

# 2025 NNLL MINOR AAA BASEBALL RULES



NOTE: Any rules not specifically addressed below are governed by the official Little League rules.

## Instructional/Competitive Division – Focus/Emphasis:

* Baseball Fundamentals/Rules/Strategy/Sportsmanship
* Mechanics: Pitching, Throwing, Fielding, Defense/Hitting/Base running
* Outs are recorded / Score is recorded / Standings are recorded
* Maximum of 13 players per team
* Teams may have eight players in attendance at the start of the game. If a team plays with eight players, the 9th position in the batting order will be skipped over without penalty.
* Games are regulation 6 innings. No new inning may be started after 1 hr 45 minutes.

## There is NO open inning. The game will be played as 6 innings or by time restraints listed above.

* Once the 3rdout of an inning is recorded, that begins the start of the following inning.
* 10 run rule in effect after 4 innings (3 ½ if the home team is leading). **6 run rule in effect after 5 (4 ½ if the home team** is leading).
* If the game is called during an incomplete inning, the game ends at the end of the last previous completed inning.
* 3 outs or 5 run max per half inning.
* Home team shall use 3rd base dugout; visiting team shall use 1st base dugout
* Warm-ups: Players shall not warm up on the infield; coaches cannot warm up players once the game starts no exceptions.
* Pre-game infield: 10 minutes each team; **Visiting team goes first starting 25 minutes prior to game time. Home team goes second 15 minutes prior to game time**. Teams only have the 10 minutes for infield, no exceptions.
* Bullpen – Pitcher or player may warm up during the game with **a teammate only** (No parent or coach). However, the players must be supervised by the manager, coach or verified league volunteer. Any player in a crouching position must wear full catcher’s gear. Otherwise, the player must stand and wear a mask only.
* Pre and post-game field work: Home team is responsible for field preparation before the game, visiting team is responsible for field clean up after the game (drag field, put in base fillers, lock equipment up, lock gates).
* Scores & pitch counts to be reported immediately following the game via a post game email. If you are not getting the result email, please notify NNLL BOD Immediately.
* All coaching /instruction must come from dug out or coaches box only. Any coach used as an umpire is strictly that, an umpire.

# PITCHING AND HITTING

* Hitting team bats the entire lineup in continuous order. All players in attendance will be in the lineup.
* Pitch count governed by official Little League rules.
* Pitchers who deliver 41+ pitches cannot play catcher position the remainder of that game.
* Player who plays catcher in four or more innings is not eligible to pitch on that calendar day.
* **Mandatory Play – Offense:** Each player in the batting order shall be listed in a continuous order, which may not be changed once the game has started. Teams shall exchange lineups prior to the game. Players may change positions on the field, but the batting order shall remain the same. Players arriving late are placed in the last position in the original batting order. If a player leaves a game early their spot is skipped over in the lineup; this does not constitute an automatic out.

# DEFENSE AND BASERUNNING

* For the regular season, a courtesy runner for the pitcher and/or catcher of record can be used when there are two

(2) outs. Since we will be using a continuous batting order, the “courtesy runner” may be in the team’s batting order and must be the player in the batting order who made the last out. This is to improve the pace of play.

* Free defensive substitutions – All defensive positions except pitcher.
* **Mandatory Play – Defense:** Players shall not sit on the bench for more than one consecutive inning and not more than a total of two innings in a regulation game. Players must play an infield position (P, C, 1B, 2B, SS, 3B) for at least one full defensive inning (3 outs or 5 runs). Infield play requirements must be fulfilled before the end of the game, regardless of how many innings will be played in that game. If, in the final inning, a player (or players) is found to have not met the minimum play requirements, that player(s) will immediately assume a position that will fulfill the requirement, and remain in that position until the conclusion of that inning. Note: A player who is absent for part of an inning is considered absent for the full inning. Absences will not be considered as an inning on the bench.
* *This rule has been implemented to give teams time to develop catchers:*

- At the start of the season through **4/05,** **there will be NO stealing home plate,** players may advance via stealing to 2nd base and 3rd base. However, there will be **no stealing on any pitcher catcher exchanges;** including wild pitches, passed balls, or throws back to the pitcher from the catcher during this time period.

**Beginning (4/05), all stealing is allowed**. There are no restrictions on the number of bases that a player can advance per plate appearance. This includes stealing of home, which will now be allowed