game, the manager must contact their director so the league knows who is managing the team. (2017)
- 1.19 The home team manager will be responsible for keeping a complete and accurate official scoring book.
- 1.20 “Swinging bunts” are not allowed. A batter who attempts a “swinging bunt” shall be called out. This is a judgment call by the umpire. The accepted definition shall be any attempt by a batter to swing at a pitch with his hands together after they had previously been separated in an attempt to bunt the ball. Attempting to bunt one pitch does not prohibit the batter from swinging at another pitch in the same at bat. (2015)
- 1.21 Two adult base coaches shall be allowed but not required, as long as there is a coach in the dugout. (2008)
- 1.22 At all fields, each team is allowed to have a manager and up to two coaches in the bench area at one time. (2006, 2012, 2017)
- 1.23 Each Major League or Softball player will participate in the field each game for a minimum of three innings and bat at least once. Each player must remain in the batting order for three full innings. (2008)
- 1.24 A pitcher who hits three batters during their stint on the mound must immediately be removed as a pitcher; and cannot be reinserted into the game as a pitcher. (2018)
- 1.25 All managers, coaches and players are to shake hands with the opposing team, at the conclusion of every game. Failure will result in discipline by the Board of Directors. (2012)
- 1.26 A manager issuing a suspension may only do so with the notification of the player agent or league director and approval of the board. (2017)
- 1.27 Any player ejected from a game is subject to a one game suspension. The suspension will be served on the team’s next scheduled game unless the player makes an immediate appeal to the board of directors. The board will then decide if and when the suspension will take place.
- 1.28 Any manager or coach ejected from a game is subject to a one game suspension. This suspension will be served on the team’s next scheduled game unless said manager makes an immediate appeal to the Board of Directors. The Board will then decide if and when the suspension will take place. The manager can make an appeal to his/her League Director.
- 1.29 A manager wishing to protest a game must inform the umpire and opposing manager at the time of the alleged infraction. The umpire shall acknowledge the protest by signing each team’s score book. The manager must notify their director within 24 hours of lodging the protest.
- 1.30 Protests will be decided at a hearing consisting of the president, vice president of that league, and the league director. In the event of the unavailability of any of the above-mentioned officers, another vice president may fill in for either the president or league vice president. Another director may fill in for the league director. In the event of a protest that affects a playoff game the president will call an emergency meeting of the board of directors to decide the protest
- 1.31 The president, with league directors, shall establish the playoff schedules. No team will be required to play three games in one week.

- 1.32 In the playoffs in all leagues, all games must be completed. A halted game that has not gone enough innings to be an official game must be restarted. A game that has gone enough innings to be official must resume at the point that it was halted. All conditions of the game shall apply when it is resumed as if the game had not been halted. One exception: Players not present for the suspended game are eligible to play in the completed game. Rules for proper rest shall apply accordingly.
- 1.33 At fields with lights, an inning cannot start after 9:45pm, this inning is allowed to be completed. (2018)

2. MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

- 2.01 A new inning cannot start if it is 15 minutes before the scheduled start of the next game. This is for the regular season only. (2006)
- 2.02 All teams shall begin the season with no fewer than twelve (12) players. (2019) Roster sizes will be determined by the Board based on registration numbers. (2008)
- 2.03 Any player from Farm League in a previous year cannot play Major baseball in the following year. (2002)
- 2.04 The Draft and Registration Committee will set the number of 10-year-olds each team will be allowed to draft each year. This will be based on the numbers available vs. the numbers needed (not talent) for all age groups. Beginning with the Spring 2019 season, SLL Major Baseball will operate under draft method "Plan B – Redraft – Alternate Method for Plan B" as described in the Operating Policies set forth by Williamsport (page 182). Since all players are released and would need to be re-drafted, the order of picking will be determined by having the managers picking numbers out of a hat. The order is based on serpentine draft order, meaning, in a 7 team division, the team with the first pick gets the following picks: 1st, 14th, 15th, 28th, 29th, etc. The team with the 2nd pick would get picks 2, 13, 16, 27, 30, etc. In all subsequent years (2020 and beyond, should major baseball have a team reduction, the draft would be handled by Team Reduction Plan B, as set forth by the same operating policies (pg. 188-189). A 10-year-old drafted into the Majors who refuses to move up can be returned to the Minors, however, that player cannot return to the same minor league team he/she played on in the previous season. Player Agent will attempt to place into Major Baseball any undrafted 11-year-old who wishes to play in that division. (2016, 2017, 2018, 2019)
- 2.05 If a team will have 10 or fewer players available for a game, the league director must be contacted. (2002)
- 2.06 Prior to the start of the regular season, each team will supply the names of three players to the Player Agent for a player pool to be used when another team requires a player(s) on a temporary basis. The player can never be from the previous year's tournament team. (2011, 2017)
- 2.07 The manager using the temporary player must abide by the following restrictions:
- A.) The player is prohibited from pitching in the game
 - B.) The player is prohibited from playing in the infield (use your own players)
 - C.) Player agent is in complete charge of player pool.
 - D.) In the absence or unavailability of the agent, the Vice-President, or President may assume temporary control with notification to the president. (2018)
- 2.08 A player from the Minor League may become a permanent member of a Major League team only when the team has lost players on a permanent basis and its roster has been reduced to eight, or if a player from the original roster is lost prior to the beginning of the regular season.
- 2.09 There is no condition where a 9-year-old would be allowed to play in a Major League game. If this is found to occur, the manager will be suspended for 2 games. (2009)

PLAYOFFS

- 2.10 During the playoffs, each team must have at least eight (8) players from their own roster. If a team does not have the minimum eight (8) players when the game is scheduled to begin, as determined by the game's umpire, that team will lose that game. If a "pool player" is necessary, the Player Agent must approve any player being used from the 'player pool'. The player pool will be redone after the tournament teams are chosen. Current tournament team players cannot be part of the redrawn player pool. If a player is called up by the Player Agent, he/she must go to the bottom of the call up list. (2014, 2015, 2017, 2019)

- 2.11 All teams qualify for the playoffs. Playoffs will be double elimination tournament format. Based on 8 teams: Team 1 vs. Team 8, Team 2 vs. Team 7, Team 3 vs. Team 6 and Team 4 vs. Team 5. If an odd amount of teams exist, #1 seed will get first round bye. If six teams, then top 2 seeds will get first round bye. Brackets to be used found at http://www.littleleague toolkit.org/Assets/forms_pubs/Brackets_LLB.pdf (2019)
- 2.12 Tie breaker for seeding will be regular season record, head to head record then a coin flip. Team with the best record/lower seed is the home team. (2019)

HOME RUN HITTING CONTEST

- 2.13 Instead of an ALL-STAR game, Major League players can participate in a Home Run hitting contest on family day. League Director will establish rules. (2011)

MISCELLANEOUS

- 2.14 There will be free substitution defensively. Each player must play two consecutive innings in the field (2003). The batting order does not change until the 4th inning when the players not currently in the batting order are put into the game to replace those who were in the batting order to start the game. Players inserted at that time remain in the batting order until the game is concluded, or the 6th inning is completed, whichever comes last. Players inserted into the lineup in the 4th inning can only be replaced in the lineup if the game goes into extra innings (7th). (2001, 2019)
- 2.15 A 10 run 'Mercy Rule' will be in effect if either of the following is true. The home team is ahead at the end of 3 ½ innings or the 4th inning has been completed and 10 or more runs separate the teams. (2011)(2014)
- 2.16 SLL will follow the Little League rule concerning uncaught 3rd strikes in the 2nd half of the regular season and playoffs, during which only two runners shall be allowed to safely reach first base per half inning as a result of an uncaught 3rd strike. (2016, 2017, 2018, 2019)
- 2.17 SLL, in Major Baseball, does not allow Special Pinch Runners (LL Baseball rule 7.14) in regular season or special games (i.e. city playoffs), and there are no courtesy runners. (2019)

TOURNAMENT

- 2.18 The manager of the 10 & 11-year-old tournament team will move up with their team. The manager of the 10's will be the team with the best record on June 15th or end of season, whichever comes first. If that manager is unable to take the team it goes to the first available manager with the next best record. In all cases the Board must approve any tournament manager. (2017)
- 2.19 Each team will nominate their own players. Managers will then vote on those players who are nominated. The top 12 will be placed on the team. In the event of a tie for the last spot(s), managers will vote again on those players involved until the 12 players are selected. League Director must be present.
- 2.20 The manager of the team will get to add a 13th player to the roster if he/she chooses to do so.
- 2.21 The equipment manager will purchase vests and t-shirts for the 12-year-old district team, players can keep the t-shirts. Team manager must collect the vests at the end of the final game, and turn them into the equipment manager. Team manager is solely responsible for the cost of replacing any missing, damaged or uncollected vests. The manager agrees to this as a condition for being allowed to manage the team. (2016)

3. MINOR BASEBALL

(Minor Baseball will be played using Major League rules with the following exceptions)

- 3.01 Rosters shall consist of player's 8, 9, 10, and 11 years old. All 10, 11, and 12 year-olds must try out for Major Baseball. A 10-year-old or exempted 11-year-old, not drafted into the Majors will be placed in the Minors. Any new player not attending tryouts will be placed on an appropriate team by the board. (2004, 2012, 2013, 2016)
- 3.02 Minor League rosters shall remain intact from year to year.

- 3.03 If a team needs a temporarily player, the Player Agent will use a player chosen from a pool of minor league players. Each minor league manager will choose 3 players from their team for this pool. A minor league manager needing a player MAY NOT contact a player from the pool on their own. (2013, 2017)

PLAYING RULES

- 3.04 A continuous batting order of all players will be used (See LL rule 2.00 pages 72-73 concerning Batting Order) The batting order cannot be reset until the regular season ends. (Example: If the 6th batter is the final out in a game, the 7th batter will lead off the following game.) The offensive team shall be up until 3 defensive outs are made, or they score 5 runs. In the last scheduled inning there is no 5 run limit. (2010, 2015)
- 3.05 Free defensive substitutions will be allowed, see also Rule 3.13 for restrictions.
- 3.06 A 12 year-old cannot pitch in the Minors. Any other player is limited to 3 innings per game and pitch count restrictions. (2004, 2013)
- 3.07 Teams will play with 10 defensive players. The extra fielder shall be an outfielder.
- 3.08 For the first half of the season, a runner on first base can only advance to second base if forced there or by tagging up. (Example: hit, walk, hit by pitch...) The runner cannot advance to 2nd on a passed ball, steal or delayed steal. After half the season (i.e. 7 of 14 games have been completed), a runner occupying first base can advance to 2nd base on a passed ball, or steal, once per half inning per team. The runner cannot advance to 3rd on an overthrow or fielding error during this play. Delayed steals are never allowed at this level. If, after one successful advancement to 2nd via steal or passed ball/wild pitch, a runner attempts an additional advancement to 2nd from 1st base in the same half inning, and is safe via the play, the umpire will call time out, and return the runner to 1st base. If during this additional advancement attempt, the runner is thrown out, the out will stand. (2003, 2015, 2019)
- 3.09 When the pitcher is on the mound, catcher in the box, base runners must return to the base previously occupied. If the defensive team attempts to throw a runner out who is returning to a base and is successful, the out will count. The base runners cannot advance and must return to the base previously occupied even when an attempt is made to throw the runner out. (2015)
- 3.10 One run per inning is allowed to score on a passed ball or steal attempt. (2001)
- 3.11 The base runner at 2nd can only advance one base at a time on a non-batted ball. For example: On a pass ball, base runner from 3rd scores and the catcher throws to 3rd in an attempt to throw out the advancing runner from second, that runner may not score during this play. (2009, 2012)
- 3.12 Two runs per inning are allowed to score from bases loaded walks. Any proceeding batter cannot be walked and must remain at bat until putting the ball in play, striking out or being hit by a pitch. The run forced in if the batter is hit by pitch counts. Runs scored when a batter is hit by a pitch do not count towards the two run limit. (2003, 2015)
- 3.13 No player can play the same position for more than three innings unless the game goes into extra innings. Every player present when the game starts must play at least one complete inning in the infield. A one game suspension will be imposed on the team manager if this rule is violated. (2004, 2012, 2013)
- 3.14 If a league umpire is absent, the game will be played using an adult volunteer. Advancing of bases by passed balls or steals is suspended unless both managers agree to allow it.
- 3.15 Players present at the start of a game must play at least four innings in the field, two must be consecutive. Players cannot sit for consecutive innings unless 'benched' for disciplinary reasons. Players not fulfilling the requirement because of a shortened game must start the next game. (2015)
- 3.16 Intentional walks are not allowed. If, in the umpire's judgment, a violation has occurred, the walk may be nullified and the batter remains at the plate until he/she hits the ball or strikes out.

- 3.17 A batter who is injured while at bat shall be replaced by the next person in the batting order. The new batter shall assume the count of the injured player. If there is at least one strike and the batter eventually strikes out, the out shall stand, but the new batter shall take their full turn at the plate. If the new batter reaches base or puts the ball in play, the batting order shall proceed in a normal fashion.
- 3.18 No infield fly rule
- 3.19 No delayed stealing. A base runner cannot advance on a return throw from the catcher. (2003, 2012)
- 3.20 Base runner must slide into the base when the defensive player is in possession of the baseball. If the base runner is attempting to advance from 3rd base to the plate after the ball has gotten behind the catcher, the runner must slide even if the defensive player covering the plate is not yet in possession of the ball. This is to prevent injury to the runner from being hit by the baseball or defensive player covering the plate from being hit by the runner. Should the runner not slide, the runner is out. (2018, 2019)
- 3.21 No pinch runners are allowed except for an injury, or after at least one out and a runner is scheduled to catch in the next half inning. An injured runner must sit out at least one defensive inning. (2015)
- 3.22 During the regular season no new inning shall begin 2 hours after the start of the game. (2017)

PLAYOFFS

- 3.23 All teams will participate in a double elimination tournament, seeding to be determined randomly. If necessary, a team receiving a first round bye will also be determined randomly. (2014, 2015)
- 3.24 All regular season rules will apply with certain exceptions. The batting order, which can be reset at the end of the regular season, but remaining continuous throughout the playoffs. The five run limit, Rule 3.04 is not in effect. Mercy rule, 15 run difference after 4 innings, 10 run difference after 5 innings. (2015, 2017)
- 3.25 Coin flip will determine choice of home/away in the playoffs. Teams who play each other more than once will alternate home/away. In the championship series, the team without a loss in the playoffs has their choice in Game one. If a second game is necessary, home/away reversed in Game two. (2015)
- 3.26 During the playoffs, each team must have at least eight players from their roster. If a team does not have the minimum nine players when the game is scheduled to begin, they lose. There cannot be a difference of more than 2 players between the teams. Team A has 12 players; team B must have at least 10 players. The Player Agent will be responsible to find alternate players from other Minor League teams. Minor league managers are not allowed chose alternate players. (2004, 2012, 2013,2017)
Penalty: If it is determined a manager did not contact the League Director in a timely manner to remedy a roster issue, the manager will be suspended for the next game. Injury during a game, reducing the roster, will not cause the penalty.

Moving-Up Game

- 3.27 Managers will be the playoff finalists; coaches should be chosen from other Minor League managers. Minor league teams will be combined by the league director to determine the teams. Players on these teams are chosen by all Minor League managers with approval of the League Director. It is recommended that the older players eligible for the major league draft in the following season be considered first. (2012,2015)

4. FARM BASEBALL

- 4.01 During the first two games of the regular season, the baseball Tee will be used for all batters during his/her first at bat. The game will move quicker, allowing defensive players to more actively participate in the game. It will also ensure the weaker batters are not intimidated at the beginning of the season when it can sometimes take a dozen pitches before the ball is put into play. (2018)
- 4.02 Whenever a coach pitches, coaches shall pitch to members of their own team. (2007, 2013, 2017, 2019)

- 4.03 After Memorial Day, players in their 2nd year of Farm Baseball AND who are Little League Age 8 will be able to pitch to batters under the following guidelines:
- The first 2 innings of each game after Memorial Day will be opportunities for players who qualify to pitch. In the third inning or later innings, player pitchers may or may not be used based on both managers' discretion (speed of game, etc.). It is permissible to not have a player pitcher after the first 2 innings if it will allow the game to speed up and allow more innings to be played.
 - A Minor League Diamond DFX L5 ball will be used when players pitch.
 - The pitching distance for players will be 40 feet
 - A pitcher who pitches in a game, even one pitch, cannot pitch the following calendar day (must have a full calendar day off) regardless of how many pitches he or she threw. This is more restrictive than current LL pitching guidelines.
 - A pitcher can only pitch one inning per day, with a maximum of 35 pitches thrown, and a maximum of 5 pitches per batter. The 35 pitch maximum is also more restrictive than LL pitching rules.
 - Once a batter has seen 5 pitches from a player pitcher, and that batter has not made contact, a coach from that batter's coaching staff will pitch 3 more pitches (more if the 3rd coach pitched ball is fouled off). This is an 8 pitch maximum for the at bat. Balls and strikes will not be called.
 - It is required that each 2nd year Farm Baseball player who are at least 8 years old as defined by Little League, be given the opportunity to pitch in a game between Memorial Day and the end of the season. Once that is complete, a second opportunity to pitch can be granted by the team's manager based on skill level, etc.
 - Player pitchers can only pitch to 2nd year Farm Baseball players.
 - This rule goes into effect in the 2019 season.
- 4.04 The opposing team shall position a defensive player to the right or left of the pitcher's mound.
- 4.05 If a batted ball hits the coach, the player pitcher, or bucket, the ball is live. (2007, 2019)
- 4.06 Teams shall have the option of using a standard catcher with full equipment or a backup catcher who must wear at least a face mask.
- 4.07 The adult pitcher shall also serve as the base umpire unless another volunteer may be found to do so.
- 4.08 One base advance on all overthrows.
- 4.09 During the first half of the season, a half-inning will end when ten players have finished their turn at bat. In the second half of the season the half-inning shall end when 3 defensive outs are made or when 10 batters have finished their turn at bat. If one team's at-bats are substantially reduced because of defensive outs, an attempt should be made to play an additional inning. (2012)
- 4.10 Players shall be six, seven or eight years old. No playoffs.
- 4.11 It is strongly recommended that all players be given a chance to play all positions as the season progresses. No player can play the same position for more than 2 innings in a game, except a player pitcher, for whom there is a one inning maximum per game, along with pitches thrown restrictions (See Rule 4.03). (2005, 2019)
- 4.12 Score books will not be kept and there will be an attempt to limit the games to two hours.
- 4.13 Bunting is not allowed.
- 4.14 When the ball is thrown into the infield after a hit to the outfield, the ball will be considered dead when it is either caught by an infielder or lands on the ground within the boundaries of the infield. At this point if a runner is not more than half way to the next base the runner must return to previous base.

5. SENIOR LEAGUE SOFTBALL

- 5.01 Teams will play with nine players in the field. (2017)
- 5.02 There will be a 10 run mercy rule in effect after 5 innings. (2012)

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- 5.03 The league champion will pick last in the draft. Playoff runner-up will have the penultimate pick. Remaining teams will pick in the order of the regular season finals. This order will remain the same for each round. (2017)

PLAYOFFS

- 5.04 Because the number of teams may vary from year to year, the playoff format will be decided by the league managers prior to the start of the regular season. The league director will submit this format to the Board of Directors for approval.
- 5.05 Playoff games shall be scheduled to allow all pitchers for both teams to be fully rested for the playoffs.

TOURNAMENTS

- 5.06 Each team manager will nominate their own players. Managers will then vote on those players who are nominated. The top 12 will be placed on the team. In the event of a tie for the last spot, the League Director (VP) will break the tie. (2017)
- 5.07 The manager of the tournament team is chosen by the team having the best record at the end of the season or June 15th, whichever date comes first. (2017)
- 5.08 The manager of the team will be able to add any additional roster spots above the chosen 12 up to the limit allowed for that division. (2017)

6. MAJOR LEAGUE SOFTBALL

- 6.01 Prior to the start of the regular season, each team will supply the names of three players to the Player Agent for a player pool to be used when another team requires a player(s) on a temporary basis. The player can never be from the previous year's tournament team. (2011, 2017)
- 6.02 Manager using a temporary player from the 'player pool' must abide by the following restrictions: (2017)
1. Player is prohibited from pitching in the game.
 2. Player is prohibited from playing in the infield.
 3. Player agent is in complete charge of player pool.
- 6.03 Only two runs per inning are allowed to score from bases loaded walks. (2017)
- 6.04 Only two runs per inning are allowed to score by a passed ball or steal. However, a base runner can advance to any base when either the pitcher doesn't cleanly field the throw from the catcher or if a throw is made to any base. (2001)
- 6.05 A team that is at bat and is up by eight (8) or more runs shall not be allowed to steal any base, or advance on a wild pitch or passed ball. (2019)
- 6.06 The offensive team (the team at bat) shall remain at bat until 3 defensive outs are made, or they score six (6) runs. This shall not apply to a team at bat in line to be subjected to the ten-run rule, and it shall not be applied in the last inning of a game. (2019)
- 6.07 A pitcher may pitch up to nine innings in a two game week. In the event of a third game, an extra three innings are allowed. (2001)
- 6.08 There will be a 10 run mercy rule in effect after four innings. (2012)

- 6.09 A continuous batting will be used during regular season games. The offensive team shall be at bat until three defensive outs are made, or when they score six (6) runs. This shall not apply to a team in line to be subjected to the “mercy rule”, and it shall not be applied during the last scheduled inning. (2017, 2019)
- 6.10 There will be free defensive substitutions. (2017)
- 6.11 Teams will play with nine players in the field. (2017)
- 6.12 The uncaught third strike rule will not be in effect for the first half of the season. At the halfway point in the schedule, use of the uncaught third strike will be discussed, reviewed and be voted on by the Major League softball managers to install the rule or remain unused. Should the Major League softball managers vote to employ the uncaught 3rd strike rule, then only two runners shall be allowed to safely reach first base per half inning as a result of an uncaught 3rd strike. (2018, 2019)

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- 6.13 See Senior Softball Rule 5.03
- 6.14 All 10, 11 and 12-year olds must be drafted, unless exempted by the board. The balance of the rosters will be filled with 9-year olds. Before the draft, the maximum number of 9-year olds eligible to be drafted will be set. After that number has been drafted, no further 9-year-olds will be able to be drafted. (2016, 2017)

PLAYOFFS

- 6.15 During the playoffs, the Player Agent must approve any player being used from the ‘player pool’. The player pool will be redone after the tournament teams are chosen. Current tournament team players cannot be part of the redrawn player pool. If a player is called up by the Player Agent, he/she must go to the bottom of the call up list. (2017)
- 6.16 See Senior Softball Rules 5.04 & 5.05

TOURNAMENTS (See Senior Softball)

7. MINOR LEAGUE SOFTBALL

(Minor League softball shall be played using modified Farm baseball rules with the following exceptions)

- 7.01 Players shall be either 6, 7, 8, or 9 years old. All six, seven and eight-year-olds must play in the Minor League. Roster sizes and season schedules shall be determined by the Draft / Registration Committee.
- 7.02 Nine and eight year olds may pitch up to two innings. (2017)
- 7.03 Six year olds must be pitched to by an adult. (2017)
- 7.04 Minor league baseball rules will be phased in when deemed appropriate by the managers, league director and the board. (2017)

8. TEE-BALL

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- 8.01 To participate in the T-Ball division of Salem Little League, a child’s playing age as defined by National Little League must be at least 4 on or after Sept 1st of that calendar year. (2015)

9. UMPIRES

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- 9.01 Head umpire reports to and under the supervision of the Board of Directors.
- 9.02 The head umpire for SLL is responsible for all umpired. Head umpire will appoint umpires for all scheduled games and at their discretion hold clinics and meetings for managers/coaches and league officials.
- 9.03 It is recommended that all umpires pass an examination in to umpire in Salem Little League

- 9.04 All umpires at Forest River Park must work behind home plate.
- 9.05 Umpire fees are approved by the Board.
- 9.06 No manager will be assigned to umpire a game in a league that he/she is a manager or coach, unless the scheduled umpire does not arrive.
- 9.07 No umpire will be assigned to do a game in which a member of his/her immediate family is a member of either team that is playing.

These rules were sent Joe Baglieri, MA District 16 Administrator on January 16, 2019 for his review and approval. Approval was received back via email, also on January 16, 2019. Copies of email available upon request. - Ed Colbert 1/19/19