

Little League Baseball, Inc.



JR Managers & Commissioners – 2019 (02-22-19)

California District 55 Leagues with Jrs Teams:

Aliso Viejo Little League
Laguna Niguel Little League

Lake Forest Little League
Northwood/Irvine Ranch Little League

www.district55.org



2019 District 55 Staff Directory

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D55 Staff Members will take calls/emails Monday through Friday

9:00am–5:00pm, and Saturdays 9:00am-4:00pm.

NO SUNDAY CALLS unless it is an absolute emergency!!!



DISTRICT 55 LEAGUE BOUNDARIES

It is mandatory that every Player participating live or go to school within the boundaries of the league or be covered by a waiver (IId/IIa/IVh) in the event his or her residence is outside the league boundaries. Failure to comply with the regulation affects eligibility and may result in disqualification of Players, Teams, or Leagues during tournament play.

Every year, prior to submitting the league's Charter Application, the league President shall depict, in writing, the actual boundaries from which the league may select all Players. These boundaries must be described in detail and shown on a map. All leagues must have separate boundaries with NO OVERLAPPING. Any boundary change requests must be forwarded, with a new map, to the District 55 Administrator for approval. The District 55 Administrator will forward the map to the Western Regional Office for approval and filing.

The provisions of Regulation II apply to all divisions of Little League. No other league shall accept Players from another league's chartered territory.

Each IId/IIa/IVh waiver must be accompanied by a league boundary map indicating the previous residence within the league boundary.



DISTRICT 55 – JUNIOR LEAGUE PROGRAM

1. This policy will outline the JR District 55 Interleague program for the 2019 season and govern the program for the duration of the playing year.
2. The JR program will be administered by all of the participating leagues with oversight provided by the *District 55 JR ADA*. Each league participating in the JR program will appoint a member of their Board of Directors to represent them, for this document will be referred to as League Jrs Commissioner. The representative will attend all JR meetings and function as a line of communication between his or her league and District 55. A Manager or Coach of a JR league team is not be allowed to serve as the League Jrs Commissioner.
3. League Presidents, League UIC's, League Representatives, Managers, and Coaches of JR league teams are responsible for reading and complying with all JR league regulations and these policy statements.
4. All Interleague games will be played in accordance with official Little League rules as published in the 2019 Rulebook (Green Book) and new rules and regulations enacted at the 2019 Little League Congress. All participants of Interleague play will adhere to District Interleague rules and no other rules. There will be no other rule enhancements unless approved by the *D55 JR ADA* and *District Administrator*.
 - a. *Games shall utilize Continuous Batting Order*
 - i. *Therefore there shall be no Special Pinch Runners (nor curtsey runners)*
 - ii. *Six Defensive Outs to meet mandatory play rule need not be consecutive; free defensive substitution*
 - b. Host (typically the Home) Team, shall be provide umpires for plate and bases.
 - c. Host team shall be responsible for all field set up and clean up, with exception that visiting team shall clean up their dugout and stands.
 - d. No new inning shall begin after 2 hours and 15 minutes.

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- e. Mercy rule in effect at 10 runs after 5 innings (we are not utilizing the 15 run at 3 inning option)
 - f. Home team shall provide the official score keeper and pitch count, although both teams shall keep score and pitch count log for every game played. See items #15 through #19 below.
 - g. Rule 6.02(c) – One foot in the batter’s box, league option – This rule will be implemented for the regular season.
 - h. Rule 9.01(d) NOTE – Sign stealing unsportsmanlike. Mandatory for Tournament. This rule will be implemented for the regular season and Tournament of Champions.
5. **INTERLEAGUE PLAY and COMBINED TEAM PLAY** forms must be completed and presented to the District no later than two (2) weeks prior to the start of the season. PRESIDENTS signatures and total number of teams will be gathered during the December and January President’s meetings.
- a. Combined Team Play – Any team involved in Combined Team Play will operate at the direction of the *District 55 JR ADA*. Specifically, D55 may conduct interviews of those persons recommended by the local league to be a Manager or Coach. D55 may make the final selection of all Managers and Coaches for any team utilizing Combined Team Play. This policy pertains to both regular season play and tournament (All-Star) play. D55 may hold All Star try-outs for all players who desire to participate on the All-Star team of a Combined Team program, if more than 15 players desire to play on the All-Star team. D55 will make the final selection of all players for any team utilizing Combined Team Play – input from the selected Manager and Coaches will be solicited and referenced.
6. **TRANSMITTAL LETTER:** The Interleague and Combined Team Play forms must be accompanied by a transmittal letter noting the league name, league division of play, names of the league teams, and the teams/leagues that will be participating in the program. This will assist in verifying that the correct paperwork and procedures are being followed throughout the program. These forms must be submitted to the *D55*

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District Administrator (through the Little League Data Center) PRIOR to any league play.

7. **SCHEDULES** for JR league play will be prepared by an appointed Game Scheduler, including scheduling of rain make-ups and conclusions of suspended games. Home and Away games as well as home/away weekday versus weekend games will be divided as evenly as possible noting the limited fields, leagues' constraints and requests.
8. **STANDINGS** will be kept for the regular season. All games have equal value in the standings. For example a game versus another D55 team will have equal weight in the standings as compared to a game played against a D68 team. Wins = 2 points, tie = 1 point and loss = zero points. Leagues shall determine awards, if any, for regular season records/standings. Final regular season points will be utilized to seed teams for the Tournament of Champions. #1 Seed shall play #4 Seed, #2 Seed shall play #3 Seed with the two winners playing each other for the Championship. D55 will provide banner to the winner of the championship game – the Tournament of Champions Champion. Seeding for All-Stars will be done via a blind draw by D55 District Administrator during a regularly schedule League Presidents meeting.
9. Any game that is not a regulation game (see #10 below) at the time limit is suspended and does NOT count toward the team's game count for TOC and All-Star purposes. The team managers will contact the *D55 JR ADA* to discuss options.
10. A regulation game, in accordance with Rule 4.10(e), is “after five innings...or four and one-half if the HOME team is ahead” (p.87) (i.e. the losing team must bat at least five (5) times). **ALL games must be played to regulation.** In the event of a TIE game, the game will end according to the time limitations established herein of this Interleague document.
11. There will be no postponed game because a team cannot field nine (9) players. Games will be started within 15 minutes of the scheduled starting time. Games will be forfeited per 2019 Rulebook (Green Book) if unable to field a team and the score will stand at 7-0. Managers will not reschedule games on their own simply because they cannot field a team. Only Rainout Games will be rescheduled (see #13). **ANY TEAM FORFEITING TWO (2) GAMES BECAUSE THEY CANNOT FIELD NINE (9)**



PLAYERS MAY BE REMOVED FROM THE INTERLEAGUE COALITION AND REMOVED FROM THE SCHEDULE.

12. *Forfeited games should be handled per rules 4.15, 4.16, 4.17, and 4.18 as outlined in the 2019 Rulebook (Green Book).*
13. Rainout games will be made up on the next available date as determined by the *D55 JR ADA and Game Scheduler*. Failure to play on the rescheduled date shall result in forfeiture. Due to limited fields and various constraints, if needed, Sunday games and/or double headers may be utilized to schedule rain make-ups.
14. The Home Team (not necessarily the Host Team) is responsible to provide a minimum two (2) VOLUNTEER Umpires for the game. In accordance with Regulation I (m), (p.33), **a league or team must use volunteer umpires**. If a Home Team does not provide umpires for a game, the Home Team will designate one of its coaches or manager to officiate the game either from behind the plate or behind the mound. Managers must work with the League's UIC to ensure that their Home games are covered with the required two (2) VOLUNTEER umpires to avoid losing an adult in the dugout to officiate the game.

NOTE 1: *Only those Umpires who have submitted a 2019 Little League Volunteer Application and Concussion Training Certificate to the host league or District 55 and have been approved by the host league or District 55 are allowed to officiate games...excluding the official coaching staff of teams.*

PITCHING/SCOREKEEPING

15. Each team will keep a scorebook and score ALL games played by the team – Electronic scorekeeping records will NOT be considered as official scorekeeping. The official scorebook of District 55 will be provided by the District to each team at the February JR Division Manager's Meeting, and this will be the official scorebook in which each team will record EVERY game played during the season. **There is NO exception to this rule!** Repeat: Electronic scorekeeping records will NOT be considered as official scorekeeping.
16. Pitching eligibility will be pursuant to the 2019 Rulebook (Green Book) – see "Regulation VI – Pitchers".



17. Pitch Count – the HOME team will be the official scorekeeper and **must** keep the required “pitch count” during the game (the pitch count should be reconciled between BOTH teams each half inning). Each team’s scorekeeper must ensure that the game sheet (inside the Team Scorebook) is signed for both teams at the conclusion of each game.

NOTE 1: *If the HOME team gives up the right to be the official scorekeeper, the VISITING team will become the official scorekeeper and will REMAIN the official scorekeeper for the duration of the game, fulfilling all of the required duties required of the official scorekeeper.*

- a. Scorebooks will be made available, upon request, to the opposing manager to ascertain pitching eligibility.

18. The official scorekeeper is responsible for the running tally of the pitch count and manager signature of the pitch count following the conclusion of the game (the pitch count should be reconciled between BOTH teams each half inning). **IMPORTANT:** *Each Manager is RESPONSIBLE to sign both HOME and VISITOR Team Scorebook (for pitch count verification) after each game. Failure for each team to do so may result in any or all of the following: 1) manager suspension (one game); 2) suspension of the league’s JR Interleague privileges; 3) suspension of the team’s D55 TOC privileges. **NO GAME is to proceed without the pitch count eligibility confirmed (Manager signature from previous game) in the Team Scorebook!!! NO SIGNATURE means NO GAME = FORFEIT!!!***

19. Each team must have a scorekeeper at all times, and MUST keep the score of every game in their official Team Scorebook. At a minimum, the following information **must** be articulated in the scoring of each game in each team’s official scorebook: 1) game date; 2) game opponents; 3) game location; 4) every participating player’s last name (NO first names unless there are two players with the same last name – then both names will be used in the scorebook); 5) every participating player’s jersey number; every pitcher used in the game with each inning marked as to who is pitching; and 6) every catcher used in the game with each inning marked as to who is catching.



PLAYING EQUIPMENT & UNIFORMS

20. Both teams shall bring three (3) brand new baseballs to each game for use in the game. Both teams shall also make available additional used baseballs in good condition should they be needed.
21. Catchers must wear full catcher's helmet with the dangling throat protector. Failure to follow this safety rule may result in any or all of the following: *1) manager suspension (one game); 2) suspension of the league's JR/SR Interleague privileges; 3) suspension of the team's D55 TOC privileges.*
22. All uniforms must have a JR League patch affixed to the upper left sleeve or left upper breast area of the uniform/jersey.

SCORING, STANDINGS, EJECTIONS, & PROTESTS

23. Home team **Manager**, or their designee, within 24 hours of game completion shall email the Standings Host and D55 Jr ADA with the results of each game played including pitching count information and any game issues. Visiting team manager shall be copied on the email to verify the information provided.
24. If applicable, within 24 hours, Managers from both teams shall email the *D55 JR ADA* of any Manager, Coach, or Player ejection, with account of what occurred.
25. Protests must be filed in writing, by the manager who made the protest, via email to the D55 JR ADA within twenty-four (24) hours of game's conclusion or suspension. Opposing manager shall be copied on the email.
26. The **CONDUCT** and **SPORTSMANSHIP** of Players, Coaches, Managers, and League Officials are to be of the highest Little League standards. The Umpires will be in complete charge of all games once started. League Presidents and their Representatives will support the Umpire fully. Umpires will enforce all rules with special emphasis on good sportsmanship and safety by all participants.
27. Fighting will not be tolerated! Berating of Managers, Coaches, Players or Umpires will not be tolerated! This type of behavior will result in instant removal from the team/division/schedule!



28. If any Manager, Coach, or Player is ejected from a game by an Umpire, the following minimum penalties will be applied (including play-off games and Tournament of Champions):

- a. 1st Offense: one (1) game suspension, in accordance with Rule 4.07.
- b. 2nd Offense: two (2) game suspension.
- c. 3rd Offense: removal from the team.
- d. Ejection due to fighting: sit out next five (5) games, including play-offs and Tournament of Champions.

*Harsher penalties may be applied for any offense, at the discretion of the **PROTEST AND GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE** (see #30, Note 1 below). The aforementioned penalties are applied as a minimum standard.*

29. These penalties will be enforced through the League Presidents and the *D55 JR ADA*.

Failure of any League to enforce these penalties may result not only in game forfeiture, but in removal from the Division for Interleague play.

30. There will be a minimum three (3) member Protest and Grievance Committee to handle all protests and to hear any complaints of unsportsmanlike conduct by a Manager, Coach, Player, Team, or Umpire. The Manager or Coach is completely responsible for the conduct of his or her Team members AT ALL TIMES when functioning in a Little League capacity. After a hearing by the Protest and Grievance Committee, the Manager, Coach, Player, or Team may be suspended or removed from the League; the Umpire may be removed from the schedule.

NOTE 1: THE PROTEST AND GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE MAY INCLUDE THE D55 UIC, THE D55 JR ADA, AND THE D55 DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR AND SHALL INCLUDE AT LEAST ONE MEMBER FROM A NON-PARTICIPATING LEAGUE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

NOTE 2: The result of the Protest and Grievance Committee is final. League Presidents and Board of Directors will enforce all benefits/burdens assigned by the Committee.



MEETINGS

- 31. The organizational meeting of the JR season will be held in FEBRUARY wherein any league planning to participate in JR interleague with any other league must have their league JR team manager attend. Subsequent regular season meetings will be held, if necessary. The regular season games will start in early March.
- 32. Tournament of Champions mandatory meeting for Managers will be held May 28, 2019! Mandatory training for score keepers will be held May 29, 2019. Location and start times of each to be determined.
- 33. All-Stars mandatory meeting for Managers and score keeper training will be held in early June 2019. D55 JR ADA shall inform all regular season managers of the day and time as soon as it is set.

PROPER ATTIRE

- 34. All Managers and Coaches shall wear proper clothing/attire. Shirts with collars or Team t-shirts are acceptable – no tank tops or shirts with inappropriate writing will be tolerated. Shorts, slacks, or denim pants are acceptable. NO OPEN TOE SHOES are allowed.

POOL PLAYERS – Regulation V(c)

- List is managed by the Player Agent
- Players are assigned by the Player Agent
- Requests for a specific player will be ignored
- Player can only participate as a pool player in a division in which they are rostered

Pool Player List example

Pool Player List	Updated Pool Player List
Pete Rose (JR Reds)	Mike Trout (JR Angels)
Mike Trout (JR Angels)	Nolan Ryan (JR Astros)
Nolan Ryan (JR Astros)	Pete Rose (JR Reds)

- 35. The intent of the Pool Player Option is to eliminate forfeits but NOT to supplement a team’s roster. Teams may request Pool Players if they expect a shortage of their normal



rostered players. Teams may only use Pool Players to field up to ten (10) players for a game. However, the majority of players used in a game must be from the team's regular season rostered players.

36. Each league's Player Agent will maintain the Pool Player Report and submit said report to the *D55 JR ADA* and the *D55 Player Agent* on the 1st and 15th of each month, if utilized.
37. Pool Player lists will be submitted along with Team rosters no later than the March President's meeting. NO Player (CIF, injured, long-term illness, etc.) will be listed on any roster or list until the Player becomes eligible for play – NO EXCEPTIONS!!! This means that if a team has 12-rostered players, with 3 players being CIF, then the roster is really only 9 players. Only teams with 12-rostered, eligible, ready to play without restriction players are eligible for the D55 JR Interleague division. Exceptions will be approved between the league President and the D55 District Administrator. **Violation of this regulation will result in an immediate suspension of the league's JR Interleague privileges for the remainder of the season.**

NOTE 1: If a rostered Player does not attend four (4) consecutive games without acceptable reason, the League must replace the Player on the Team's roster and submit the changes to the *D55 JR ADA* and *D55 Player Agent*.

38. Pool Player Regulations
 - a. Pool Players must be identified by March 15, 2019.
 - b. Pool Players will wear their own team's regular uniform and not the jersey of the team on which he/she is participating.
 - c. Pool Players must play at least nine (9) consecutive defensive outs, but will NOT play more defensive outs than any rostered player (the Pool Player's defensive outs may equal that of a rostered player, but may NOT exceed the defensive outs of any rostered player).
 - d. Pool Players must be identified on the line-up card by a "PP".
 - e. Pool Players are NOT allowed to pitch or catch under any circumstances.
 - f. Pool Players MUST **bat last** in the line-up.

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- g. Pool Players **MUST** be used on a rotational basis. Managers and Coaches do not have the right to randomly pick and choose Players from the pool.
- h. Each league's Player Agent will maintain that league's Pool Play List and report to the *D55 JR ADA* and *D55 Player Agent*. The league's Player Agent will also provide details on any Pool Players skipped in the rotation. Pool Players who are skipped, due to sufficient reasoning, will remain/be placed at the top of the list for the next game pool player(s) are needed.
- i. Individual Pool Players can only be used a maximum of **three (3) times each** season. Upon playing a third (3rd) time, the Player's name will be crossed off of the list. This will be immediately reported to the *D55 JR ADA* and *D55 Player Agent*. Any Pool Player found to have been used more than three (3) times will be handled in the same manner as an ineligible player. Penalties will be determined by **GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE**.
- j. Any league violating the Pool Player Program will lose: 1st) Pool Player privileges; 2nd) JR Interleague privileges.

TEAM ROSTERS

- 39. All JR teams will maintain a roster of no less than twelve (12) players unless express written consent is granted by the *D55 District Administrator*. Should a JR team lose players during the season, bringing the roster count to less than twelve (12), the League Player Agent should notify the *D55 JR ADA* and *D55 Player Agent* immediately.
- 40. All JR team rosters shall be uploaded by League Player Agent and approved by District 55 League Player Agent. **ONLY** those players shown on the roster will be allowed to participate in Regular Season, Tournament of Champions and/or All Star Tournament play.