



Big Diamond District 4 contact:

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Intermediate / Junior / Senior Baseball Rules

A schedule of games being played between two or more leagues is considered to be a District 4 administered league. The following rules will apply to all interleague play.

Umpires: The HOME team will be responsible for providing two umpires for each game. One of these umpires needs to be at least 18 years of age.

Playing Rules: Games are played under the official Little League rules as indicated in the 2021 Little League Baseball Rules and Regulations; no individual league's "local" rules will apply and no "manager agreements" will be allowed to change or modify these rules.

For areas where the LL rule book allows for local league options, we will play by the following rules:

- **New Regulation Exceptions for 2021:**
 - **Regulation I(a) & Regulation IV(a):** Permits 15-year-olds to participate in the Junior Division but cannot pitch. It also permits 12-year-olds to participate in or dual roster in the Senior Division.
 - **Regulation III(a):** A league may roster up to 20 players if fielding only one regular season team.
 - **Regulation IV(i) NOTE 4:** If a league uses 15 to 20 player rosters and 15 or more eligible players are at a game, the league may reduce the MANADATORY PLAY RULE to three (3) defensive outs and one (1) at bat per game.
- **New Rules Exceptions for 2021:**
 - **Rule 1.01, 4.04, 4.16, 4.17, and 6.05(n):** Teams will be allowed to start and play games with 8 players. The ninth (9th) batting position will be skipped without penalty.
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- **Rule 7.14(b):** The courtesy runner rule will be used.
- **Rule 9.04(a):** The position of the plate umpire, regardless if adult or youth, is as follows:
 - For all non-vaccinated umpires, take position behind the pitcher.
 - For all vaccinated umpires, the choice is that of the umpire based on their comfort level due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **Other Local League Rules we will follow:**
 - **Rule 3.03:** The batting order will consist of 9 players; so substitutions will be covered under Rule 3.03
 - **Rule 4.10(c), Exception 1:** When a team is ahead by 15 runs and after 4 innings (3 ½ if home team), or 10 runs after 5 innings (4 ½ if home team), the manager of the losing team will concede the game and the game is over. There are no exceptions to allow a game to continue after this point.
 - **Rule 4.10(c), Exception 2:** A minimum 2-hour time limit for games to be considered complete (i.e. if 7 innings have not been played).
 - **Rule 6.02(c):** After entering the batter's box, the batter must remain in the box with at least one foot throughout the at-bat (this is to encourage pace of play)
 - **Rule 9.01(d):** This rule and associated penalties will not be enforced, HOWEVER, either umpire may remove a player from the game for any unsportsmanlike conduct, including, but not limited to, deliberate attempts to steal signs.
 - **Rule 7.14(a)** – The regular season rule for Special Pinch Runner will apply.
 - **PITCHING LOGS:** Each manager must have a Pitching Log (the form is available on the District 4 website: californiadistrict4littleleague.org under the LL Forms Tab) for each game showing who has pitched in the previous games, dates they pitched, and the number of pitches thrown. If the Manager of a team cannot produce a current Pitch Log before the start of the game, the opposing Manager may file a proper protest under Rule 4.19 if he/she believes an illegal pitcher was used in the game. This protest will be referred to the Assistant District Administrator for review and a final decision will be rendered. Under all circumstances, the game shall be played, pending the review of the protest. ***PLEASE NOTE: If the Manager cannot produce the pitching log, then each pitcher for that team will be limited to 20 pitches, NO EXCEPTIONS (this is for the safety of the players).***
 - **PROTEST:** Protests should be settled on the field of play. Appeals to the Assistant District Administrator are limited only to rules interpretations or the use of ineligible players. Protests are strongly discouraged since all games are at recreational in nature and no district standings are being kept. However, if a protest is filed, it must be emailed within 24 hours to the Assistant District Administrator listed above. The Assistant District Administrator's decision is final.