



**MINOR 9 BASEBALL**  
**(Playing Age: 9 Years Old)**

1. Play will conform to the requirements of the Cal Ripken rulebook and as modified by these supplemental park rules.
2. All bats used at MJLI in baseball from Pee Wee 6 thru 14U must be stamped with "USA BASEBALL" logo. Wood bats are not allowed.
3. The batter is out for illegal action when he/she enters the batter's box or is discovered having used an illegal bat. The infraction must be discovered before the next pitch following the turn at bat of the player who used an illegal bat. A player who uses an illegal or non-conforming bat and hits a fair ball will be ruled out. No advancement on the bases will be allowed, and any outs during the play shall stand. This is an appeal play. The "at bat" will be considered legal once a pitch is thrown to the next batter.
4. At the beginning of the game, each team should contribute one new ball, which will be returned to the team for use as a practice ball after the game. Any ball placed into play must be given to the umpire and he has sole discretion to determine if it is an allowable ball. The balls given out on equipment day are official game balls and must be used in games. No marks or team logos are allowed to be placed on the game balls. If a ball is found to have a team logo, it will be returned to the coach and a new ball with no markings/logos will be requested from the offending team.
5. A game cannot begin with less than 8 players on the team. Game time will be determined by the umpire to be closest time possible to the scheduled game time. There will be a fifteen-minute grace period for the first game of the day for lack of enough players. If one team has less than eight players the game will be treated as a forfeit. If you have 8 players, you may pick up a player from the league below but it MUST be approved by your league director and/or the baseball director. Only 1 player may be picked up and only if he/she is the ninth player. The player that was picked up must bat last and can only play in the outfield.
6. The defensive team may play only 9 players: catcher, pitcher, first base, second base, shortstop, third base and three outfielders.
7. The home team is responsible for keeping the official scorebook. The visiting team is responsible for finding an adult to keep the scoreboard. No children under 12 are allowed to operate the scoreboard.
8. If it is the last game of the day, the two coaches should make sure that the lights are turned off, the scoreboard controller is properly returned to concessions, and that the mound cover is properly placed onto the mound and staked down.
9. If rain interrupts a game and the game is called, it will be considered a complete game IF three and half innings have been completed and the home team is ahead. (Four innings with the visiting team in the lead)
10. Only one extra inning (with International Rules, last out starts on 2<sup>nd</sup> base) will be allowed to break a tie after the time limit has expired. If game is tied after the one extra inning, it will be recorded as a tie during the regular season.
11. The time limit is 2:00, but an inning cannot be started after 1:35. An inning shall be completed if it began before the time expiration.
12. "Friendly" chanting is allowed, but coaches should immediately stop any mean or derogatory statements.

13. All players on the roster shall bat. The batting order shall be as turned in on the roster to the opposing coach. If a player arrives late he may be placed in his rostered place if has not come up. If said player arrived after his rostered place in the lineup he must be placed in the order as the last batter.
14. Each team will be warned one time for accidentally slinging the bat. A subsequent offense by a team during the course of the game will result in the player being called out. Base runners must return to base occupied before violation.
15. All players must play every other inning. No player shall sit the bench for two consecutive innings.
16. If a player refuses to take the field, except in the case of an injury, they are out of the game and must leave the dugout. An out will be called when that player's spot in the lineup is due at bat.
17. Before a coach comes on the field, he must request a time out from the head umpire. The Head Coach is the ONLY coach who is allowed to request a conference with the umpires.
18. The catcher must wear a protective cup during practices and games to reduce the chance of injury. Per Cal Ripken rules, a throat guard is required on all catchers' helmets including "hockey" style helmets.
19. These special batting rules will be used: A team will bat until 3 outs are recorded or 5 runs are scored, whichever comes first. It is possible that a batter may come to bat more than one time per inning.
20. At the end of the season, the Minor 9 teams will participate in a season ending league tournament scheduled and approved by the Baseball Operating Committee.
21. The Minor 9 League will select at least one 9U Tournament Team (i.e., the Grizzlies) to participate in sanctioned tournaments, as approved by the Baseball Operating Committee. The Baseball Operating Committee may authorize additional tournament teams.
22. An intentional base on balls may be given by the defensive team by having its catcher or coach request the umpire to award the batter first base. This may be done before pitching to the batter or on any ball and strike count. The ball count will be run to four balls from the point in the count of which the request is made. The ball shall be declared dead before making award.
23. Run rule is 15 runs ahead after 3 innings or 8 runs ahead after 4 innings the game will be over.
24. Only 1 coach and 1 "on deck" batter should be outside the dugout in the foul territory playing area. The coach should remain in the area just outside the entrance to the dugout. Other Coaches should remain in the dugout except while they are coaching bases. The "on deck" batter should warm up the backside of the batter at the plate (for protection from foul ball contact and to make sure the game keeps moving by having the batter ready to bat). If the coach on the field is of age to participate in Little League baseball program then the said coach should be equipped with a proper protective/batting helmet.
25. Smoking (by coaches or spectators) is only allowed in the parking lots. Also, there will be no profane or derogatory language used on the playing field by the coaches, parents or players at any time for any reason. Doing so will subject the Head Coach to ejection from the game. Head Coaches are responsible for the conduct of assistant coaches, players, parents and family of players.
26. A player must slide on a "close play" at home plate. The umpire has sole discretion as to what constitutes a close play at the plate. Normally a "close play" has three elements at home plate at the same time: a runner, a fielder and the ball in the air. Deliberate contact with the fielder at home plate will result in an automatic out and the player being ejected from the game.
27. A courtesy runner can be used for both the pitcher and the catcher IF there are two outs in the inning so that the catcher can get suited up to keep the game moving. The player who made the last batted out will be the courtesy runner if one is requested. IF both pitcher and catcher are base runners, both may be allowed to have a courtesy runner. In such case, the courtesy runner shall be the last and then the second to last batted out.
28. The home team will occupy the third base dugout and the visiting team will occupy the first base dugout.

29. Bunting is allowed, but if a batter squares to bunt and then pulls back and takes a swing of any kind, the batter shall be called out and all runners must return to the base they occupied prior to the out call.
- 30. Stealing will be allowed all season. Runners may attempt to steal 2<sup>nd</sup> base and 3<sup>rd</sup> base. Leading off is never allowed. Base runner may not advance on overthrow to bag on steal attempt. Stealing home is not allowed in Minor 9. Throws back from catcher to pitcher is a dead ball.**
31. Between innings shall not be greater than 2 minutes. When there are two outs on the field and the catcher is on base, the coach is encouraged to use Rule #27 to help keep the game moving. If an "alternate" catcher is used to warm-up a pitcher between innings, the said catcher must also be properly equipped per league rules for catchers.
32. The Board of Directors of MJLI recommends that all male players be equipped with a protective cup prior to each game and practice.
33. After a game or practice, coaches should not leave the area until all players have been picked up.
34. The base paths in Minor 9 shall be at 65 feet. The pitching rubber shall be placed at 46 feet.
35. Pitching & catching records must be completed by both head coaches and emailed to the League Director at the end of each game. The Field Umpire will report to both coaches the official pitch count at the end of each half-inning. Coaches are required to have their pitch count books at the field during games.
36. The pitcher must be removed upon the 2<sup>nd</sup> coach's visit to the mound in one inning or on the 3<sup>rd</sup> coach's visit to the same pitcher in a game. The coach is not allowed to be on, at or around the pitching mound between innings. If so, this will be considered one of the applicable coach's visits as determined by the head umpire.
37. Once a pitcher has been removed from the mound he/she cannot return to the mound during the same game. A pitcher that takes the mound and throws one warm-up pitch must face at least one batter before he/she is removed unless said pitcher is deemed to be an ineligible player.
38. If a pitcher has thrown 41 or more pitches, he/she cannot play the catcher position for the remainder of the game.
39. If a catcher catches 4 innings or more, he/she cannot play the pitcher position for the remainder of the game.
40. See "Maximum Pitch Counts" & Pitching "Threshold" on next page.

MAXIMUM PITCH COUNT	
LEAGUE AGE	MAX PITCHES PER DAY
7-8	50
9-10	75
11-12	85
13-15	95
17-18	105

THRESHOLD		
DAYS OF RESET	14 & UNDER	15 & OVER
None	1-20	1-30
1	21-35	31-45
2	36-50	46-60
3	51-65	61-75
4	66+	75+

- No pitcher will be allowed to pitch 3 consecutive days, regardless of pitch count.

revised 03/18/18

Commented [TS1]: