



## House League Rules - WLL Minor Division 2023

These rules accompany and/or modify the Official Playing Rules of Little League Baseball. In those cases where the Whalley Little League (WLL) Rules contradict the Official Playing Rules of Little League Baseball the WLL Rules pre-empt the Official Rules of Little League Baseball.

1. No new innings after 1 hour 45 minutes. The Inning in progress will be completed. The Final inning will be determined by the umpire prior to start of final inning.
2. Players cannot steal from first base to second base. This includes passed balls and overthrows to other bases. This can be changed at a date agreed by coaches and player agent depending on skill level.
3. Players cannot steal from 3rd to home. This includes passed balls and overthrows to other bases. This can be changed at a date agreed by coaches and player agent depending on skill level.
4. Catchers cannot pick off at 1<sup>st</sup> base. Pitchers can pick off at first base.
5. Runs per inning limited to 5 or to catch up. Final inning is open.
6. 10 run mercy rule in effect after four innings of regulation play (15 Runs optional).
7. One minute or 5 pitches will be used in between innings to warm up pitcher. Managers/coaches will be allowed to help warm up pitcher on the mound.
8. Continuous batting order (all players bat). When continuous order used, free defensive substitution applies. No player shall sit out a second inning defensively prior to all other players sitting out at least one inning, and so on. No player shall sit out more than one consecutive inning except in cases where there is a valid health, injury or disciplinary reason for such an action.
9. Maximum 3 consecutive innings in any position. All outfield is considered 1 position. Each player must play an inning in the infield. Maximum 4 innings for pitcher and catcher.
10. Manager is responsible for his/her pitch count. Scorekeeper will inform umpire of final pitch count each inning and umpire will notify both managers. Home team responsible for official scorebook and pitch count unless determined by both managers and umpires. Pitch count must be entered in online sheet after each game.
11. All warm-ups will be complete by 5 minutes prior to game start. Umpire will issue the home team the game ball to start pitching warmups 10 minutes pre-game.
12. Manager's/Umpire meeting will occur 5 minutes to game time. Ground rules, line-up cards, and game balls from the home team will be issued at this time.
13. Managers only will conduct plate meetings with the umpire with their line-up cards ready.
14. During the game ONLY Managers may visit with any umpire for a rule discussion and only upon being GRANTED permission by the



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umpire. Judgement calls are final and cannot be disputed. There are no game time protests in regular season. Managers are required to only clarify what the umpire saw and how the rule is being applied. There is no argument of what the umpire saw. Rule clarifications only can be discussed.

15. Managers are responsible for the behaviour of their coaches, players and fans. There is zero tolerance for comments directed at the umpires. Managers must control their parent group.
16. Major 9-year-olds can play in a Minor regular season game if there are less than 9 minor players.
17. 8 year old rookie players should be called up to a minimum of 9 players.
18. No handling of bats by players in the dugout at anytime.
19. Little league rule applies- There is NO ON DECK Circle, therefore no practice swings on the field between innings or while game is in play.
20. Pitchers shall be removed from the mound after 3 hit batters in a game or 2 batters in one inning.
21. Both teams are responsible for setting up and taking down the field each game. This is the parent's duty not the coach's. They are busy warming up the players. (optional Home sets up and visitors take down). Player agent will decide based on manager's input.
22. Soft toss after 2 walks in a row in an inning. If the pitcher walks 2 batters in a row, after the 4<sup>th</sup> ball to the second batter walked, a coach of the hitting team will be prepared with a couple balls in hand to immediately toss an underhand "soft toss- side toss" to that batter. The toss is intended to produce a ground ball and so must be tossed from on or outside the foul line about 8 feet away, with little to no arc, and below the hitters belt. (optional:Hitters age 11 and 12 must be in the "loaded strided" position and may not stride again- see attached video.) The count of strikes will continue. The hit is maximum ground rule double. The pitcher must remain on the mound defensively. After this hit, the walks are reset and no soft toss until a further two walks in a row. Watch a video on how to safely soft toss [soft toss safety and timing 1](#) [Link to soft toss instruction 2](#) [Link to soft toss instruction 3](#) [Link to soft toss loaded strided position option](#)
23. The pitch counts must be confirmed by both managers after the game and reported to the pitch count google sheet to protect pitchers arms and so managers can check their opponents available pitchers for planning the next game.