**NEW YORK DISTRICT 20 LOCAL RULES FOR INTERLEAGUE PLAY**

***JUNIORS AND SENIORS DIVISIONS – March. 13, 2019***

IN ALL OTHER RESPECTS, LITTLE LEAGUE RULES APPLY AS PER 2019 RULEBOOK.

* Umpires: One umpire per regular season game. Home team to provide, and pay at own rate. Where a team designated as the home team plays at a remote site due to lack of field availability, such team’s league shall make prior arrangements with the visitor site league or the manager of such team shall arrive at any such game with cash sufficient to pay the umpire at such visitor site league’s rate.
* Scheduling and Forfeits—Regular Season:
* Cancellation - All games are on as scheduled unless the coach receives a telephone call from the HOME team to the effect that the game has been cancelled. Never assume a cancellation. Unless you hear from a coach to the contrary, go to the field.
* Re-Scheduling - Attempts should be made by all towns to play or re-schedule games far enough in advance, so as not to inconvenience any teams who are prepared to play on scheduled days.
* Fewer than 9 Players - If a team can only field 8 players for any given game, the game will be played provided such team shall be required to record an out each time the 9th place in the batting order shall come to bat. The opposing team shall provide a player (not necessarily the same player each inning) to play a designated outfield position when the 8-man team is in the field. Fewer than 8 players requires a forfeit but the coaches shall still work together to play a scrimmage with players borrowed from the opposing team.
* Borrowing Players. - If a team anticipates that it will not have 9 players for a particular game, such team may, in good faith, borrow age-appropriate players from another team in its local league but it is understood that:
* When such team is in the field, such borrowed player(s) may **not** play pitcher.
* When such team is at bat, such borrowed player(s) must bat in the **last** position(s) in the line-up / batting order.
* Season - The season shall commence on April 6, 2019 and end on June 16, 2019. No games will be scheduled over Memorial Day weekend. Scheduling games on Mother’s Day (May 12th) is optional. All games will be scheduled at the Juniors & Seniors scheduling meeting on March 13th.
* Playing the Regular Season Game:
* Innings - All single games are 7 innings. All scheduled double-headers are EACH 6 innings. It is best to stay away from double-headers due to lack of pitching availability.
* Time - No new inning of a game to start after 2 hours 15 minutes from the SCHEDULED time of commencement—weather-related delays notwithstanding. Any games tied at this point are to be submitted as a tie with an effort to be made to find a date to continue the game from the point of stoppage.
* Batting - The batting order shall be **roster batting** where each player on a team shall bat in a continuous order prior to another player on a team getting each subsequent at-bat. Any player arriving after the start of the game (1st pitch) shall be added to the last spot of the batting order.
* Slash Bunting – Slash bunting is **not permitted** in both Junior’s and Senior’s. An attempt to slash bunt is an automatic out.
* Either USABat Standard bats **or** BBCOR bats must be used at the Junior League Baseball Divisions. At the Senior League Baseball Division, all bats must meet the BBCOR standard. Little League-approved baseball bats that were approved for use for the 2017 season will no longer be acceptable for use in any Little League game or activity as of January 1, 2018. For more information on the USABat standard and a complete list of bats approved through the USABat Standard, [visit usabat.com](https://usabat.com/%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank).
* Umpires shall check bats prior to the game. If it is discovered that an illegal bat is used, the rules govern except that, in addition, the manager shall be ejected for the remainder of that game and suspended for the next game. Additional infractions may result in a season suspension.
* Any team found using an illegal / unregistered player(s) will forfeit the balance of the season, and the manager and coaches will be suspended indefinitely until further notice by the District Administrator, and will not be allowed to manage or coach in All-Stars.
* Mercy Rule - If a team is winning by a differential of more than TEN (10) runs after the game has been deemed official (after the end of the 5th inning or the top half of the 5th if the home team is winning), the game will end provided the losing team has had 5 turns at bat. Once the losing team has batted 5 times, the run that causes the 10-run differential will immediately end the game. If, after 4 innings of play, there is a FIFTEEN (15) run differential, the game will end provided the losing team has batted 4 times.
* Baseball Shoes - All Divisions may use metal spikes, except when playing on turf at West Harrison/Silver Lake. There, only sneakers, turf shoes or plastic cleats will be allowed.
* Catchers - All catchers **must** have throat-guards attached to their masks and must otherwise comply with the Rulebook with respect to equipment.
* Sliding and Contact - All players must SLIDE, AVOID CONTACT or GIVE THEMSELVES UP on the base paths or going into a base. An out and an ejection may be called, at the umpire’s discretion, for any contact deemed to be intentional. Head first sliding is permitted at any base.
* Any league, for Spring season only, may let LL Age 15 year olds born Sept 1st, 2003-August 31st 2004 play in the Juniors division if they do not offer a Seniors team. They may not pitch in the Spring. These payers will not be eligible in the Juniors division for All-Stars.
* Pitching Rules for both Junior and Senior Divisions:
* Pitching - Rulebook governs as to number of pitches and days of rest. Please refer to Rulebook. The high-school coaches dictate eligibility. The honor system must be followed here.
* Balks:
* Junior’s - Weeks 1-3 of season, no balks called by umps. Dead ball, even if pitch delivered inadvertently. Umpire to explain to pitcher what he did incorrectly. If pitcher balks twice more in the inning it is suggested but not mandated that pitcher be replaced. From, and after Week 4, 1 warning by umpire per pitcher per inning. Thereafter, balks to be called.
* Senior’s: No grace periods. No warnings. Balks to be enforced.
* Balk and mercy rules should be reviewed with umpire(s) at pre-game meeting to ensure clarity.
* Conduct - Argumentative conduct may result in ejections and suspensions.
* After the Game:
* Shake hands with the opposing team.
* Clean up dugouts and bleachers.
* Promptly collect all equipment and remove from dugouts.
* New York District 20 Summer Tournament - to commence on July 6th-July 11th (Juniors) and June 21st-June 26th (Seniors) at a place or places to be determined by the New York District 20 Administrator. Brackets will be created by the staff of such District on a lottery basis without regard to spring play. These Local Rules do not apply to tournament play.
* It is understood that: A 12-year old may play on a Juniors team and be eligible for the Juniors summer tournament, other qualifications having been met but, even after **one** at-bat, may **not** return to Little League Major League level;
* Juniors - 12, 13 and 14-year olds may play in the Juniors tournament—other qualifications having been met; this means that a 13 or 14-year old who has been playing in the Senior Division during the spring may but shall not be obligated to drop down and play in the Juniors tournament—other qualifications having been met. 15-year olds who have been permitted to play Junior’s in the spring by Little League International waiver are not eligible for the Junior’s tournament but may play in the Seniors tournament, other qualifications having been met:
* Seniors - 13, 14, 15 and 16-year olds may play in the Seniors tournament—other qualifications having been met.
* These Rules were promulgated and adopted at a meeting of all Leagues on March 13, 2019 and are intended to apply to ALL District 20 Upper Division Baseball Spring games without exception. The District 20 Upper Division Baseball Program relies on good faith voluntary compliance by each manager and coach. Any issues should be addressed to your League President who will then bring any appropriate issue to the prompt attention of the District 20 District Administrator, Bob Candrea (lotto269@aol.com), and/or District 20 Upper Division Baseball Co-Coordinators, Kevin Duane (truckduane@optonline.net) and Rich Wurtzburger (RichWurtzburger@gmail.com).