

# **2009 Texas District 8 Little League Baseball** **7-8 Year Old Tournament Rules**

**NOTE: At no time will the International Tournament Playing Rules be used.**

*All provisions of Rule 1.00 in the regular season rules apply except for the following;*

**This rule replaces Playing Rule 1.09;**

Baseballs licensed by Little League will be printed with the "RS-T" (regular season and tournament) designation must be used.

*All provisions of Rule 2.00 in the regular season rules will apply.*

*All provisions of Rule 3.00 in the regular season rules apply except for the following;*

**This rule replaces Playing Rule 3.03;**

A player in the starting line-up who has been removed for a substitute may re-enter the game once, in any defense position, provided:

1. his or her substitute has played defensively for a minimum of six (6) consecutive outs
2. pitchers once removed from the mound may not return as pitchers;
3. a starter, (S1) re-entering the game as a substitute for another starter (S2) must then fulfill the conditions of a substitute (six defensive outs) before starter (S2) can re-enter the game.

*All provisions of Rule 4.00 in the regular season rules apply except for the following;*

**This rule replaces Playing Rule 4.04;**

Each team shall use a continuous batting order. If a player arriving late to the game and the manager elects to use that player, he/she will be added to the end of the current lineup. If a runner becomes injured while on base, the player who made the last offensive out shall be used as a pinch-runner. A player may be dropped from the batting order only if the player is injured and cannot continue for the rest of the game, removed by the player's parent and leaves the game site, or if the player is ejected. That player's spot in the batting order will be skipped with no penalty. Since we are using a continuous batting order, Playing Rule 7.14 will not be used.

**This rule replaces Playing Rule 4.10 (e);**

If after four (4) innings, three and one-half (3 ½) innings if the home team is ahead, one team has a lead of ten (10) runs or more, the manager of the team with the least runs shall concede the victory. If after five (5) innings, four and one-half (4 ½) innings if the home team is ahead, one team has a lead of six (6) runs or more, the manager of the team with the least runs shall concede the victory.

**This rule replaces Playing Rule 4.15;**

**No game may be forfeited or a team disqualified without the authorization of the Texas District 8 District Administrator.**

**This rule replaces Playing Rule 4.19:**

No protest shall be considered involving an umpire's judgment. Equipment which does not meet specifications will be removed from the game prior to the start with no penalty.

**Protest shall be considered only when based on:**

**A. The violation or interpretation of a playing rule;**

When a manager claims that a decision is in violation of the playing rules, the following steps must be taken;

1. A formal (verbal) protest must be made to the umpire-in-chief before the next pitch or play.
2. The umpire-in-chief must immediately call a conference of all umpires working the game.
3. If the problem cannot be resolved to the satisfaction of the managers, the umpire-in-chief shall be required to consult the Tournament Director.
4. If the managers do not accept the decision of the Tournament Director, either manager may elect, without penalty, to discontinue play until the matter is referred to the District Administrator.
5. The decision of the District Administrator shall be final and binding.

(NOTE: If a protest is filed due to a team's failure to meet mandatory play requirement, that protest must be made before the umpire(s) leave the playing field)

**B. The use of an ineligible player.**

Ineligibility under this rule applies to league age, residence, participation in other programs and participation as an eligible player for one-half of the regular season in the proper division.

1. If the facts establishing or verifying the ineligibility of a player are known to the compliant **PRIOR TO** the game, the following steps must be taken:
  - a) The complainant shall present evidence the matter to the Tournament Director or District Administrator.
  - b) The matter **SHALL** be resolved by the District Administrator **BEFORE** the start of the game. The decision of the District Administrator shall be final and binding.
2. If the facts establishing or verifying the ineligibility of a player **DURING** a game, and that player participates in the game, that team shall forfeit the game in question, subject to the following conditions:
  - a) A protest may be lodged by the manager or coach with the umpire-in-chief, who shall consult with the Tournament Director.
  - b) The Tournament Director shall contact the District Administrator. The decision of the District Administrator is final and binding.

3. If the facts establishing or verifying the ineligibility of a player **AFTER** a game, and that player participates in the game, that team shall forfeit the game in question, subject to the following conditions:
  - a) A protest may be lodged by the manager or coach with the Tournament Director. Such protests must be made before either team affected by the protest begins another game.
  - b) The Tournament Director shall contact the District Administrator. The decision of the District Administrator is final and binding.

All provisions of Rule 5.00 in the regular season rules apply except for the following;

**This rule replaces Playing Rule 5.07:**

**When three offensive players are legally put out, that team takes the field and the opposing team becomes the offensive team (side retired). A limit of five (5) runs is allowed the offense per inning.**

All provisions of Rule 6.00 in the regular season rules will apply.

All provisions of Rule 7.00 in the regular season rules will apply.

All provisions of Rule 8.00 in the regular season rules will apply.

All provisions of Rule 9.00 in the regular season rules will apply.

## **Additional Playing Rules**

**Mandatory Play:** Every player on a team must participate in the game for a minimum of six (6) consecutive defensive outs.

a) Managers are responsible for fulfilling the mandatory playing requirements.

b) There is no exception to this rule unless a game is shortened for any reason.

**NOTE:** A game is not considered shortened if the home team does not complete the offensive half of the sixth inning (or any extra inning) due to winning the game.

c) For purposes of this rule, “six (6) consecutive outs” is defined as: A player enters the field in one of the nine defensive positions when his/her team is on defense and occupies one of those defensive positions while six consecutive outs are made.

**Failure to meet the mandatory play requirements in this rule is a basis for protest. If one or more players on a roster do not meet this requirement, and if protested before the umpires leave the playing field, it shall result (by action of the District Administrator) in the suspension of the team’s manager for the next two physically played games. Additional penalties may also be imposed at the option of the District Administrator.**

For the purposes of this tournament, when a team on offense scores its maximum runs per inning (5), the players on defense **AT THE START OF THE INNING** will be credited with three (3) defensive outs. Any player that is substituted on defense after the inning begins will **NOT** be credited with any defensive outs.

**EXCEPTION:** If a player on defense becomes ill or is injured during the inning, his/her substitute will be credited with the actual number of outs recorded.

**Pitching Rule:** All aspects of Regulation VI will apply. **We will use Option 1 of Regulation VI(c).**

**Start Times / Curfew:** All games shall start at 7:00 p.m., unless approved by the District Administrator. No inning shall start after 10:00 p.m.

### **Replacement of Player, Manager or Coach**

Any player, manager or coach listed on the Eligibility Affidavit who is unable to participate because of injury, illness, vacation or other justifiable reason may be replaced by another eligible person. If a player, manager or coach is replaced, that person may not be returned to the Tournament Affidavit.

If a manager or coach is unable to attend a game for a justifiable reason, the Tournament Director could approve a temporary replacement. Temporary replacements shall not be recorded on the Tournament Affidavit.

**A manager or coach who is ejected from a game may not be temporarily or permanently replaced for the team's next physically played game.**

**Umpires:** Each team will supply one (1) umpire for each game. The Tournament Director for the game site will conduct a coin flip between the two umpires present to determine which umpire will work the plate. Each umpire must arrive at the game site at least 30 minutes prior to game time or risk losing this coin flip.

**If a team does not supply an umpire for a game at game time, the manager of that team will draw an automatic two-game suspension.**

**A team may not temporarily replace a suspended manager, which means that team will only be allowed two (2) adults on the field for the suspended games.**