

Little League – Colorado District 4  
**2018 Micro Division Rules (including Interleague Rules)**

*The Micro League (Machine Pitch) will use the Little League Rulebook, with the following exceptions:*

A regulation game is **one hour and thirty minutes (1.5 hours)** and is played to the finish of that inning ("finish of an inning" may be a half inning, if the home team holds a lead after the time limit has been met).

No umpires will be provided at the micro league level for interleague games.

Coach will prepare a batting order using every available player from their team. This batting order will be followed throughout the game regardless of which players are on the field defensively.

There is no minimum number of players to start a game, however, no more than ten (10) may play in the field defensively. The nine-batter / **5 run** rule still applies. If the next batter in the line-up is currently on base, that at-bat is recorded as an out. Home and away teams can share players if it is agreed upon between coaches to fill out positions and line-ups.

Defensive substitutions may be made freely. A player may not sit out more than one inning in a row defensively.

A half-inning will consist of three outs, **5 runs or** nine batters. On the ninth batter, **or 5<sup>th</sup> run**, play stops when the third out is recorded or no more base runners remain.

No base stealing. Players may advance only on a hit ball. No leading off. Runner cannot advance until the ball is hit. Batters may not advance to first base on passed balls or on the third strike.

Base runners **may not advance** on a passed ball or a dropped strike. Play is dead while the catcher returns the ball to the pitcher.

A coach of the batting team will feed the pitching machine with no more than five pitches per batter. A batter may extend his at-bat indefinitely by hitting foul balls on the fifth pitch (not caught in the air by the defense).

A batter may be called out on strikes according to the rules of baseball when batter records the necessary amount of foul balls and/or swings without making contact.

The on deck position **is not** permitted.

Pitches taken without swinging are not called a strike. If a batter takes a pitch without swinging on the fifth pitch, the batter is out.

Pitching machine will be set at 40 miles per hour for play.

**The Runner:** The runner is out when –

- The runner slides head first while advancing.

A maximum of two (2) coaches for the defensive team may be in the outfield. The coaches must be on the grass of the outfield.

If the coach running the pitching machine or the pitching machine is hit by a batted ball, the play is dead and runners may advance one base. The batter will advance to first base.

A defensive coach on the field may not interfere with play or coach base runners.

A ten-foot pitcher's circle shall be marked on the diamond. The pitching machine will be placed in the middle of the circle with the rubber 46 feet from the back of home plate.

Any batted ball that goes into the pitcher's circle and remains in the circle is not dead until the pitcher maintains control of the ball. The runners may advance one base and the batter may advance to first base. No player or coach may influence the travel of the ball inside the pitcher's circle.

Play is dead after the pitcher regains control of the ball inside the circle. The pitcher cannot put the ball back into play after it is ruled dead.

A chalk hash mark will be added to the field midway between first and second base, second and third base, and third base and home plate. When play is called dead base runners may advance to the next base **IF** they have passed the hash mark. Base runners who have not reached the hash mark must return to the previous base.

Bats must meet the USA Baseball Bat Standard (USABat) as adopted by Little League. Bats shall bear the USA Baseball logo and the bat diameter shall not exceed 2 5/8 inches for these divisions of play.

The use of pine tar or any other similar adhesive substance is prohibited at all levels of Little League. Use of these substances will result in the bat being declared illegal and removed from play.

Batting doughnuts or weights are not allowed.