

# Tampa Bay Little League

## Minor B2 Spring Rules

Tampa Bay Little League follows the Little League Minor Rules and Regulations with the exceptions outlined below.

### Gameplay Rules

#### Player Participation

##### 1. Team Composition:

- Games are played with 10 defensive players (6 infielders and 4 outfielders).
- Outfielders must remain on the grass, not directly behind the clay.
- Teams may play with 9 players if short, with 3 outfielders.
- A minimum of 8 players is required to play.

##### 2. Borrowing Players:

- Teams may borrow players from the opposing team if necessary.
- Borrowed players:
  - Play the 3rd outfield position.
  - Bat in their original team lineup.

##### 3. Pool Players

- Request for a pool player must go through your division agent at least 24 hours in advance of the game.
- Request for more than two pool players will be denied. If you need more than 2 pool player your team will forfeit the game, but can scrimmage with the other team.

##### 4. Defensive Rotation:

- All players must play at least 9 defensive outs per game.
- If the game is shortened, the player who didn't meet this requirement:
  - Must start the next game.
  - Play the missed outs plus the next 6 outs before being removed.
- In a full 5-inning game, every player must sit for at least one inning if the roster has 12-13 players.

### Pitching Rules

##### 1. Coach Pitching:

- Coaches must pitch from the clay mound.
- A maximum of 7 pitches per batter is allowed unless the 7th pitch is fouled off.
- If a batter does not swing on the 7th pitch, they are out.
- No pitching machines allowed

##### 2. Defensive Pitcher:

- Must start with one foot on the clay and the other on the grass.
- Positioning:
  - Right-handed batters: Pitcher starts on the right.
  - Left-handed batters: Pitcher starts on the left.

## **Batting Rules**

### **1. Lineups:**

- All players bat in the set order throughout the game.
- When switching sides, the batting lineup resumes where it left off.

### **2. Equipment:**

- Batters must wear helmets with cages (mandatory).
- Batters must use a USA certified bat
- Throwing bats will not be tolerated:
  - First offense: warning
  - Second offense: Out.
  - Additional offenses: Player cannot bat for the rest of the game.

### **3. On-Deck Restrictions:**

- No "on-deck" batters are allowed for safety reasons.
- Players may only swing bats at home plate.

## **Base Running Rules**

### **1. Overthrows:**

- Runners may advance one base on an overthrow.
- The ball becomes dead after the first overthrow.

### **2. Advancing Bases:**

- Runners may advance only on hit balls until an infielder controls the ball.
- Infielder control:
  - If a runner is past halfway to the next base, they may proceed at their own risk.
  - If not halfway, they must return to the previous base unless tagged out trying to advance.

### **3. Stealing:**

- Stealing is not allowed; runners must remain on their bases until the ball is hit.

### **4. Home Plate:**

- Runners must slide if there is a play at the plate. Failure to slide results in an out.

## **Game Timing and Scoring**

### **1. Game Length:**

- Maximum of 5 innings.
- Time limit: 1 hour and 15 minutes. No inning may start after this limit.
- No pitches allowed after 8:00 PM on school nights (Monday-Thursday).

### **2. Scoring Rules:**

- Five-run limit per inning.
- No open inning.
- Tied games are allowed.

## **Field Management**

### **Pre-Game Duties**

#### **1. Field Preparation:**

- The home team is responsible for:
  - Dragging and lining the field before the game.
  - Using proper tools (plastic rakes for wet clay) to avoid field damage.
- Ensure clay is dragged parallel to the grass, not towards it.

#### **2. Team Parent:**

- Each manager must designate a team parent to coordinate field prep.

### **Post-Game Duties**

#### **1. Cleanup:**

- Both managers are responsible for:
  - Storing the scoreboard box.
  - Turning off lights and locking bathrooms and fields.
  - Covering the pitcher's mound (blue tarp) and home plate (red tarp).

#### **2. Game Balls:**

- The home team provides the game balls and uses the 3rd base dugout.

### **Conduct Rules**

#### **1. Player and Coach Behavior:**

- Throwing bats and other unsafe behaviors are subject to warnings and penalties.
- Ejections:
  - Ejected individuals must leave the park immediately.
  - They may not participate in the next game and could face further discipline.

#### **2. Team Placement:**

- Player team placements and changes are decided only by league officials.
- Coaches and managers are prohibited from communicating about player placement changes without approval.

### **Other Key Rules**

#### **1. Cancellations:**

- For game cancellations, contact Jon Autrey and the Division Agent immediately.

#### **2. Rain Delays:**

- Fields typically take one hour to drain after rain if maintained properly.

#### **3. Standings:**

- The last 10 games of the season determine standings for the end-of-season tournament.