

# 2009 Little League Softball Tournament Rule Summary

Updated 18-May-2009

	9/10 year old	10/11 year old	Little League (11/12)	Juniors (12-14)	Seniors (13-16)	Big League (14-18)
<b>Max Roster Size</b>	14	14	14	14	14	15
<b>Softballs</b>	<b>11-inch softball</b>	12-inch softball				
<b>Mandatory Play</b>	Minimum of 1 at bat AND 3 consecutive defensive outs. Penalty (forfeit) only applies if game is full length, not if game is shortened due to curfew, weather, etc.				Does not apply	
<b>Curfew</b>	No new inning after 11:00 PM			No new inning after 11:30 PM		No new inning after midnight.
<b>Time Limits</b>	If two games are scheduled for the same site, no time limit may be imposed on the first game.					
<b>Pitching Innings</b>	<b>Max 7 per day</b> <b>Max 7 per game</b>		Max 9 per day Max 9 per game	Max 10 per game Max 10 per day		
<b>Pitching Rest</b>	<b>One or two innings in a day – none required</b> <b>Three or more innings in a day – one calendar day</b>			Less than 5 pitched – none required. Five or more innings – one day.		
<b>Pitching in Consecutive Games</b>	<b>Allowed, subject to rest requirements</b>			Allowed, subject to rest requirements.		
<b>Pitching on Consecutive Days</b>	If only <b>one or two</b> innings pitched previous day, or if pitcher of record in continuation of suspended game.			If less than five innings pitched previous day, or if pitcher of record in continuation of suspended game.		
<b>Pitcher returning to mound</b>	A pitcher remaining in the game, but moving to a different position, can return as a pitcher anytime in the remainder of the game, but only once in the same inning as he/she was removed.					
<b>Player Re-entry (Starter or Sub)</b>	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 his/her mandatory play requirements.				Starters may re-enter to their original spot in the batting order <u>once</u> . Substitutes may not re-enter once they have left the game.	
<b>Substitutions</b>	Defensive: Must be made as team takes the field, or while team is in the field. Offensive: Must be made as player comes to bat, or while player is on base.					
<b>Defensive Conferences (visits with pitcher or other player)</b>	Two in an inning, pitcher must be removed from mound on third visit in inning. Three in a game, pitcher must be removed from mound on fourth visit in game. Each pitcher has his/her own "count" of visits, which resumes if pitcher returns to mound.					
<b>10-Run Rule</b>	After 4 innings, 3 ½ if home team is ahead.			After 5 innings, 4 ½ if home team is ahead		
<b>On Deck Batters</b>	Not allowed. Only the leadoff batter is permitted outside the dugout between innings.			Allowed.		
<b>Special Pinch Runner</b>	Allowed at all levels. Once per inning, any player not currently in the batting order may run. A player may only be <u>removed</u> for a special pinch runner once per game.					
<b>Adults</b>	If 13 or more rostered players present for game, 1 manager and 2 coaches allowed. If 12 or fewer rostered players present for game, only 1 manager and 1 coach allowed.					
<b>Base Coaches</b>	Two adult base coaches may be used at all levels, provided there is an adult in the dugout.					
<b>Protests</b>	<b>Playing rule:</b>	Must be made before next pitch, play or attempted play.				
	<b>Improper substitution:</b>	Must be made before next pitch, play or attempted play.				
	<b>Ineligible pitcher:</b>	Must be made before umpires leave the field.				
	<b>Ineligible player:</b>	As soon as facts become known, but before either teams' next game.				

The information on this chart is intended as a reference summary of the various tournament rules. It does not cover every possible circumstance, and is not a substitute for reading and fully understanding the tournament rules section of the Official Playing Rules.