



2023 ACLL Farm Division Rules

General game rules:

- Games will be played up to 6 completed innings time permitting
 - Games can end in a tie
- No new innings will begin after 1 Hour 30 min from game start
- A minimum of 8 players per team required to play a game
 - If 8 players are used the 9th position will be skipped, no automatic out penalty will be applied
- Field prep - Short white line at front of pitching mound/circle in the dirt area where coaches need to pitch
- All balls used for games and practices will be compression number 5
- Home team to provide official scorekeeper
- Max of 5 runs allowed per inning per team, except the final inning is an open inning – no run rule
- Managers must agree at top of final inning that it's the last inning
- Mercy rule is in effect, games end if team is ahead by:
 - 8 runs after 5
 - 10 Runs after 4
 - 15 runs after 3
- Up to 4 coaches/team parent allowed per team
- Coach may not play catch to warm up any player on the field at any time, except the pitcher (this includes pre-game and between innings) Coaches may run fielding drills and receive thrown balls as part of the drill during pre-game warm up
- **For Player safety, there must be a coach in the dugout whenever there are players in the dugout. There are no exceptions to this rule, team will play with fewer defense and offense coaches if necessary**

Defensive Team rules:

- No defensive coaches on the field –
 - All coaches must be in the dugout
- Up to 10 defensive players allowed on the field
 - 4 outfielders, 3B, SS, 2B, 1B, P, C
 - All outfielders must remain on the edge of the outfield grass line until the ball is in play
 - All infielders, except the pitcher position, must remain on the edge of the infield grass until the ball is in play
- Catchers must wear all protective gear, Including catchers mitt, throat guard, and athletic cup
 - Athletic cups are recommended for other positions on the field, however not required
- Defensive team will pitch to offensive player until out is recorded or 3 ball count is reached
- If 3 ball count is reached, pitcher will move to defensive position behind the pitching line on the mound (can be on either 1st base or 3rd base side)
- Pitch count and days rest rule:



Age	Max
7-8 YO	50
9-10 YO	75
11-12 YO	85

Pitches	Rest (Days)
1-20	0
21-35	1
36-50	2
51-65	3
66+	4

- No defensive player will sit out two consecutive innings in a game
 - All players must sit one inning before a player sits a second inning

Offensive team rules:

- 3 total coaches allowed on offense
 - 2 base coaches (in the 1B and 3B coaches box)
 - 1 coach is pitcher/ umpire
- Continuous batting order
- If 3 ball count is reached on a batter, offensive coach/umpire will pitch to player
 - Coach will pitch behind the line, not on the line, both feet behind the line
 - All coach pitches are considered strikes, no matter where the location is, including if batter is hit by coach pitch
 - Coach will continue pitching until ball is put in play or batter strikes out
 - If foul ball is hit with 2 strikes, batter will receive an additional pitches
 - The same coach will pitch the entire inning, different coaches may pitch different innings
- If player is hit by another player pitcher
 - Can either take their base or coach finishes out the count
- Baserunning:
 - Batter and Base runner(s) may advance until one of the following occurs:
 - The batter or base runner(s) are tagged out or forced out
 - A defensive throw is made from an infield position and an overthrow occurs, then the batter and base runner(s) may only advance 1 additional base
 - Play is stopped (see below)
 - No stealing bases
- Play is considered stopped when one of the following occur:
 - Infield player in possession of the ball at the base of the lead runner calls for time, and time is granted by umpire
 - Pitcher is in possession of the ball on the pitching mound dirt and calls for time, time is granted by umpire
 - Umpire calls time to enforce the 1 base on infield overthrow rule
 - Umpire calls time at their discretion due to game situation
- When play is stopped, base runner(s) more than halfway to a base will go to the next base, or back if not half way (Umpire's judgment)
- Courtesy runner allowed for catcher (when the catcher is a base runner) if there are 2 outs
 - Last recorded out can run for them

All other rules please refer to 2023 official little league rule book