

# BG East Little League Rules FAQs

## **Q: What is the mandatory play rule?**

**A:** The mandatory play rule for the Major and Minor Leagues is as follows:

- 1) There will be a standing batting order meaning all players must bat. For example, if you have 11 players on your roster, you will have 11 players in your batting order.
- 2) Defensively, no player should sit out for 2 consecutive innings. If Player A sits out in the 2nd inning he/she should be reinserted into the field in the 3rd inning. Player A may then sit in the 4th inning if indicated but must be reinserted in the 5th inning.

## **Q: What type of helmet will be required in the Major League Division?**

**A:** Players in the Major League will be required to use a Little League approved jaw guard at a minimum.

## **Q: What type of batting helmet will be required in the Minor League Division?**

**A:** In the Minor League, players will be required to use a full cage/mask.

## **Q: Are pitchers required to wear head protection?**

**A:** Both Major and Minor Leagues are not required to wear protective head gear, but it is recommended. It is also recommended that players always wear a chest guard.

## **Q: What is the required rest for a pitcher between outings?**

**A:** Bowling Green East Little League adopts the following requirements for the amount of rest required between pitching appearances, based on the number of pitches thrown:

- 1) If a pitcher throws 66 or more pitches, the pitcher must have at least **4 calendar days of rest** before the pitcher is eligible to throw;
- 2) If a pitcher throws 51-65 pitches, the pitcher must have at least **3 calendar days of rest** before the pitcher is eligible to throw.
- 3) If a pitcher throws 36-50 pitches, the pitcher must have at least **2 calendar days of rest** before the pitcher is eligible to throw.
- 4) If the pitcher throws 21-35 pitches, the pitcher must have at least **1 calendar day of rest** before the pitcher is eligible to throw.

- 5) If the pitcher throws less than 21 pitches, **no calendar day of rest** is required.
- 6) 11- and 12-year-olds can pitch a maximum of 85 pitches per day; 9- and 10-year-olds can pitch a maximum of 75 pitches per day; 8-year-olds can pitch a maximum of 50 pitches per day.
- 7) If a pitcher reaches a pitch count threshold after at least one pitch to the batter, the pitcher may continue until any of the following conditions occurs (1) that batter reaches base; (2) that batter is retired; (3) the third out is made to complete the half-inning or game; or (4) the pitcher is removed from the mound prior to the batter completing his/her out.

**Q: What are the rules for the same player pitching and catching in the same game?**

**A:** A player who played the position of catcher for three (3) innings or less, can move to the position of pitcher in the same game.

A player can throw 40 pitches and move to the position of catcher in the same game.

If a pitcher reaches 40 pitches while facing a batter, the pitcher may continue to pitch, and maintain their eligibility to play the position of catcher for the remainder of that day, until any one of the following conditions occurs: (1) that batter reaches base; (2) that batter is retired; or (3) the third out is made to complete the half-inning or the game. The pitcher would be allowed to play the catcher position provided that pitcher is moved, removed, or the game is completed before delivering a pitch to another batter. If a player delivers 41 or more pitches, and is not covered under the threshold exception, the player may not play the position of catcher for the remainder of that day.

A player who played the position of catcher for three (3) innings or less, moves to the pitcher position, and delivers 21 pitches or more in the same day, may not return to the catcher position on that calendar day. **EXCEPTION:** If the pitcher reaches the 20-pitch limit while facing a batter, the pitcher may continue to pitch, and maintain their eligibility to return to the catcher position, until any one of the following conditions occur: (1) that batter reaches base; (2) that batter is retired; or (3) the third out is made to complete the half-inning or the game.

If a pitcher reaches a pitch count threshold after at least one pitch to the batter, the pitcher may continue until any of the following conditions occurs (1) that batter reaches base; (2) that batter is retired; (3) the third out is made to complete the half-inning or game; or (4) the pitcher is removed from the mound prior to the batter completing his/her out.

**Q: What are the time limits/Inning limit for Minor league games and Major League games?**

**A:** Major league games do not have a time limit and are to be played until completion of at least 6 innings or suspended by the umpire-in-chief.

Minor league games have a time limit of one hour and forty-five minutes. No inning may be started after that time but any that have started shall be completed according to Little League rules. No inning in either league may start after 10:00 pm as outlined in Little League rules.

These guidelines are subject to change per any mandates provided by the Bowling Green City Parks Department.

**Q: Is there a run rule in the Minor Leagues or Major Leagues?**

**A: 5-RUN RULE** In the minor leagues, no team may score more than 5 runs in an inning. Once the 5-run limit has been reached, the teams will switch offense and defense. If a team is behind by more runs than can be legally made up based on the number of innings remaining, the game is over.

**10-RUN RULE** If after four (4) innings, three and one-half 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 to the opponent.

**Q: What happens if a team does not have 9 players?**

**A:** If a **major league team** cannot field 9 players for a game, the manager may select a minor league player to play that game. The Player Agent must be notified before a player is selected. Any minor league player is eligible to be selected, provided they are League age 9 or 10 or older and does not have a minor league game on the same day. The Major League replacement player cannot play the position of pitcher or catcher. They can bat in any position in the order.

If a **minor league team** cannot field 9 players for a game, the manager may select another minor league player to play that game. The Player Agent must be notified before a player is selected. Any minor league player is eligible to be selected, provided they have not been previously selected as a temporary roster replacement for a minor league game and does not have a minor league game on the same day. A Minor League replacement player must bat last and play in the outfield on defense.

**Q: What type of bats are allowed in Little League?**

**A:** For Minors and Majors, wooden bats are allowed. Bats made from any other material must have the USA Baseball logo from the manufacturer.

**Q: Are metal spikes allowed in Little League?**

**A:** No, metal spikes or cleats are not permitted. Shoes with molded cleats are permitted.