



Aliso Viejo & Laguna Beach Interleague Rules Spring 26



LOCAL LEAGUE OPTIONS

- I. Rule 3.04 – Permit a “courtesy runner” for the catcher and/or pitcher (there are two (2) outs). With continuous batting order, the “courtesy runner” may be in the team’s batting order and must be the player in the batting order who made the last out. See 7.14(b) AVLL is opting in with this rule.
- II. Rule 4.04 – A league may adopt a policy of a continuous batting order that will include all players on the team roster present for the game in batting order. AVLL is opting in with this rule for all levels during the regular season.
- III. Rule 4.16 (a) – A game may not be started with less than eight (8) players on each team. Rule 4.17 – A game may not be continued with less than eight (8) players on each team. Rule 6.05 (n) – Teams may skip over the ninth (9th) position without penalty. AVLL is opting in with rules 4.16, 4.17, and 6.05
- IV. 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. AVLL is opting in with this rule.
- V. Rule 9.01 (d) – The stealing and relaying of signs to alert the batter of pitch selection and/or location is unsportsmanlike behavior. If in the judgment of the umpire, this behavior is occurring, the team manager and those responsible including any player(s) and/or coach(es) shall be warned after the first offense. Those responsible including any player(s), coach(es), and/or manager shall be ejected from the game for a team’s subsequent offense. AVLL is opting in with this rule.
- VI. Rule 9.04 - plate umpire must be behind the catcher. AVLL is opting in with this rule and allowing the umpire to be behind the catcher or pitcher.
- VII. Rule 5.10(b) - Light failures - game will be resumed from the point of the game when light failure makes it difficult to play. AVLL is opting into this rule.
- VIII. Rule 5.07 - maximum of 5 runs allowed to score per offensive inning. AVLL is opting out and will suspend the 5 run limit for the last half inning of either team.

MAJORS VARIANCES .

For the Majors, all players must play defense in a minimum of two (2) of the first four (4) innings and three (3) innings of a six inning game.

Major Division games are not subject to time limits but are subject to a ten (10) run mercy rule which shall be in effect for all regular season games. If at the end of three and one half innings the home team has a ten run, or more, lead over the visiting team then the game shall be called over. If at the end of four full innings of play the visiting team has a ten run, or more, lead over the home team then the game shall be called over. At any point in a game, following the point of play where an Official Game has been played, if the home team has a lead of 10 runs or more, then play is ceased upon scoring the tenth run or more if subsequent players score as a result of a batted ball being judged a ground rule double or as result of a batted ball going out of the park and being ruled a homerun. If the visiting team has a 10 run or more lead over the home team upon completion of a full inning after an Official Game has been played, then play is ceased.

GENERAL PLAYING RULES

- I. Any rule not covered in these local rules shall be governed by the 2026 Little League Baseball Official Regulations and Playing Rules for the appropriate division.
- II. Game Time Limit Rule:
 - a. Game times are governed by the limits indicated in the table below. Terms are defined as follows:
 - i. Game Time - the scheduled start of the game if it is the first scheduled game of that day on that particular field. The official Game Time for all other games will be called by the umpire.
 - ii. Inning Start Time - the time of the final out of the previous full inning. If the previous inning ends due to the home team reaching the Maximum Runs limit (if applicable), then the Inning Start time is the same as the conclusion of the play in which the Maximum Run scored.
 - vi. Curfew – Play must be halted at this me.
 - b.. Aliso Viejo has bullpens located in foul territory on Fields 3, 4, 5 & 6. Pitchers are permitted to warm up during the game using the bullpens with the assistance of a catcher protected by a face mask and a 3rd player standing in front of the pitcher protecting the group from a base ball. The 3rd player must have a batting helmet and glove.
 - C. Laguna Beach Cages can be used as a bullpen to warm up pitchers.
 - D. Riddle Specific Time Rules
When there is a game scheduled after Majors on the same field.
A game will be regulation if the game has been played for (1) hour forty-five (45) minutes. Any inning that has been started prior to the time limit expiring will be completed. No new inning will begin once the time limit has expired.

Division	Call Last Inning	No New Inning After	Time Limit	Curfew
AVLL Hosted - Majors	n/a	n/a	n/a	9:55 PM
LBLL Hosted - Majors	n/a	n/a	n/a	9:00 PM

PLAYING RULES – MAJORS

- I. Game Time Limit Rule:
 - a. A regulation game is six innings unless the game is called by the umpire consistent with Rule 4.10 (c). In all events it must last at least four innings unless subject to the mercy rule below.
 - b. Major Division games are not subject to me limits but are subject to a ten (10) run mercy rule which shall be in effect for all regular season games. If at the end of three and one half innings the home team has a ten run, or more, lead over the visiting team then the game shall be called over. If at the end of fourth full innings of play the visiting team has a ten run, or more, lead over the home team then the game shall be called over. At any point in a game, following the point of play where an Official Game has been played, if the home team has a lead of 10 runs or more, then play is ceased upon scoring the tenth run or more if subsequent players score as a result of a baed ball being judged a ground

rule double or as result of a batted ball going out of the park and being ruled a homerun. If the visiting team has a 10 run or more lead over the home team upon completion of a full inning after an Official Game has been played, then play is ceased.

- c. All games called prior to the completion of the regulation six innings will be resolved in compliance with LL Blue Book rules 4.10 & 4.11.
- d. All games shall be called off at 9:55 pm, by the umpire, if the game has not been completed due to safety as the lights are scheduled to be turned off at 10:00 pm.

II. Continuous Batting Rule:

- a. Per rule 4.04, continuous batting has been adopted for all Major division games throughout the regular season.

III. Mandatory Play Rule:

- a. All players must play defense in a minimum of two (2) of the first four (4) innings and three (3) innings of a six inning game.
- b. Failure to meet mandatory play requirements in this rule is a basis for protest. If any player on a roster does not meet this requirement, it shall result in a one (1) game suspension of the manager for the next game played on a first offense. If a second offense occurs, the manager will be removed from the team. It is the opposing manager's responsibility to protest the game to the umpire before the teams vacate the field, ensure that the protest is noted in the official scorebook, and to report the protest to the division's commissioner within a 24-hour window after the game in question ends.
- c. It is not a rule violation if a player does not meet mandatory play requirement because the game is called on account of weather, game ending early due to the mercy rule or game reaching curfew at 9:55 pm.
- d. Additionally, per regulation IV (I) and rule 4.04, a player who becomes sick or injured does not have to meet mandatory play requirements. If a player arrives late, it is the manager's choice to put the player into the game. If the manager chooses to put the player into the game, mandatory play is NOT waived but is required. If the player does not meet mandatory play, the manager is disciplined in this instance and the player must meet all mandatory play requirements for this game plus the next game, as a starter, before being substituted out of the game.

IV. Pitching Rules:

- a. All Major division games will be played using pitch count regulations according to LL Blue Book.