

**Triboro Little League
Minors Division – Softball Rules
2015 Season**

General Rules:

1. Each team will supply one new softball, and one used softball per game.
2. Both home and visiting teams are responsible for field setup.
3. Games will be 6 innings long, or 2 hours when there is a game to follow. If game is tied after 6 innings, extra innings may be played to determine winner, as long as there is:
 - a. no time limit due to a game to follow
 - b. darkness determined by the head umpire
 - c. a field curfew time limit
4. Speed up rule for catchers...anytime catchers reach a base, the last batted out can pinch run for the catcher so they can get their catcher's gear on in preparation for the next inning.
6. Unlimited substitutions on the field.
7. Any player coming late will enter the bottom of the batting order. No inning is considered late during regular season play except for the last inning of play.
8. If a player is injured and cannot play, their position in the batting order will be passed over without being recorded as an out. The player may return to the game after sitting out one-half inning.
9. Each player must play at least 3 innings in the field. The goal is for all kids to play at least half of the game in the field.
10. A minimum of 8 players is necessary to start and finish a game. **(No games will be forfeited.)** To the extent it is known that you will have less than 8 players, the manager should notify the division president or player agent for pool players. Up to 3 pool players may be used to fill a roster but in the event that a pool player becomes the 11th or more player in the lineup; that pool player or players cannot play more innings than an official roster player. If pool players cannot be found to fill a team's lineup and less than 8 players show the managers can mutually agree to share players and play the game as an official game, or plan to reschedule the game but must play this game as a practice game.
11. 10 players will be used in the field with 4 Outfielders. Outfielders must play on the grass and should be in position as follows:
 - a. right fielder
 - b. right center fielder
 - c. left center fielder
 - d. left fielder

***NOTE:** an "outfielder" is allowed to make an unassisted play at a base by force or a tag only if they are in a position of outfielder when the ball is hit.

An outfielder can not be used as a short fielder and play behind or on 2nd base as an extra infielder.

12. The decision to play, or not to play, a game in inclement weather may be made by the following:
 - a. division president
 - b. field operations officer

c. must be mutually agreed upon by both team's managers.

13. If the game is called the home team manager must call Minor League President and Chief umpire to reschedule the game.

Once the game starts, only the umpire may call the game due to inclement weather or any other type of weather related issue.

A complete game will be recorded after 4 innings have been completed by the visiting team.

If the game is called after 1 complete inning the game will be resumed from that spot including all records and pitch count.

14. Respect all umpires decisions and set the proper example for your team. Ensure your players and your fans exhibit appropriate behavior. The umpire has the right to remove coaches, players, and fans from the game.

15. If a player curses or throws any part of their equipment they will be subject to ejection or suspension.

16. Uniforms must be worn.

Pitching:

1. Any player of league age may pitch.

2. Period of rest rules and pitch count rules do not apply.

3. Once a pitcher is removed from the mound, she will be allowed to return to pitch.

4. The pitcher mound should be 35 feet from homeplate.

5. Coaches should encourage players to pitch all 6 innings and use multiple pitchers for better development. If both teams coaches agree that pitchers are depleted then coach pitch may be used to finish games. This should be a learning division for any player who wants to pitch.

6. Hit batter will not be called on a pitch that hits the ground before striking the batter.

Hitting and Base Running:

1. All players will be in the batting rotation, even when not playing the field.

2. An inning will end once 4 runs are scored, regardless of the number of outs except for the last inning. The last inning will be limited to 10 runs. Game scoring will end early when the lead of the game is 10 or more runs and at least 4 innings have been completed by the visiting team. At this point if time is available the teams should finish the remaining innings left in the game with coaches pitching. This time should be used as an instructional type of format to get the players more fielding and batting.

3. Runners cannot leave the base until the ball passes the batter.

4. Stealing of 3rd base only will be permitted but no advance can be made on an overthrow. (This rule is to help develop catcher's arms)

5. Play is stopped and runners may not advance when the ball is thrown back to the pitcher, provided the pitcher is in the circle. (Or within 8' of the rubber if no circle is visible and this will be the umpire's discretion)

6. A player is not permitted to steal on an overthrow to the pitcher or any infielder provided the pitcher is in the circle. If a throw is coming from the outfielder directly to the pitcher and there is an overthrow, it will be considered a live ball.

7. On an overthrow to 1st base, runner(s) may only advance 1 base.

8. Base runners must avoid collisions with members of the defensive team, either by avoiding the defensive player or sliding. Sliding is of course preferred and what should

be taught to the kids. No head first sliding is allowed and will be an automatic out except diving back to a base.

9. Bunting will be allowed but only one bunt an inning and once per player per game.

Other points

1. Equipment

a. softballs must be “Soft’ 11 inch and yellow in color and **11” hard yellow in color.**

b. players gloves and bats must refer to the 2012 orange book

c. batting helmets must be equipped with a face guard

2. Playoffs will be determined by a bracket format with regular season best winning % to determine the home team in each bracket. All teams will make the playoffs with the final championship round a best of 3. All regular season rules will apply.

**Division Rules ?/??/?? Approved by
TLL ?/??/??**

Rules Committee:

Jim DeRosa (President)

John Klopchin (Vice President Softball)

Joe Bennett (Player Agent)

Greg Soderstrom (Chief Umpire)

Lou Geneux (Fundraising)

Rev. ?/??/??

General Rules #2

General Rules #11

Pitching #5

Hitting & Base Running #9

Other Points #1

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Jim DeRosa (President)

John Klopchin (Vice President Softball)

Joe Bennett (Player Agent)

Greg Soderstrom (Chief Umpire)

?/??/?? Approved by TBLL