

East Fullerton Little League

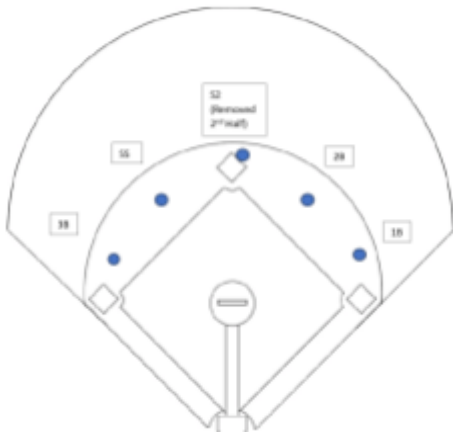


**District CA 56
Rookie and T-Ball
2026 LOCAL RULES**

LOCAL RULES (T-BALL & ROOKIE BALL)

Unless otherwise stated within the following local rules pages, all 2026 Little League Official Playing Rules will be enforced.

1. The home team shall occupy the third-base dugout.
2. No score is kept. While you may wish to keep records for your own purposes, remember that T-Ball and Rookie Ball are non-competitive, and the primary focus of each is to teach children the fundamentals and rules of the game.
3. The infield positions are first base, second base, short second (player stands near second base; **this position is eliminated in the second half of the season in Rookie Ball**), shortstop, third base, pitcher, and catcher (in full gear)(Rookie).



4. The pitcher must be on the mound, and the catcher must be behind the plate when the ball is put into play. All other infielders must be positioned behind the baseline when the ball is put into play.
5. All remaining players are spread out in the outfield. No player sits on the bench. All outfielders must play on the outfield grass in fair territory on fields with a dirt infield. On fields with no dirt infield, the outfielders must play 15 feet into the outfield from the baselines.
6. Players must play a minimum of two innings in an infield position and cannot play more than two innings in the same position.
7. **Continuous Batting Order:** All eligible players on the roster will remain in the batting order the entire game, except in the case of injury, illness, or ejection, as per Little League rule 4.04 Note 2. This is known as using a **continuous batting order**. Each half-inning continues until three outs are recorded or the last batter completes their at-bat, whichever occurs first.
8. The last batter of the batting team is the "*home-run hitter*." The catcher shall be removed from the home plate area as soon as the *home-run hitter* hits the ball. After the ball is hit, the only allowable defensive plays are catching the hit ball on the fly or attempting to put out the *home-run hitter* at first base. Regardless of whether an out is recorded, the *home-run hitter* and all runners on base continue to run the bases to home plate.

9. **All outs must be enforced.** Once a player has been called out, the player must return to the dugout.
10. The pitcher may not race a base runner to any base and may not race to tag a base runner out. The pitcher must throw the ball; otherwise, the base runner is ruled safe. All other players may tag a base runner out.
11. **No new inning is to begin after one hour (1:00) from the scheduled start,** and there is a one hour and fifteen minute (1:15) time limit for all games. In addition, there is a 4-inning limit.

ROOKIE DIVISION LOCAL RULES

1. Two defensive coaches are allowed in the outfield. Between plays, coaches may move to the infield to instruct players.
2. One adult third-base coach and one adult first-base coach are allowed. A coach should be at home plate assisting the hitter and removing the tee. An offensive coach is permitted on the field to operate a pitching machine for his/her players. This coach must be off the field when the player is hitting from the tee.
3. A batter receives four pitches from a **pitching machine**—player pitch is never allowed. A batted ball must travel 15 feet in fair territory to be a fair ball. If a player does not get a hit after four pitches, then the child has three attempts to hit the ball off the tee. If the player does not get a hit off the tee, the player is out.
4. On a play, when the ball is hit, runners advance at most one base, except on a hit into the outfield. *(Example: A runner on first base at the beginning of a play may advance to second base on a ball hit to an infielder. They must stop at second base no matter what happens on the play.)*
5. On a play when the ball is hit into the outfield, the runners may advance, at their own risk, up to two bases.

T-BALL DIVISION LOCAL RULES

1. Three defensive coaches are allowed in the outfield. Between plays, coaches may move to the infield to instruct players.
2. One adult third-base coach and one adult first-base coach are allowed. A coach should be at home plate assisting the hitter and removing the tee.
3. There will be no player in the catcher position for the entire season.
4. The batter gets four attempts to hit the ball off the tee. The ball must travel 15 feet in fair territory to be a fair ball. If a player does not get a hit after four swings, use your best judgment whether to award the player first base or allow another swing. There are no strikeouts.
5. Players advance one base per hit.