

2025 LSYLLB Majors & AAA Spring Regulations & Playing Rules

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The “Little League® Baseball 2025 Rulebook – Official Regulation, Playing Rules, and Abridged Operating Policies” book is the basis for our local spring regulations & rules. Following are some of our key local playing rules. Gray highlight indicates Points of Emphasis for this year.

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Regulation IV (i) – Required Playing Time for Eligible Players Present at a Game.

Local: Except when due to injury, no player shall sit during consecutive innings; nor more than two defensive innings during a six inning game. If there are extra innings, a player may sit for a third inning. Each player must play at least one inning per game at an infield position if they want to and can do so safely; but no player is entitled to be a pitcher, catcher or first baseman unless proficiency at these specific positions was previously demonstrated in practice and/or a game.

Regulation VI - Pitchers. Regulation VI is Located at the End of This Document.

Regulation VII (d, h) - Game Time Limits. Doubleheaders.

Time Limits:

Local: Major and AAA Divisions: No new full inning may start later than 1 hour 45 minutes after the scheduled start time. Hard stop at 2 hours. Exception: During the Major Division Tournament, there is no Time Limit.

Doubleheader:

National: A Major's team may play two doubleheaders in a calendar week.

National Note: A player may not pitch in more than one game in a day. (See local exception).

Local Exception: A player may pitch in two games in one day if he is the continuing pitcher from a suspended game, AND the starter of the resumed game, AND no pitch count rules or rest rules are violated. Basically, the two contiguous pitcher appearances are viewed as a single game.

Please see "Regulation VI – Pitchers" herein for rest requirements and pitch count regulations.

Regulation X – Spring Season Night Games.

(a) National: Games may be played after sundown under artificial lights.

Local: No new inning ("top of the") shall start at or after 9:00 p.m.

The umpire's timepiece is the official reference.

National: An inning starts the moment that the 3rd out is made completing the preceding inning.

(c) National: When an evening doubleheader is scheduled on a field, the league may impose a time limit on the first game of the doubleheader to avoid impacting the following game.

Local: The Commissioner will determine and announce this time limit prior to the game.

Regulation XIV (b) – Managers, Coaches and Players – Must be in a Protective Area.

Managers and coaches must remain behind the protective fence except when required to be in the field due to the progress of the game. Umpires must focus on the game and cannot continually monitor/control this and therefore are deemed by the local league as not liable for any injury to a manager, coach or player who does not remain behind the protective fence.

Regulation XIV (g) - Upper Featherland Press Box Decorum.

Upper Featherland Press box decorum is the responsibility of the team in the third base dugout.

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The P.A. System may only be used by a League Official, and only for: Opening Day, Closing Day, All-Star Games, and Championship Games. It may not be used before 12 noon on Sundays.

Rule 1.08 Note 1. On-Deck Position.

National: The on-deck position is not permitted. The on-deck batter must remain in the dugout until his time to bat. He may take preparatory swings when approaching, or at, the plate.

Rule 1.09 Baseballs.

Local: The Majors and AAA shall use a LL Approved regulation hardball, not a RIF ball.

Rule 1.10 Baseball Bats in LLB.

National: All non-wood and laminated bats must bear a legible USA Baseball Logo signifying that the bat meets the USABat-USA Baseball's Youth Bat Performance Standard.

All BPF-1.15 bats are prohibited.

Solid one-piece wood bats do not require a USA Baseball logo.

Bats may not be longer than 33" nor more than 2 5/8" in diameter. Wood bats cannot be narrower than 15/16". Rule 6.06(d) covers the penalties pertaining to illegal bat use.

Rule 1.10 Note 1. Metal Batting Donut.

National: Metal batting donuts are not permitted.

Rule 1.11(a)(3). Pitcher's Undershirt, Exposed T-shirt, Neoprene sleeves, Wristbands.

National: Any part of the pitcher's undershirt or T-shirt exposed to view shall be of a solid color; and the undershirt sleeves, if exposed, shall not be white or gray. Neoprene sleeves do not need to be covered by an undershirt provided the sleeve is one solid color and not white or gray. A pitcher shall not wear any items on his/her hands, wrists or arms which may be distracting to the batter (e.g. sweat bands).

Rule 1.11(k). Casts, neither hard or soft, may not be worn by players or umpires.

National: Persons wearing casts, including manager and coaches, must stay in the dugout.

Rule 1.15 Pitcher's Glove. Pitcher Wearing a Batting Glove.

National: (a) the pitcher's glove may not, exclusive of the piping, be white or light gray, nor, in the judgement of an umpire, distracting in any manner..

National: (b) The pitcher may wear a batting glove but only on the non-pitching hand under the pitcher's glove and only if that batting glove is not white, gray, or optic yellow.

Rule 1.17 Athletic Cups. Point of Emphasis

National: Male catchers must wear a plastic type cup. Managers are solely responsible for the verification and enforcement of this safety rule.

Although plastic cups are not required when playing other positions, please be aware that it is common practice for all male players to wear them at higher levels.

Female catchers are not required to wear a pelvic protector, but should consider doing so.

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Rule 2.0 Strike Zone.

Majors: National: LLB Rule Book Definition. Local: Upper edge is lowered to “the letters.”

AAA: National: LLB Rule Book Definition. Local: Plate expanded by 3” on the outside edge.

Rule 3.01(a), and Regulation XIV. Pre-game Conference. Protective Fence.

Local: By his appearance at the pre-game conference, each manager is certifying that each male catcher will wear a protective cup, that all bats available to be used by his team are legal, and that managers, coaches and players will stay in the dugout except when required to be elsewhere by the progress of the game (e.g. mound or injury visit, acting as a base coach, runner, batter, etc.)

Rule 3.01(e). Adequate Supply of Dry Baseballs in Dugout.

National: The home team supplies three baseballs prior to the game’s start. The home team manager should also have additional new baseballs in the dugout in case the need arises.

Local: Each manager must have a towel to dry game balls if moist/wet fields are anticipated.

Rule 3.04 Substitution for Injured Base Runner.

National: If a base runner is injured, the substitute runner shall be the eligible offensive player who most closely precedes the injured runner in the batting order. This does not affect the batting order. The injured base runner may return at any time.

Rule 3.10(b) Thunder & Lightning. Poor Weather or Field Conditions. Point of Emphasis.

Local: When thunder is heard or lightning seen by an adult, or when the lightning detection system emits a signal, the field must be vacated immediately. When the playing field is deemed unsafe by either manager or by an adult umpire, the game must be suspended in accordance with the league’s Thunder & Lightning Policy. Return to the playing field and game resumption shall be determined by unanimous agreement of both managers and the adult umpire.

Abuse of this unilateral authority to cancel, for reasons other than safety (e.g., for competitive advantage), must be reported to a commissioner for investigation and a ruling.

Anyone who feels unsafe at any time may (and should) leave the field.

Rule 3.17 Number of Coaches Allowed in the Dugout.

Local: Only managers and coaches approved by LSYLLB are allowed in the dugout.

Rule 4.04 Batting Order Option – Selected by LSYLLB.

Local Majors: All eligible players present at the start of a game shall be listed in a continuous batting order. A player who arrives late shall be added at the bottom of the list.

Local AAA: For batting order purposes, the regular season shall be divided into three segments: The Commissioner will advise their managers of the transition date for each segment.

Segment 1 starts on: Opening Day.

Segment 2 starts on:

Segment 3 starts on:

- At the start of each AAA segment, all players shall be placed in a firm batting order.

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- This batting order shall be used for the entire segment, and continue from game to game.
The lead-off batter for a new game will be the player who was due to bat after the last out was made in the prior game. Absent/injured batters will be skipped over with no penalty.
- For the AAA tournament, a manager may completely revise his batting order for each game.

Rule 4.05 (1). Note. Base Coach Option – Selected by LSYLLB.

Local: Adult base coaches are permitted in the First Base and Third Base coach's boxes.

Rule 4.06(2). Mistreatment of Umpires or Others.

Local: Any mistreatment of umpires will not be tolerated. It is the responsibility of both managers to prevent, never be guilty of, and to report, any such mistreatment to a Commissioner.

Rule 4.06(3). Ban on Disruptive Staccato/Crescendo "Cheering", Rhymes, Chants, Songs.

Local: Offensive players are encouraged to cheer. However they should not use it as a means to disrupt the pitcher. This is an umpire judgment call. See LLB Book Rule 4.06 for penalties.

Rule 4.10(e) Note (2). Mercy Rule Option.

Local: The Major Division and the AAA Division have a 15-Run Rule (aka, Mercy Rule.)

Rule Specifics: If the Home team has a lead of 15 or more runs any time after 3½ innings, the game shall be declared over. If the Visiting team has a lead of 15 runs or more runs after 4 full innings, the game shall be declared over.

Local: The AAA has a 6 run/half-inning limit. It applies in every inning, including the last.

Exception: The Half-Inning Run Limit does not apply during the Tournament.

Local: The Major Division has an 8 run/half-inning limit. It applies in every inning, including the last inning. Exception: The Half-Inning Run Limit does not apply in the Tournament.

Note: Regular season games have a time limit. See Reg. VII (d, h) herein.

Rules 4.10, 4.11 and 4.12. A Regulation Game.

Local: Except for Mercy Rule and Time Limit games, all games (including weather or darkness shortened games) shall be played the full 6 innings (5 ½ innings if home team is ahead). If a game is suspended, the managers and commissioners shall attempt to schedule a time and place to resume play for the remaining innings. Local: The game shall be resumed from the exact point of discontinuance even if the discontinuance occurred during the first inning.

The commissioner retains the option to declare the game to be a Regulation game if at least 4 full innings (or 3-1/2 if the home team is ahead) were played, and to declare a winner based on the "reverts back" criteria for shortened games described in the LLB rule book Rule 4.11.

Local: If a game is tied after 6 innings, and the umpire decides that a full extra inning cannot be completed, it will be suspended as a tie. The commissioner will decide if a tie game needs to be continued at a later date. Tournament games must be completed at the first opportunity.

Rule 4.12 Orderly Suspension & Resumption of an LSYLLB Major or AAA Division Game.

- (a). At the time of suspension, managers should verify the following in both scorebooks:
1. The score.
 2. The number of outs.
 3. Who was at bat and the count on that batter.
 4. Who, and where, any existing base runners were.
 5. Who was on the mound pitching.
 6. Pitch Count, number of visits, illegal pitches, and hit batsmen charged to the active pitcher.
 7. Who had already been removed as a pitcher, and his/her pitch count.
 8. Who had just sat out defensively and was due to take the field.
- (b). National: A suspended game shall be resumed from the exact point of suspension. The game must be resumed on the date approved by a division commissioner. If the game is scheduled to occur on the date of the next meeting between the two teams, the resumed game must precede the regularly scheduled game.
- (c). Local: Mandatory Play Time [Reg. IV(i)] is to be handled as if the game was not suspended
- (d). National: Players who participated in the suspended game but are absent for the resumption, shall be skipped over in the batting order without penalty.
- (e). National: Players absent at the suspended game are eligible to play in the resumed game. They shall be added at the bottom of the batting order of the original score book, and bat when their name is reached. Clarification: Being on the bottom could mean they bat first.
- (f). Local: A pitcher may pitch in two games on the same day if the first game is a resumption of a suspended game for which he was the active pitcher at the time of suspension. For this to occur, he must begin & finish the resumed game as his team's pitcher, and then be the starter for his team in the second game, all without violating any pitch count rules or rest rules for the date on which the resumption is played. Basically, two contiguous appearances are treated as one.

Rules 4.16 & 4.17. A Team has Fewer than 9 Players Present

National: A game must be played if 8 players are available for each team.

If there are less than 8 players available for either team, the game may be delayed no longer than 20 minutes past the scheduled start time before cancelling and departing the field. If there are less than 8 players for either team at any time during the game, the game must be terminated.

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Even with eight players allowed, be cognizant of safety – not everyone can safely play pitcher or catcher.

Report any “not enough players” cancellation to your division’s commissioner within 24 hours for a ruling as to how to resolve the situation (i.e., forfeit, reschedule, cancel, tie, etc.)

Rule 5.10(f). Catching a Fly Ball and Then Entering the Out-of-Play Area.

National: When a fielder, after catching a fly ball, falls into an out-of-play area, the batter is out, the ball is dead, and the runners advance one base. When a fielder, after catching a fly ball, steps into an out-of-play area and does not fall, the batter is out, the ball is dead and the runners advance one base. There is no “catch & carry” option.

Rule 6.02(c) Batter Must Remain in Batter’s Box ...

Local: LSYLB does not use this rule. It does not improve the pace of game at AAA or Majors.

Rule 6.05(b) 6.09(b) Dropped Third Strike Rule NOT USED in Majors/AAA.

National: LLB allows the Dropped Third Strike Rule in the Majors and higher divisions.

Local: LSYLLB Majors and Minors do NOT use the Dropped Third Strike Rule.

Rule 6.05(d) The Infield Fly rule is NOT used in AAA.

Local: The Infield Fly Rule is enforced in all divisions higher than AAA, but not in AAA.

Rule 6.06 A Batter is Not Out for Swinging Away after Showing Bunt. Point of Emphasis.

Local: In Majors and AAA, bunting is not allowed, therefore this rule is moot for us. Our objective is to teach the batter to hit before learning the complexities of bunting.

National: A batter is allowed to take a full swing after showing bunt in most baseball organizations: LLB, BSBTC, NFHS, MiLB, MLB included. The rationale is too complex for discussion here, but it is part of the game. Fielders know to protect themselves at all times.

Rule 6.06(d) A Batter is Out for Using an Illegal Bat.

The batter is out upon entering the batter’s box with an illegal bat.

Local: Any Manager sanctions will be established by the commissioners.

Rule 6.08(c). Catcher’s Interference.

National: It is catcher’s interference if, during the batter’s legal swing, the held bat contacts the catcher or his glove. This is a “delayed” dead ball situation which means the play is allowed to develop. It is not catcher’s interference if the held bat hits the catcher after it “comes around”. If the batter reaches first base by a hit, walk, or otherwise, and all other runners advance at least one base, then the play proceeds without reference to the interference.

If that is not the case, Time will be called at the conclusion play action and the umpire will give the manager of the offense the option of accepting the result of the play or the penalty for

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catcher's interference. The penalty for catcher's interference is: The ball is dead, the batter-runner is awarded 1st base, and no other existing base runners advance unless forced to advance.

Local: The LSYLLB umpire should advise the offensive manager of his option to accept the play rather than the penalty. If the umpire fails to so advise him, it is not grounds for a protest.

Rule 6.09(b) The Dropped Third Strike Rule is NOT used in the Majors or AAA.

If the third strike is dropped, the batter is out, and the ball is live.

On a related matter: see the definition for Foul Tip in Rule 2 of the book. A Foul Tip is a strike and the ball is live.

Rule 6.09(d). Batted Ball Contacts an Overhanging Tree.

Ground Rule: A home run is awarded when a fair fly ball on a Home Run trajectory, touches any part of a tree overhanging fair territory, even just a leaf.

Ground Rule: The ball is dead if it touches any part, even just a leaf, of a tree overhanging Foul Territory. As such it cannot be considered an "Out" if caught.

Rule 7.06 Obstruction.

National: Obstruction is the act of a fielder who, while not in possession of the ball, impedes the progress of any runner. A fielder without possession of the ball should not set-up in the base path unless he will have the ball before affecting the runner's advancement. It is obstruction even if the ball is "on the way" and the fielder needed to move towards it to catch it.

Further clarifications:

- a) A fielder may move into the base path if the ball draws him into the base path and he can secure the ball before the runner's arrival. However, if the fielder does not catch a thrown ball prior to the runner's arrival, or if the runner had to slow down to avoid contact prior to the catch of the thrown ball, it is Obstruction. This is true at all bases and home plate.
- b) When a runner is coming home, a catcher without the ball must not be in the runner's way and must concede the entire plate to the runner. The same constraint applies to a player covering home in lieu of the catcher, for instance a pitcher after a Wild Pitch or a Passed Ball.
- c) At First Base, we sometimes see an inexperienced first baseman extend a leg across the bag. It is Obstruction if the umpire judges that the runner was adversely affected by this. The judgement is based on whether an average runner in the division (i.e. not necessarily the involved runner) would have been adversely affected. A goal here is to prevent injury and to protect a runner from unfairly needing to slow to avoid injuring or being injured.
- c) A runner must yield to a fielder who is attempting to field a **batted ball**. On a batted ball the fielder usually has the right-of-way and therefore is not guilty of Obstruction. There are some exceptions to this such as an unintentional collision of the batter-runner and the catcher, or a batted ball that has passed by or hit an infielder before the next fielder tried to get the ball.

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Rule 7.08(a)(3). Slide or Avoid.

When a fielder has the ball and is waiting to make a tag, a runner is Out for Interference when he/she does not slide, attempt to legally get around said fielder, OR “give himself up”. In doing so he must be sure to avoid interfering with a subsequent play or attempted play.

Exception: Incidental contact that does not affect the defense’s play is not a violation. For interference penalties see “Interference-Offensive” in the LLB rulebook’s index.

If a fielder does not have the ball, a runner is not required to slide and will not be penalized for unavoidable incidental contact. However, a runner should not create flagrant contact (e.g. to “call attention to” the obstruction), instead the runner must trust the umpire to recognize the obstruction. If a runner creates flagrant contact when being obstructed, said obstructed runner will be declared safe (including at home plate) but will be ejected from the game and serve a one game suspension for the flagrant violation. A substitute runner shall take his place.

Rule 7.08(a)(4). Head First Sliding is Prohibited When Advancing.

National: A runner is out when the runner slides headfirst while advancing.

Headfirst sliding is allowed when returning to a base to the “lower value” base.

Rule 7.08(g). Batter Must Vacate the Batter’s Box.

National: When there is a passed ball or wild pitch and a runner attempts to steal home, the batter must get out of the way of the fielders and umpire if he has the time and clear path to do so. The umpire may direct the batter to move. If the batter fails to move and interferes, the penalty is: The ball is dead; all runners return to the base they occupied at the time of the pitch, unless they were forced to advance; and “someone” is called out. That “someone” is usually the batter; except, with less than two outs and a runner coming home from third base, the runner coming home from third is called out and the batter continues with his count.

Rule 7.13 Runner Must Stay on Base until the Pitch Reaches the Batter.

National: When the pitcher is in contact with the pitching rubber and in possession of the ball, and the catcher is in the catcher’s box ready to receive delivery of the ball, no base runner shall leave their base until the pitch has reached the batter. If a runner leaves early, the ball remains live until the umpire calls “Time” to assess penalties. While the ball remains live, any runner not on base is in jeopardy of being tagged-out. The umpire should not call Time until things settle.

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Once the pitch reaches the batter, runners may attempt to “steal” bases.

Scenarios for such legal attempts to “steal” include:

- * When a pitch is caught, including a Foul Tip (formal definition, see LLB Rule 2.0);
- * After a passed ball or wild pitch that stays in the field of play;
- * During the catcher’s accurate or inaccurate return throw to the pitcher;
- * During opportunities created by an inattentive or indifferent defense.

Rule 7.13(f) “Stealing” Limits in AAA. (These limits do NOT apply in the Major Division.)

Local: The number of bases that a AAA runner may attempt to “steal” on a Passed Ball or Wild Pitch, or during a Return Throw from the catcher to the pitcher, are limited as follows:

AAA Segment 1: Dates TBD by the Commissioner

“Stealing” is not allowed.

AAA Segment 2: Dates TBD by the Commissioner

A runner on 1st may steal 2nd, but may not try to continue to 3rd.

A runner on 2nd may not steal 3rd.

A runner on 3rd may not steal home.

AAA Segment 3: Start Date TBD: then through the Tournament & All-Star Game.

A runner on 1st may steal 2nd, and may try to continue to 3rd.

A runner on 2nd may try to steal 3rd, but may not try to continue to home.

A runner on 3rd may not steal home

These limits continue to apply even if a fielder attempts to throw out the “stealing” runner.

Example: If a runner on 1st base attempts to steal 2nd base, and the catcher’s throw goes into centerfield: During Segment 1 & 2, the runner may NOT attempt to continue to 3rd base, but during Segment 3 the runner may attempt to continue to 3rd base.

Note that for the entire AAA spring season: A runner may never try to steal home.

When a ball has been batted and play progresses, the AAA “stealing” limits do not apply; and runner(s) may continue to advance per standard baseball rules. If the ball goes out-of-play during play action, it is dead and runners are placed in accordance with Rule 7.05(g&h).

Rule 7.13 When a Base Runner Stops Between Bases.

National: Sometimes a base runner stops or slows between bases for the purpose of drawing a throw, and the defense does not wish to make a play (defensive indifference). In such cases, the defense may ignore the base runner and proceed to play at a normal pace. If the base runner is

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not at a base by the time a pitcher is ready to pitch, then the base runner will be deemed to have left early and book rule penalties shall apply.

NOTE: A pitcher may not deliver a Quick Return Pitch to unfairly rush/strand a runner.

NOTE: Umpires have the authority to call time and then send a runner back to his original base, if “cat & mouse” actions by the runner and pitcher are adversely affecting the game’s progress.

Rule 7.14 Courtesy Runner.

Local: LSYLLB does not allow special pinch runners or courtesy runners. However, an injured runner may be replaced by the eligible offensive player who most closely precedes the injured runner in the batting order. This does not affect the batting order. The injured base runner may return at any time after recovering.

National: LSYLLB allows a courtesy runner substitution for an on-base pitcher and/or catcher when there are two outs. This is to speed-up the transition between innings.

Rule 8.02, 8.04, and 8.05. Pitcher “Shall Not”, “Balks”, Illegal Pitches.

Definition of Terms: For the 60’ diamond, the LLB rulebook does not use the term “Balk”. Instead, they expand the definition of “Illegal Pitch” to include Balks. Their rationale is that Balks presume deception of a runner taking a lead off the base, and since there is no leading-off on a 60’ diamond, there cannot be a Balk. Our experience is that changing the definition makes discussions clumsy. So we retain the Balk term when appropriate. Penalties are described below.

For a Quick Return Pitch, or for a pitch while Not Facing the Batter, or for a pitch while Not in Contact with the Rubber; the pitcher will be warned and the following penalties will apply:

- If the pitch is a ball, it shall be called a ball;
- If the pitch is a strike it shall be declared “no pitch”;
- If the ball is batted, the offensive manager may select the play or “no pitch”.
- Repeated delivery of a Quick Return pitch may also lead to removal of the pitcher.

For all other balks, and for 8.02 violations, the pitcher shall be given one initial warning, then:

Majors: A pitcher will be given one warning. If the same pitcher repeats the exact same violation after a warning, the pitcher will be charged a ball in the count.

AAA: A pitcher shall be given unlimited warnings, no “ball” will be added to the count.

EXCEPTIONS: For Majors & AAA:

A pitcher who intentionally pitches at a batter may be ejected per Regulation VI (m).

A pitcher who intentionally delays the game may be removed as a pitcher.

Rule 8.05(i). “Hidden Ball Trick”.

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National: Base runners must stay alert because a fielder need not declare that he has the live ball and is waiting to make a tag if/when a base runner wanders off the base. However, during this ploy the pitcher cannot stand on or astride the rubber without the ball, or fake a pitch. If he does, the umpire will call “Balk”, any tag will not result in an out, and the pitcher (if he attempted this trick earlier in the same game) will be penalized one ball in the count..

Local: If the result of the trick helps the offense, the offense’s manager may accept the play in lieu of the penalty. Example: If a runner from 3rd legally scores during a trick at 1st or 2nd base, the manager might prefer to accept the tag (out) and reject the award of a ball, to score the run.

Rule 8.06(a,b,c). Number of Visits to a Pitcher by a Manager or Coach.

National:

A manager may visit once in the Majors (twice in Minors) in one inning to visit with the pitcher, but during the second time (third time in Minors) the player must be removed as a pitcher.

A manager may visit twice in the Majors (thrice in Minors) in one game to visit with the pitcher, but during the third time (fourth time in Minors), the player must be removed as a pitcher.

Approved Ruling: A conference with the pitcher or any other fielder to evaluate the player’s condition after an injury shall not be considered a visit. The manager should advise the umpire when an injury conference is requested, and the umpire should monitor the conference.

Local Ruling: No visit is charged when, from the dugout, a manager explains the Appeal Process to his pitcher and/or other players.

Rule 8.06(d). Attendees During A Mound Visit.

National: At the manager’s discretion, any and all of his infielders may join the discussion during a visit with the pitcher.

Rule 9.01(c) Guidance on Launched Bats.

National: Each umpire has the authority to rule on any point not specifically covered in the rules.

Local: We provide the following guidance regarding launched bats as part of Rule 9.01(c).

Local: There are many factors to consider in this situation. The following guidance is to promote safety and help our players eliminate what may be, or become, a bad habit.

- 1) Upon occurrence, the umpire should discuss the situation with the batter and manager.
- 2) If the bat was intentionally launched, eject the player and contact the Commissioner.
- 3) If the bat was accidentally launched, attention should be given to the circumstances:

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- a) If the release was risk free:
Warn the batter to hold the bat.
- b) If the release was not risk free (e.g., hit, nearly hit, or could hit someone) and it was the batter's first violation: Call Offensive Interference, Batter out, Runners return.
- c) If the release was not risk free (second time by the same batter in the same game):
Call Time, Offensive Interference, Batter out, Runners return,
Batter not allowed to bat again in the game, but may play in the field.
- 4) If an intact launched bat interferes with a play, the interference rules apply.
Note: If a legal wood bat breaks, interference would not apply because the break is not predictable and is not avoidable.

Rule 9.02(a, b, c) Local: Umpires Must Confer with Partner When Asked.

Local: Except for decisions as to whether or not a pitch passed through the strike zone, an umpire must discuss (i.e., ask his partner for help) on judgement calls and rule interpretations, upon a reasonable request by a manager.

Any conference between umpires should be conducted away from everyone.

Any conference with a manager(s) should be conducted away from the players and spectators.

Once a decision is reached, the umpire who made the call will announce the final decision to the managers, and the game will continue without delay.

If both umpires feel that a manager's requests are becoming frivolous or disrespectful, they may suspend this rule/courtesy for the game's duration for the offending manager.

If a manager feels that a rule was incorrectly interpreted, they may Protest under Rule 4.19.

Rule 9.03(d) Game Coordinator – Required if a non-adult umpire is officiating the game.

Local: If no adult umpire is available for a game, the managers act as co-Game Coordinators.

This means that they (not a minor-aged ump) are responsible for such things as:

The conduct of the adults, the player and umpires;

The stoppage of a game due to safety issues (e.g., thunder & lightning);

The resumption of a game when the safety issue has been eliminated;

The authority to eject a spectator when appropriate, and to support an ejection made by a non-adult umpire.

For games when an adult umpire is present, managers still have the obligation to opine on unsafe conditions. Particularly note this obligation in regards to the local thunder & lightning policy.

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Regulation VI - Pitchers. (Note: Also see Rule 6 for additional information).

There are many local and national rules pertaining to pitchers. You might consider looking at: Rule 1.11(a)(3); 1.15; 2.00; 6.06; 7.06; 8.02/8.04/8.05; 8.05(i); 8.06(a,b,c); Reg. VI.

Following are some key rules for LSYLLB Majors & AAA Divisions.

- (a) National: Any eligible player on a regular season team may pitch. There is no limit on the number of pitchers that a team may use in a game, unless it becomes a mockery.

National: Any player who played the position of catcher in four or more innings in a game, is not eligible to pitch on that calendar day. Local: This is subject to manager discretion.

- (b) National VI(b): A pitcher removed from the mound may not return as a pitcher in the same game. This applies even if the pitcher was removed due to an injury and then recovered.

- (c) National Reg VI: The manager must remove a pitcher when said pitcher reaches the limit for their age group as listed below. Note: the player may remain in the game at another position.

LA 11 or 12:	85 pitches per day. (Local: Maximum of 75 pitches per day in Majors).
LA 9 or 10:	75 pitches per day. (Local: Maximum of 65 pitches per day in AAA).

Exception: If a pitcher reaches a limit while facing a batter, the pitcher may continue to pitch until any one of the following conditions occur:

1. That batter reaches a base.
2. That batter is put out.
3. The third out is made to complete the half-inning.

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Note 1: Local: LSYLLB recommends that a pitcher who delivers 41 or more pitches in a game should not play the position of catcher for the remainder of that day. Monitor the player's condition, i.e., exertion during pitches and exertion anticipated if catching.

Note 2: See next page for Required Days of Rest Between Appearances.

Regulation VI - Pitchers (continued...)

(d) National: LSYLLB **LA14 & Under** Pitchers must adhere to the following rest requirements:

1. If a player pitches 66 or more pitches in a day: Four calendar days of rest.
Reminder: The Local Rule for AAA is maximum of 65 pitches per day.
2. If a player pitches 51-65 pitches in a day: Three calendar days of rest.
3. If a player pitches 36-50 pitches in a day: Two calendar days of rest.
4. If a player pitches 21-35 pitches in a day: One calendar day of rest.
5. If a player pitches 1-20 pitches in a day: No (0) calendar day of rest is required.
6. Local: Regardless of pitch count, no pitcher may be on the mound for more than 9 defensive outs in a game, or 18 defensive outs in a week (a week is Monday-Sunday).

Exception: (National) If a pitcher reaches a day(s) of rest threshold while facing a batter, the pitcher may continue to pitch to that batter until any one of the following conditions occur:

1. That batter reaches base;
2. That batter is retired;
3. The third out is made to complete the half-inning or game.

In such instances, the pitcher will not be required to observe the longer day of rest requirement for the range he crossed into, provided the pitcher is removed or the game is completed before delivering a pitch to another batter. Rationale: Improves pace of game.

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- (e) Each team will designate an adult to count pitches. They shall compare and resolve their tally at the end of each half inning (or sooner). In the event of an unresolvable difference, the average of the two tallies rounded-up will be used.
- (f) The pitch counter recorders must provide the pitch count when requested by a manager or umpire. The manager is responsible for knowing when his/her pitcher must be removed.
- (g) To assist the manager, the pitch counter recorders should inform the manager and plate umpire when his/her pitcher approaches or reaches the maximum of pitches for the game.
- (h) Violation of any section of this regulation can result in protest of the game in which it occurs. Protests shall be made in accordance with Playing Rule 4.19.
Local: Any protest concerning pitcher (or player) eligibility must be made to the umpire as soon as discovered, and to the commissioner no later than 24 hours after the game has concluded.
- (j) A player who has attained a League Age of 12 (LA12) is not eligible to pitch in the Minors.

Regulation VI - Pitchers (continued...)

(k) Local: A pitcher may pitch in two games on the same day if the appearances are seamless and consist of a resumption of a game from an earlier date, immediately followed by a full game. Said pitcher must begin and finish the resumption game (i.e., no other pitcher is used in the resumption); be the starter for the second game; and in the aggregate not exceed any other eligibility, rest requirements, or pitch count limits for the current day. The expectation and intent is that the pitcher's arm will stay warm from game-to-game as if he had simply pitched in one game. Failing that test, he may not pitch in two games on the same day.

(l). Local: A pitcher may not give an intentional walk.

(m). Local: A pitcher must be removed from the mound after un-intentionally hitting 3 batters in a game. If a pitcher is deemed to have intentionally pitched at a batter, the pitcher will be given no warning and must be immediately removed from the game (ejected), and the incident referred to the commissioners for review and for any additional action as they deem appropriate.

NOTES:

1. The withdrawal of an ineligible pitcher after that pitcher is announced, or after a warm-up pitch is delivered, but before that player has pitched a ball to a batter, shall not be considered a violation. Little League officials are urged to take precautions to prevent protests. When a protest situation is imminent, the potential offender should be notified immediately.
2. Pitches delivered in games declared "Regulation Tie Games" or "Suspended Games" shall be charged against pitcher's eligibility.

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3. In suspended games resumed on another day, the pitchers of record at the time the game was halted may continue to pitch to the extent of their eligibility for the new game's date, provided said pitcher has observed the required days of rest.

Example 1: A League Age 12 pitcher delivers 51 pitches in a game on Monday when the game is suspended. The game resumes on the following Thursday. The pitcher is not eligible to pitch in the resumption of the game because he/she has not observed the required three days of rest.

Example 2: A League Age 12 Majors Division pitcher delivers 80 pitches in a game on Monday when the game is suspended. The game resumes on Saturday. The pitcher is eligible to pitch up to 85 more pitches in the resumption of the game because the required three days of rest were observed.

Example 3: A League Age 12 pitcher delivers 70 pitches in a game on Monday when the game is suspended. The game resumes two weeks later. The pitcher is eligible to pitch up to 85 more pitches in the resumption of the game, provided he/she is otherwise eligible based on his/her pitching record during the previous four days of the new week..

4. Local: If a game is called before the first inning is completed, pitch counts still accrue.

END of 2025 LSYLLB MAJORS & AAA SPRING REGULATIONS & PLAYING RULES