



## 2026 House Rules Minors National League

**All rules as per 2026 Little League Rules except as amended herein.**

Start Time: 6:00 pm

End Time: 8:00 pm

1. Chinstraps or Face Guards on helmets are recommended but not mandatory. If a chin strap is worn it must be done up. Athletic cups are mandatory. Catchers must also wear long model chest protectors, shin guards, full helmets and throat protectors.
2. NOCSAE Certified Helmets must be worn by all batters and base runners.
3. Coaches are also required to wear a face mask and glove during all warm-up pitches, both on the field and in the bullpen.
4. Five (5) run maximum per inning or three outs, whichever comes first.
5. No open innings during the Regular Season.
6. During Playoffs the 5 run maximum still applies for each inning except the open inning which must start no later than 8:00PM.
7. The Infield fly rule will NOT be in effect for the regular season or the playoffs.
8. Only the Manager can call for time to speak with the Umpire
9. FCLL has received a waiver allowing Junior Umpires to work games for Minors, Majors (without an adult umpire) and there will be a zero-tolerance policy in place for any verbal abuse of these umpires by parents, managers, and players. We will hold the Manager responsible for any spectators and/or players who do not adhere to this policy.
10. Sunflower seeds (aka Spitz) and/or gum are not allowed in the dugout or on the field. They are a distraction to the players and a safety issue.

## **Pitching**

1. Warm up pitches to begin the 1<sup>st</sup> inning of each game are limited to 7 per pitcher (for both the visitor and home team).
2. Warm up pitches between innings are limited to 5 per pitcher.

### **Pitch Count:**

Below are the maximum numbers for pitches in a game for a single player:

Month of April/May: 35 max per game

Month of June: 50 max per game

### **Days of Rest:**

Below are the days of rest which must be given to a player after they have pitched in a game:

1-20 Pitches = 0 Days Rest

21-35 Pitches = 1 Day Rest

36-50 Pitches = 2 Days Rest

## **Time Limits & Scoring**

1. No new innings shall begin after 8:00pm.
2. For the playoffs only one inning can start after 8:00pm. Once that inning is finished then the game is considered complete. Teams must complete 4 innings for game to be official or 3.5innings if the home team leading. If not complete, the Director is to be contacted to arrange a time for game completion.
3. The Umpire will determine which watch/clock is the official time. This to be confirmed by the Umpire at the plate meeting.
4. The mercy rule is in effect; i.e. the game is over after 4 innings if one team is leading by 10 or more runs (3.5 innings if it's the home team leading by 10). The mercy rule trumps open inning in playoffs
5. Tie games are allowed during the regular season but not during playoffs.
6. The Visiting Team for each game is the official Pitch Counter and is responsible for inputting the pitching names and respective pitch counts utilized by both teams into the official Pitch Count Google doc provided by the League Director.
7. The Home Team is the official Score Keeper and must email the score to the League Director and copy the opposing Manager.
8. Playoffs are TBD.