

Rules for Minors 2010

THE GOAL OF THE MINOR LEAGUE IS TO PREPARE CHILDREN FOR EVENTUAL SELECTION TO A MAJOR DIVISION TEAM.

1. **Official Ball:** An 11" regulation softball will be used.. **Little league rules apply.**
2. **Field of Play:** Distance between bases will be the same as for the Major Division (60'). Minor Pitching distance is 35'.
3. **Players pitch from 35' for the first two innings. A Blue Flame spring loaded pitching machine is used beginning in inning three and thereafter.**
4. **Scoring:** Score is kept. Standings are kept (Chesapeake Little League does not keep standings). There is a five run per inning limit for the first three innings.
5. **Time Limits:** The time limit is 2 hours. No inning may start after 1 hour 45 minutes. **Who is Allowed on the Field:** Only players and coaches listed on the league roster are allowed on the field during practice and games. Parents may assist at the manager's/coaches' request, but they should be listed on the league insurance form with a volunteer application on file.
6. **Number of Players on Field:** A team must have at least 6 players to start a game. Borrowing players is acceptable for any position except defensive pitcher and first base. Positions consist of 4 infielders (1st, 2nd, 3rd base, short stop), 1 pitcher, 1 catcher, 4 outfielders (left, center, short center, and right OR a variation). The player in pitcher position may move to see around the Coach pitching with machine but must remain in the pitching circle until the ball is hit.
7. **At Bat:** The number of pitches per batter are 4 balls and 3 strikes per Little League rules. **Players in the Field:** No player may sit out more than one inning. Players are to be rotated through positions. Each child will have an opportunity to play an infield position during the game. NO player is to be permanently placed in the outfield.
8. **Batting Order:** All players will be placed on a continuous batting order and bat during the entire game as their turn occurs. The batting order should be exchanged by the Managers prior to the game.
9. **Bunting:** Bunting or half-swings are not allowed.
10. **On Deck:** No "on deck" circle is permitted. Players will not be allowed to swing bats during a game unless at or near home plate in preparation to bat.
11. **Base Running:** **Stealing is NOT allowed.**
12. **Stop Play:** Play stops when the ball is in the control of an offensive player (not the Coach Pitcher) within the pitching circle. Runners halfway to the next base are awarded that base.
13. **Out of Play Ball:** Thrown balls behind the fence or backstop are out of play and the base runner is awarded one base. Balls hit deep into the outfield are in play and runners are entitled to as many bases as they can reach safely. There is not an automatic advance of the base runner for overthrown balls. A base runner may attempt to advance only one base on an overthrow. If the ball is overthrown on the

attempted advance, and the runner is safe, the runner will not be allowed to attempt an additional advance.

EX.1: BATTER HITS BALL TO SHORTSTOP WHO THEN OVERTHROWS FIRST BASE; BATTER IS AWARDED SECOND BASE, BALL IS DEAD AND BATTER ADVANCES NO FURTHER UNTIL NEXT BATTER.

EX.2: BATTER HITS BALL TO SHORTSTOP WHO THROWS TO FIRST BUT FIRST BASEMAN DROPS BALL, BALL IS STILL IN PLAY, RUNNERS ADVANCE AT OWN RISK; FIRST BASEMAN PICKS UP BALL THROWS TO CATCHER IN ATTEMPT TO GET RUNNER TRYING TO SCORE FROM THIRD OR SECOND AND OVERTHROWS THE CATCHER, RUNNERS ADVANCE ONE BASE AND BALL IS DEAD.

14. **Hit Batter:** A dead ball is called when a batter is hit by a pitched ball. The batter will be awarded first base.
15. **Field Limitations:** Coaches are not permitted to touch a live ball or any offensive player.
16. **Game Schedule and Cancellations:** The League President or appointed league official (POC) will determine whether a game will be cancelled. 24 Hours Notification required unless due to weather. Affected coaches will be notified. Make-ups for rainouts will be determined by the POC's. There will be no protests or forfeits.
17. **Coaches and players should understand these rules.** Coaches should take time during practice to review these rules as well as game rules with the players. Any changes in the local rules will be discussed by managers and the Division Rep and approved by the Executive Committee.
18. **Only people age 18 and older are permitted to operate the pitching machine.** Additionally, they must have a completed volunteer application on file and must be wearing a glove.
19. **Batting Helmets with Cages are not required for play.**