

2010 Little League Softball Tournament Rule Summary

Divisions	9&10 Softball	10 & 11 Softball	Little League	Junior League	Senior League	Big League
Eligibility (League Age)	9/10 yrs old Major or Minor Div.	10/11 yrs old Major or Minor Div.	11/12 yrs old Major Div.	12/13/14 yrs old Junior Div.	13-16 yrs old Senior Div.	14-18 yrs old Big League Div.
Roster Size	Maximum Team Roster 14 Players					Max 15 Players
	Total 13 Players or more at start of game. 1 Manager and 2 Coaches					
Mandatory Play Requirements	MUST complete one time at bat AND play three (3) consecutive defensive outs during the game; (may be protested) unless shortened for any reason				None Required	
	Penalty Manager suspended for 2 games, POSSIBLE team forfeiture and disqualification					
Line-up Changes	Defensive substitutions must be made while the team is on defense. Offensive substitutions must be made at the time the offensive player has his turn at bat or is on base.					
Softballs	11-inch softball	12- inch softball				
Pitching Distance	35 feet	40 feet			43 feet	
Pitching Innings	Max 7 per day Max 7 per game	Max 9 per day Max 9 per game	Max 7 per day Max 10 per game		Max 10 per day Max 10 per game	
Pitching Rest	Less than three innings in a day - None required		Less than five innings in a day - None required			
Pitcher returning to mound	Three of more innings in a day - one calendar day		Five or more innings - one calendar day			
Substitution and Re-Entry Starter or Substitute	A starter may be removed for a substitute BEFORE meeting Mandatory Play Requirement. Any player who has been removed for a substitute may re-enter the game at any time in the SAME position in the batting order. A substitute entering the game for the first time may not be removed prior to completion of his mandatory play requirements - (3) defensive outs AND one completed time at bat.				A starter (including the DH) who has been removed for a substitute may re-enter the game once provided such player occupies the same position in the batting order. A Substitute (removed) may not re-enter	
Defensive Conferences	Two in an inning, pitcher must be removed from the mound on the third visit in an inning. Three in a game; pitcher must be removed from the mound on the fourth visit in the game					
Offensive Conferences	Only one (1) per inning					
Regulation Game (Complete)	6 full innings, 5 1/2 if home team is ahead			7 full innings, 6 1/2 if home team is ahead		
Regulation Game (Called)	4 full innings or 3 1/2 if home team is ahead			5 full innings or 4 1/2 if home team is ahead		
Regulation Game	Terminated because of weather, darkness or curfew must be resumed if the visiting team ties the game or takes the lead in their half of the inning and the home team does not complete their at bat or take the lead in an incomplete inning.					
10 Run Rule	After 4 innings, 3 1/2 if home team is ahead			After 5 innings , 4 1/2 if home team is ahead		
Intentional Walk	If the pitcher wishes to intentionally walk a batter, he must do so by pitching four pitches intentionally outside the strike zone that are not struck at by the batter and are called "balls" by the umpire. All pitches will count towards that pitcher's pitch count.					
On Deck Batting Position	Not Allowed Only the lead off batter is permitted outside the dugout			Allowed		
Double Headers	Regional Approval Only			No more than two (2) games in one day allowed		
Designated Hitter	Not Allowed					Allowed Rule 3.03 E
Special Pinch Runner	Allowed (Rule 7.14) once per inning, any player not presently in the lineup may be used. A player may only be removed for a special pinch runner one time during a game.					
Head first slide	Not Allowed			Allowed		
Bunt	Holding the bat in the strike zone is considered an attempted bunt. In order to take a pitch the batter must withdraw the bat backwards away from the ball.					
Dropped third strike	Does not apply			The batter becomes a runner when the third strike called or swung on is not caught.		
Leaving early	Before pitch crosses Home Plate			Before pitcher releases the ball on the delivery.		
Protests for	Playing Rule: Must be made before the next pitch/play/or attempted play. Ineligible Pitcher or Mandatory Play: Must be made before the umpires leave the playing field. Ineligible Player: When facts become known to complainant but before the next game for either team. Improper Substitution: Not resolved before the next pitch or play shall not be considered.					

This is only a summary of tournament rules.All questions must refer to the tournament section of the Official playing rules.