

Rules and Regulations Changes for 2011 as Enacted at the 25th Little League International Congress

The following changes to the Rules and Regulations will go into effect upon commencement of the 2011 season. These items were voted upon by the delegates (District Administrators or their appointees) at the 25th Little League International Congress, and approved by the Little League International Board of Directors for implementation in 2011.

Text in *Italics* indicates a change in the rule or regulation. The text in each “Summary and Implementation,” a short explanation of the new rule or regulation, will not appear in the Rule Books.

Regulation I - THE LEAGUE in the Softball Rule Book will be amended in 2011 to read, in part:

Senior/Big League:

Teams from one or more leagues in a district which are currently chartered may join to form a *Senior/Big League*. Any district which can field four (4) teams, must have its own league. Where one district cannot field four (4) teams, leagues in adjoining districts may combine to form a *Senior/Big League* not to exceed ten (10) teams, with approval of the Charter Committee.

EXCEPTION: The *Senior/Big League* may be a district-operated program, supervised by the District Administrator. Such a district-wide program may draw participants from within the boundaries of each chartered league in the district. However, each Local League wishing to do so may retain its own team/league structure. NOTE: District Administrators, even if they operate a district-wide *Senior/Big League* program, are not permitted to vote in the election for District Administrator.

Summary and Implementation: Beginning in 2011, this will allow Senior Softball Divisions to be chartered at the District level, as is currently offered in the Big League Division.

Rule 3.03 in the Baseball and Softball Rule Books will be amended in 2011 to read, in part:

Senior/Big League Designated Hitter Rule:

1. At the beginning of a game, each manager may list on the lineup card a designated hitter to bat throughout the game for a designated player in the regular lineup.
2. Only a player not in the regular batting order may be used as a designated hitter.
3. In the event a manager decides to use the designated hitter as a defensive player, the player must remain in the same position in the batting order, unless otherwise replaced by a substitute. If so, the player for whom the designated hitter was batting must be removed from the game. Such player may re-enter the game once, but only in the batting order position of the former designated hitter, who must be removed.

4. This rule does not change the regular rule governing the use of pinch-hitters.

Summary and Implementation: Beginning in 2011, this will permit the designated hitter to be used in the Senior League Softball and Senior League Baseball divisions. Also in 2011, this will apply during the International Tournament.

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