

Montana Little League District #1

Interleague Softball Rules – 2021

Interleague play for Minors, Majors, Juniors and Senior divisions will be played in accordance with the Montana District 1 Interleague play rules. Anything not specified in the Interleague Rules will be handled in accordance with the Little League Rulebook.

The Interleague Play Rules are special rules, to be applied to all Montana District 1 Interleague games. **Leagues do NOT have an option to alter or ignore these rules when involved in interleague play.** Additional special rules governing interleague play in the Softball 9-10 and Minors division are contained in separate handouts for those divisions.

1. Montana District 1 policy requires the leagues to adopt the “Continuous Batting Order/Free Substitution” rule for **minors and majors** levels for all interleague play.
2. Time limits for interleague softball games:
 - a. **Junior/Senior division** will not have a time limit.
 - b. **Majors (11-12) divisions:** While school is still in session, no new innings will begin after 2 hours of play. Innings in progress will be completed unless ended by weather or darkness. There will be no time limit for this division. Games will end after When school is no longer in session all games will be 6 innings unless ended by darkness or weather.
 - c. **Minors Division,** No new inning will begin after 1 ½ hours of play. Any inning already in progress at the time limit will be completed unless shortened by weather or darkness, but no new inning may begin.
3. For all interleague games, the home team will supply the plate umpire and the visitors will supply a field umpire.
4. The “run rule” for all interleague play will be in effect when either team is **10** runs ahead at the end of the 4th inning (5th inning for Junior/Senior Division). If the home team is **10** runs ahead when it is their turn to bat in the 4th inning (5th inning for Jr/Sr), the game is over.
5. Pool players **must** wear their regular team’s uniform and may not pitch. The use of pool players should be handled in accordance with District 1 Pool Player rules.
6. Any rule not specifically changed above (or in the Minors Interleague Rules for that division) will conform to the official Little League Rulebook for the division in question.
7. **Montana District 1 LL Pitching rules will conform to those in the Little League Rulebook for each division. See pages 45 and 46 of the rule book.**

Majors and Minors Division:

If a player pitched in seven (7) or more innings, a day of rest is required (e.g. she pitches 7 innings on Monday, cannot pitch until Wednesday.)

A pitcher who is removed from pitching, but moving to another defensive position, may return to pitch at any time, but only once in the same inning she was removed.

Juniors and Seniors Divisions:

No pitching restrictions apply **except for 12 year olds who pitch in this division.** Remember that pool players may not pitch!

A pitcher who is removed from pitching may return to pitch once per inning unless doing so would violate substitution rules.

A 12 year old who is rostered on both a Majors and a Juniors team is limited in each game in accordance with the rules for the division in which she pitches. Whether she is eligible for specific game is ruled by innings pitched previously. See below.

(Example 1– If she pitches 7 innings in a Juniors game on Sunday and has a scheduled Majors game on Monday – she is not eligible to pitch in the majors game because a day of rest would be required.

Example 2: If she pitches 9 innings in a Majors game on Sunday and has a scheduled Juniors division game on Monday, she is eligible to pitch because Juniors has no restrictions.)

There are additional examples in the rule book.