

7-8 year olds

Spring and Fall 2021 District 19 West - Inter League Softball Rules

Rules approved by Colts Neck, Freehold Township and Marlboro LL Boards

Pitching	Pitchers mound distance = 35', 11" ball
	3 innings max per game, 6 max per week (a week is Sunday-Saturday). Playoffs: 4 innings max, no weekly max
	At the start of the season, coaches will pitch the odd innings and players will pitch the even innings (using "player pitching" rules below).
	Beginning Saturday, May 8 (spring) / Oct 2 (fall) players will pitch each inning, using the following "player pitching" rules After player pitcher throws four (4) balls and does not retire the batter, the batter's coach comes in and finishes pitching to that batter. The coach assumes the count and the umpire continues to call balls and strikes. After the coach enters to pitch, the BATTER will either put the ball in play or strike out to end their at bat. There will be no walks. THE PLAYER PITCHER WILL THEN RESUME PITCHING TO THE NEXT BATTER. AFTER THE PLAYER PITCHER HAS "WALKED" THEIR FOURTH BATTER, THE COACH WILL STAY IN FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE INNING. Player pitchers must pitch from the mound at all times. Coach pitcher may move closer to home plate but the player pitcher cannot. Coach pitcher must stay within the circle or 8 feet in front of the rubber. There are no walks unless batter is hit by a player pitcher. If there are bases loaded and a batter is hit by a pitched ball, a run can score and the batter will go to first subject to the below hit by pitch rule. When a coach is pitching, the player pitcher shall be even with or behind the pitching rubber
Stealing	No Stealing or leading. May leave the base when the ball crosses the plate. Penalty for leaving early - Dead Ball (no play even if batter hits ball), return runner, issue 1 warning per team per game, 2nd time runner is out.
	No advancing on overthrow back to pitcher
Run Cap / Mercy	4 runs per inning max, all innings (playoffs last inning is unlimited). No mercy rule is in effect
Infield Fly Rule	Not in effect
Dropped 3rd Strike	Not in effect
Bunting	Not allowed
Batting & Subs	MUST bat full roster (continuous). Free substitutions
# of Fielders	10. The 10th player must be an outfielder and may not start play at second base. Outfielders must start 10 feet behind second base or in the grass, whichever is shorter. No "picket fence" infields (outfielders can't play infield with rest of infielders). After the ball is put in play, the outfielder may cover a base.
Overthrow From Field	No advancing on overthrow from field
Ball hit to the outfield	When the ball is hit into the outfield, base runners may continue to advance until the ball is thrown and crosses either the 1st-2nd or 2nd-3rd basepaths. At that time, play stops and baserunners can no longer advance. If runners are on their way to next base then they are awarded the next base, at umpires discretion
Courtesy Runner	Mandatory, remove catcher with 2 outs, last batted out runs. Discretionary if less than 2 outs.
Borrowing of players	May borrow from other team to field full team, only play defense. No forfeits. If team has 7 players or more, then there will be no automatic outs. If less than 7, then one automatic out for each number below 7. May also borrow from pool players from the specific town. Discretion should be used if using pool players (ie. do not take the 3 best players from the other teams.)
Warm-up of pitcher	Only players may warm up pitchers. Managers or coaches are NOT PERMITTED to warm up pitcher
Coaches on Field	Permitted behind home plate and behind fielders to help coach players and speed up game. Players must be positioned in the appropriate positions.
Hit by Pitch	Not in effect during coach pitch, in effect during player pitch. If a batter is hit by a pitched ball that rolls into the batter's box and the batter makes no attempt to allude the ball, the umpire shall call the pitch a ball and the count shall continue. A pitch that strikes a batter on the fly or after a bounce will result in the batter receiving first base. It is the umpire's discretion to determine whether or not an attempt was made to move out of the way of a pitch. If no attempt made, no base.

- Game duration: 6 innings, subject to time restrictions. At 1:15 from scheduled start time, finish the current inning and play one more inning
- Playoff use time limit of 1:45. Championship games to be played to completion, and the Championship may be continued to another day.
- Sliding: Players are required to slide (or avoid contact) when going into any base when there is a play. Discretion of umpire. No head first slides.
- Playoffs - minimum of 8 players to not be a forfeit. If only 8, one automatic out. No pool players.
- No on-deck batters allowed to swing a bat.
- Winning manager must report score at marlborolittleleague.com, town head, and division head immediately.
- Each team supplies 1 game ball per game.
- Bats must be BPF 1.20 only.
- Cheering by parents should only be for their own team and should never be directed to the opposing team.

3/17/2021