

# **Boys Major League Rules - 2023**

Little League Rules will be followed with these exceptions or clarifications:

1. The game will be 6 innings – minimum of 3 innings. 10 run rule will be in effect after 3 and a half innings. A time limit of 1 hour and 30 min. for the game, with no new inning starting after 1 hour and 20 min.  
***Maximum of 5 runs per inning or three outs.***
2. Stealing is allowed and home is open. Dropped third strike is not an out if first base is unoccupied or the last out of the inning. The catcher must tag or throw the runner out at first. Base runner can lead off when the pitch is released from the pitchers' hand.
3. ***Pitching distance is 50 feet*** and the pitchers are ***limited to 3 innings night***. One pitch in an inning constitutes an inning pitched. No balks. Distance between bases 70 feet.
4. ***9 defensive players***. Every player will play at least 2 defensive innings and bat 1 time per game unless shortened by the run rule. If a coach has a discipline problem with one of his players and doesn't feel the player has a right to play; the coach should discuss this problem with the opposing coach BEFORE the game. Also, if by mistake a player does not get to play in a regular 6-inning game (coach's error); that player will start and not be substituted for the next game.
5. Substitutions—Unlimited
6. Bats – sanctioned bats with a barrel size of 2 ¼, 2 5/8, or 2 ¾ inches.
7. All players will bat in the original batting order at all times (every player to be placed in the batting order).
8. Infield fly rule is in effect. Rule—If any time first and second is occupied and less than two outs, any pop fly hit in the infield is an out and the runners may advance at their own risk. The runners must tag up if the ball is caught but not if it is dropped.
9. No metal spikes.
10. Batters and base runners must wear their helmets at all times while on the playing field. The player will be warned in the first game and then after the first game; the player will be call out and if already out, the next batter will be call out. If it is the last out of the inning, the out will be assessed to the first batter in the next inning.
11. If a player throws the bat. Warning first at bat; from that point, the batter will be called out.
12. Bunting is allowed.
13. Sliding—all slides will be feet first except on a pick off play when trying to return to the base on a caught fly ball (line drive). If there is a possible play, the player must attempt to slide or will be called out. If there is no play, no slide is required and the fielder must not fake tags or block the base if there is no play. **During the first week of the season, if there is a possible play at 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> or home base a player must slide. If a**

**slide doesn't occur there will be a warning, then will be called out at the second occurrence. After first week if there is a possible play and runner does not slide the runner will be automatically out.**

14. A throw from the catcher to the pitcher is a live ball and runners can advance at their own risk.
15. Each team can have two coaches on the field and one coach/adult scorekeeper on the bench at all times. Coaches must remain inside the dugout while their team is on defense.
16. A team can start a game with no less than 8 players. Less than 8 players is a forfeit. The team with 8 players must place a designated OUT in their batting order. Any player that arrives late can enter the ball game as soon as the player can. If the arriving player is the 8<sup>th</sup> player then he is placed in the batting order at the designated OUT spot.
17. Warm-up before the game will be 7 minutes on the field for each team—visitor's going first. The pitchers will get 8 pitches before the game and 5 pitches between innings.
18. Both teams must keep a scorebook and please check with the opposing team after each inning; but the home scorebook will be the official book in all disputes.
19. Home team will supply games balls.

**Major League Tournament – TBD**  
**Each team is required to pay \$50 & 2 NEW GAME BALLS.**