

# 2026 Little League Rule Options Form - BASEBALL

BNLL (updated 3/28/2026)

**Level / Division:**

|   | BB Majors   | BB Coast  | BB AAA (Regular Season)  | BB AAA (Pool Play/Playoffs)   |
|---|---|---|--|---|
| These rules apply to every game played between teams within your league, (local rules), or if interlocking with another league(s), (interlock rules). The Little League rulebook requires that the following options must be decided. Options apply to ALL divisions of baseball and softball except where designated in bold. You must choose an answer for every item unless it doesn't apply to your level or sport. Choices, (Yes or NO), that are underlined are the default, or rule book recommended option. | Local   | Local   | Local  | Local   |
| (1) Softball only: Are you imposing additional pitching rules? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (If No, skip to 2)<br>If yes, explain in detail: (Regulation VI (b))  | n/a   | n/a   | n/a  | n/a   |
| (2) Do you have more than 15 players on a team? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (If No, skip to 3) Any changes to Mandatory Play? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No<br>If yes, explain in detail: (Regulation IV(i) NOTE 4)   | No  | No  | No   | No  |
| (3) Minor Divisions only: Are you playing as Instructional or Competitive? <input type="checkbox"/> Instructional <input type="checkbox"/> Competitive (Rule 1.01)  | n/a   | Competitive   | Instructional  | Competitive   |
| (4) Minor Divisions only: If "Instructional" (not designated as "competitive"), are 3 coaches allowed in addition to the manager, (instead of just 2)? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (Rules 1.01& 3.17)  | n/a   | n/a   | Yes  | n/a   |
| (5) Can a game be started and played with only 8 players? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (If no, skip to 6) When the (absent) 9th player would be up to bat, what happens? <input type="checkbox"/> Record an out <input type="checkbox"/> Just skip to the next batter (Rules 1.01, 4.04, 4.16, 4.17, 6.05)  | Yes, skip batter  | Yes, skip batter  | Yes, skip batter   | Yes, skip batter  |
| (6) Will courtesy runner be allowed for the pitcher and/or catcher when there are two outs? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (Rules 2.0, 3.04, 7.14)  | Yes   | Yes   | Yes  | Yes   |
| (7) Will a continuous batting order be adopted? <input type="checkbox"/> Continuous Batting Order <input type="checkbox"/> 9 Batters, with substitutions (Rule 4.04)  | Yes   | Yes   | Yes  | Yes   |
| (8) Is the option of not having the 15, 10, 8 run rule adopted? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (Rule 4.10(e))   | No  | No  | Yes  | No  |
| (9) Are you adopting the 1 hour 45-minute time limit? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (Rule 4.10(c)(2))  | No time limit (unless a game following, then no new inning after 1:45, and no pitch after 2:00) | No time limit (unless a game following, then no new inning after 1:45, and no pitch after 2:00) | 6 innings or no new inning after 1:45. No pitch after 2:00.  | No new inning shall start after 1 hr and 45 min, and the game shall end at the completion of the final inning played.<br>EXCEPTION: There shall be no time limit for tournament championship games, nor the follow-up Championship game should the loser's bracket team win the first one |
| (10) Minor Divisions only: Is the "5 run rule" suspended on the last half-inning for either team? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (Rule 5.07)  | n/a   | Yes   | Yes  | Yes   |
| (11) After entering the batter's box, does the batter have to remain in the box with at least one foot through the at bat? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (Rule 6.02(c))  | Yes   | Yes   | Yes  | Yes   |
| (12) Minor Divisions only: Do all protests have to be resolved before the next play? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (Rules 4.19(e) and (g))   | No  | No  | No   | No  |
| (13) Little League "Majors" division only: Is the <u>Minor League</u> Third Strike not caught is still a <u>strikeout</u> rule adopted? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (Rule 6.05(b)(2))  | No  | n/a   | n/a  | n/a   |
| (14) Softball Majors division only: Runners must remain in contact with the bag until the ball is batted or reached the batter. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (Rule 7.08 (a) (5) (a))  | n/a   | n/a   | n/a  | n/a   |
| (15) Is stealing signs unsportsmanlike behavior, and results in 1 warning and then an ejection of involved players/coaches/managers? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (Rule 9.0(d))   | Yes   | Yes   | Yes  | Yes   |
| (16) Allow the "plate" umpire to stand behind the pitcher. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (Rule 9.04(a))  | Yes   | Yes   | Yes  | Yes   |
| Others:   | <u>Additional mandatory play requirements.</u>  | <u>Additional mandatory play requirements.</u>  | <p>4 runs max per inning, not 5</p> <p><u>Additional mandatory play requirements</u></p> <p>10th fielder allowed</p> <p>Player pitch (No coach pitch at any time)</p> <p>No slash bunting</p> <p>No infield fly</p> <p>Once the pitcher has possession of the ball and is standing on the mound, the baserunners must either immediately retreat to their last base, or continue non-stop to the next base. If the runners don't do either, they umpire can call "Time" and place the runners back to their previous base(s).</p> <p>NOTE ON ABOVE: In the case where the pitcher has the ball on the mound but the runner is halfway to the next bag and continues, if the pitcher throws the ball, its back in play. If the pitcher just holds it, then the batter gets that base - but that's it.</p> <p>There is no stealing before BSD Spring Break. Starting the Monday after BSD Spring Break, stealing 2nd and 3rd will be allowed.</p> <p>A runner on 3rd base cannot advance to home unless the ball is put in play or forced home on a walk/HBP or obstruction. This rule is lifted on May 1.</p> | <p>5 runs max per inning</p> <p><u>Additional mandatory play requirements.</u></p> <p>10th fielder not allowed;</p> <p><u>Standard balls and strikes:</u></p> <p>No infield fly</p>   |