

International Tournament Rules and Guidelines Changes for 2010 as Enacted at the 25th Little League International Congress

The following changes to the Tournament Rules and Guidelines will be in effect for the 2010 International Tournament. 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 Tournament Committee for implementation in 2010.

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

TOURNAMENT RULES AND GUIDELINES – SELECTION OF FIELDS in the Baseball and Softball Rule Books has been amended to read, in part:

Selection of Fields

Local leagues selected to host a section, state, division, region or world series tournament must have an approved ASAP safety plan.

Summary and Implementation: Beginning with the 2010 International Tournament, the host leagues for the tournament levels noted must have an approved plan under the “A Safety Awareness Program.” This requirement does not apply to district tournaments.

TOURNAMENT RULES AND GUIDELINES – TOURNAMENT TEAM PRACTICE in the Baseball and Softball Rule Books has been amended to read, in part:

Little/Junior/Senior/Big League: Try-outs or practices by tournament teams shall not be held before June 15. *Tournament team practice may only take place against other teams within the same or contiguous districts in the same division, providing such practice is done out of uniform.* (Little League accident insurance for tournament teams will not go into effect until June 15, or the date of the release of the names of tournament Team members, whichever is later).

9-10 & 10-11 Year Old Divisions: Try-outs or practices by tournament teams shall not be held before June 15 or two weeks prior to the start of the tournament. *Tournament team practice may only take place against other teams within the same or contiguous districts in the same division, providing such practice is done out of uniform.* (Little League accident insurance for tournament teams will not go into effect until June 15, or the date of the release of the names of tournament Team members, whichever is earlier).

Summary and Implementation: Beginning with the 2010 International Tournament, this allows Tournament Teams to practice with other players in their own Chartered Little League, another Chartered Little League in their district, or another Chartered Little League in a contiguous district. Such practice must be done out of uniform, but could be a “scrimmage” game.

TOURNAMENT RULES AND GUIDELINES – CURFEW in the Baseball and Softball Rule Books has been amended to read:

Curfew

No inning shall start after *midnight prevailing time (12:30 a.m. prevailing time for Junior League; 1:00 a.m. prevailing time for Senior/Big League)*. NOTE: An inning starts the moment the third out is made completing the previous inning.

Summary and Implementation: Beginning with the 2010 International Tournament, this allows a later curfew for all divisions of play.

TOURNAMENT RULES AND GUIDELINES – REGULATION GAME RULE 13 in the Baseball and Softball Rule Books has been amended to read:

REGULATION GAME: Each tournament game must be played to the point of being an official game:

(b) Regulation games (when a winner can be determined) terminated because of weather, darkness or curfew must *be resumed if the visiting team ties the game or takes the lead in their half of the inning and the home team does not complete their at bat or take the lead in an incomplete inning*. This does not apply to games suspended or delayed by weather that may still be resumed before darkness or curfew (as defined in Tournament Rules and Guidelines – Curfew) on the same day.

Summary and Implementation: Beginning with the 2010 International Tournament, this removes the requirement to “revert” to the previous full inning’s score when – after the game reaches the point of a regulation game – the visiting team ties the game or takes the lead, and the game is suspended before the home team completes its at-bat and does not take the lead, and the game cannot be resumed on that same day. In such a case, both teams must return at a later date to complete the game, which would resume at the exact moment at which the game was suspended.

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