1.0 Game Preliminaries

1.1 Age

Players must be at least eleven (11) years of age but no older than twelve (13) by April 30, 2016, unless otherwise stipulated by the tryout committee.

1.2 **Team**

A team must have at least seven (7) players in order to play a game. A team with less than nine (9) players must take (1) "out" each time through the batting order at the end of the batting order for an incomplete lineup whether playing (7) or (8) players.

1.3 Player Equipment

All players must be in **full uniform** during the game (TYBA-issued shirt, pants, cap, and socks), or they will **NOT** be allowed to play. There will be <u>no exceptions</u> to this rule! All players must wear proper footwear, either sneakers or nonmetal cleats. All batters and base runners must wear protective head gear. Male catchers must wear protective cups.

1.4 Forfeits

A team forfeits a game if seven (7) players are not available before the start of the <u>scheduled</u> game time. The teams may scrimmage, but the game is officially a forfeit

1.5 Late arrivals

If a player is not at the field when the first pitch is thrown, the player goes immediately to the bottom of the batting order when he or she arrives.

1.6 Missed At-Bats (sick, injured, early departure)

If a player misses an at-bat, the team takes an "out" for the first missed at-bat. If a player misses a second at-bat, that player is ineligible for the remainder of the game, but no further "outs" are taken, subject to the minimum player rule above (i.e., if there are less than 9 batters, an "out" is taken for the missing batters).

1.7 Medical Release Forms

A completed medical release form for each player must be available at every practice and at every game. Without a completed medical release form or a parent present, a player is not eligible to participate.

1.8 Field dimensions

Standard Little League Intermediate Division (70 feet pads) with pitching rubber 50 feet away from the back corner of home plate. Any error related to field dimensions shall be corrected immediately upon discovery of the same.

1.9 Applicability of Rules

To the extent not covered in these rules, standard Little League baseball rules apply. These rules and the standard rules of Little League baseball may not be amended or disregarded by any manager(s) or coach(es) for any reason, even if both teams agree.

2.0 The Game

- 2.1 Games are seven (7) innings in duration unless halted for bad weather or lack of light. A game is not official until three (5) full innings have been completed, or the home team is leading at the bottom of the 5th inning, unless called due to the 2-hour rule (see Rules 2.2, 2.3, and 2.4).
- 2.2 The scheduled start time changes ONLY if games are delayed due to bad weather, field conditions, late umpire, or the prior game running late. (The scheduled start time does NOT change if a team is waiting for a minimum number of players, for example.)
- 2.3 If at one **(2) hour** from the **SCHEDULED** start time (see Rule 2.2) the game is still on, whatever inning the game is in at that point is the last inning that will be played. If the third out of the bottom of

an inning is made within two hours from the start time, the next inning will proceed and will be the last inning that will be played. (Note that the time rule applies to the third out of the bottom of the inning, *not* the first pitch of the next inning.)

- 2.4 If a game is called due to time as set forth in Rules 2.1 to 2.3, then the score of the game stands. If the game is stopped due to bad weather or lack of light, then five (5) full innings must have been played in order for the game to be official. If such stoppage occurs during any inning after the fifth inning, the score reverts back to the score of the previous full inning.
- 2.5 A game that ends in a tie is scored a tie (unless it is a playoff game, where extra innings will be played).

3.0 Pitchers and Pitching

- 3.1 [Reserved]
- 3.2 [Reserved]
- 3.3 [Reserved]
- 3.4 Managers must adhere to the following rest regulations for pitchers based on the number of pitches thrown in a day.

Number of pitches in a day	Number of Calendar Days of Rest Before Pitching Again
66 to 85	4
51 to 65	3
36 to 50	2
21 to 35	1
1 to 20	No day of rest required

85 pitches is the maximum number of pitches allowed in an Intermediate game. Pitchers are allowed to complete the batter faced at **each** "Days of Rest" threshold and will only be required to observe the required days of rest of the threshold crossed while completing that batter's at-bat. Every pitch thrown to a batter while time is in during a game shall be counted by the scorekeepers.

- 3.5 [Reserved]
- 3.6 A coach is allowed one (1) conference with a pitcher per inning. A second trip to the mound in the same inning must result in the substitution of the pitcher.
- 3.7 Any pitcher hitting three (3) batters total per game MUST be removed, resulting in the substitution of a different player pitcher.
- 3.8 Each pitcher will receive (2) BALK WARNINGS prior to being penalized for a balk.
- Once a pitcher is removed, he or she is not allowed to return as pitcher in the same game. If a pitcher has thrown 41 or more pitches, that player may not re-enter the game as catcher. A catcher is allowed to catch (3) innings maximum to be eligible to enter the game as pitcher. If a player catches beyond (3) innings, they are ineligible to enter the game as pitcher.
- 3.10 All pitchers and pitch counts must be recorded in the game scorebook with the coach's and umpire's signatures. At the conclusion of **each inning**, scorekeepers from both teams will confirm pitch counts for both teams.
- 3.11 After each game, managers must report pitchers and pitch count to the Commissioner, who will distribute this information to all managers in the division.

3.12 Any team violating the pitching eligibility rules set for in Rule 3.4 shall be penalized as follows: (i) if the subject team wins the game in which the violation occurs, that team shall forfeit the game; (ii) if the subject team loses the game in which the violation occurs, the manager of the subject team shall be suspended from coaching the next game played by his/her team; and (iii) if in the sole discretion of the Commissioner, it is determined that a violation of Rule 3.4 was intentional, then the subject manager shall be suspended for the next two games played by his/her team and the ineligible pitcher will be prohibited from pitching in the next two games played by his/her team.

4.0 Defense

- 4.1 There can be no more than nine (9) players on the field at any time and no fewer than seven (7) players. Only six (6) players are allowed in the infield prior to the pitch.
- 4.2 [Reserved]
- 4.3 No player may sit on the bench for more than 50% or half the game (unless subjected to disciplinary action previously approved by the Commissioner).
- 4.4 [Reserved]
- 4.5 [Reserved]
- 4.6 The infield fly rule is in effect.

5.0 Offense

- 5.1 Offense bats until three (3) outs are acquired. A continuous batting order is mandatory. All players bat regardless of whether or not they are playing the field.
- 5.2 There **IS** bunting. A player who squares to bunt may either bunt or swing.
- 5.3 [Reserved].
- 5.4 Leading-off base is permitted. A base runner occupying a base is considered on the base if his or her foot is touching any part of the base. The foot must maintain contact with the base until the ball crosses the plate. It is not required that a player on base have a foot on the top surface of the base as long as a foot is touching, or next to, the side of the base.
- 5.5 Stealing is permitted of any base.
- 5.6 **Dropped third strike** in effect.
- 5.7 If an overthrow occurs into a dead ball area, the base runner(s) will be awarded one (1) additional base from the base last possessed, subject to the interpretation of the umpire. The dead ball areas are defined by the managers and the umpire before the start of the game, following the guidelines discussed at the coaches' meeting. In the case of a dispute, the umpire's decision is final.
- 5.8 [Reserved]
- 5.9 [Reserved]
- 5.10 Slide or veer to avoid contact rule is in effect when the fielder is in possession of the ball while in proper defensive position. Under these circumstances, the runner must slide or veer to avoid contact, or the runner is out. There are no head-first slides (except when returning to a base), or the runner is out.

- 5.11 With two outs, in every inning but the last, a catcher on the base path must be replaced with the player making the second out in that inning. The catcher must catch the next full inning.
- 5.12 The maximum barrel diameter of all bats used in TYBA Intermediate Division games is 2 5/8 inches. 2-1/4" bats are permitted as long as they do not contain any composite material and have a BPF rating of 1.15 or below. A bat containing any composite material must be 2-5/8" and meet BBCOR requirements. Wood bats are subject to a barrel diameter of 2-1/4" to 2-5/8". All bats not conforming to these regulations shall be considered illegal bats and shall be promptly removed from the game. Any player who reaches base safely (including a walk or hit-by-pitch) while using an illegal bat shall be declared out and all runners shall return to the bases each occupied when the batter first took his or her position in the batter's box, upon appeal of the manager or coach of the defensive team. The appeal by the defensive team must be made prior to the first pitch to the next batter.
- 5.13 [Reserved]

6.0 Coaches

- 6.1 All coaches and the manager MUST be in the dugout behind the fence.
- 6.2 Only an adult, or child aged 13 or older, may be a base coach. A base coach under the age of 16 must wear protective headgear.
- 6.3. If a base coach touches a player, that player is out.

7.0 Umpires and Officiating

- 7.1 An umpire has the power to eject any player, manager, coach, spectator, or any other person associated with a team who does not conduct him/her/self in accordance with the Taney Rules of Conduct. The offending party must vacate visual proximity of the playing field. If the offending party does not vacate visual proximity of the playing field, the team with whom the offending party is associated will forfeit the game.
- 7.2 Only a manager may question the call of an umpire. No judgment calls may be protested. A game may be protested <u>only if</u> there is a violation or misapplication of a written Taney Youth Baseball Association rule or standard rule of Baseball. Protests must be in writing to the Division Commissioner no later than 48 hours from the time of the incident.
- 7.3 Any player inadvertently throwing equipment will result in a warning to that player's team, with an out being awarded to the next offender on that team.
- 7.4 Any player deliberately throwing equipment may be immediately ejected by the umpire.
- 7.5 Score should be checked every inning with team scorekeepers. If there is a dispute, the score is to be checked with the umpire. The umpire's decision is final.
- 7.6 Only a single manager or coach from each team may review ground rules with an umpire before the start of a game. Regardless of who a team's manager is, only that team's coach who reviewed ground rules with the umpire before the start of the game is permitted to question the call of an umpire or discuss any other game issue with the umpire on behalf of that team. Managers are advised to make sure they participate in the pre-game review of ground rules with the umpire.

8.0 Eligibility for Playoffs and Tournament Teams

8.1 To be eligible for TYBA intramural playoffs, a player must have played in at least the <u>minimum</u> number of intramural regular season games indicated below (depending on the total number of regular season games the player's team plays):

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10 game season -- at least 6 games
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11 game season -- at least 7 games

12 game season -- at least 7 games

13 game season -- at least 8 games

14 game season -- at least 8 games

For purposes of Rule 8.1, to play in a game means to be at the game, ready to play, and on the team's bench or playing in the field for the full duration of the game.

The Commissioner of a league may grant a waiver from this rule in cases where a player missed games because of injury or medical condition. In considering a waiver request, a Commissioner may require information from the player's coach, parent or guardian of the injury or condition.

8.2 A player who is not eligible for TYBA intramural playoffs because of not having played at least the minimum number of games required by Rule 8.1 above in that specific division, also is not eligible to play for a TYBA tournament team in that specific division.

ALWAYS HAVE A COPY OF THE RULES HANDY AT ALL GAMES!

Please use your common sense in applying these rules. Don't be too literal and think of the spirit in which they were written