Little League Baseball, Inc.

Montana District #1

Pool Player Rule for Regular Season – 2024

These rules are clarifications, additions and/or replacement to the regular season pool player rules as applicable.

1. Any player is eligible for the pool within their regular season team’s division and within their own league. All players should be playing within their own division. If needed and a 8 year old is asked to pool play for a majors team, the board must approve and inform the district. This holds true for all players moving up as needed. If a JRS player is dual roster, he may play on an SRS team. Under no conditions should a major league division player play up to Juniors or Seniors. This may be altered if leagues due not enough players to make a team. This will be approved at the District level.
2. If a league has 2 regular season teams or less in a division, pool players may be taken from adjoining leagues or from the league in which they are playing. If the league has 3 or more regular season teams in the division, using a pool player from any other league requires District approval Start with your division and league before reaching out to another league. Your Player Agent can supply a list of pool players to assist as needed. Some leagues have their own internal rules of how they handle pool players. Check with your President and Player agent to make sure your following those rules first and foremost.
3. Pool players can be added to the roster up to a maximum total of 10 players.

***\*\*Pool players must be listed last in your batting order\*\****

1. Pool players are not allowed to pitch, but they can catch.
2. Minimum play will be adhered to for all players, including pool players.
3. No regular season player may play less defensively or less offensively than a pool player.
4. Pool players will not start games unless required to because of numbers.
5. Pool players can only enter the game after the regular season player they are replacing has played at least *6 consecutive outs* and batted at least once.
6. Pool players can replace starting Pool players under the guidelines of starter substitutions.
7. Pool players will wear their regular season uniform.

Additional Pool Player Rules for Tournament of Champions

1. Pool Players can only play on their regular season team and one additional team for pool play. Once both teams are eliminated from the tournament, that player is done for the tournament.
2. If, because of player scheduling conflicts, additional pool players are required for further play, priority will be given, in order, to recalling pool players based upon the order in which they were originally asked to play on your team. This should be handled by the Player Agent and President of the league.

Example: John and Curt were asked to play on your team to get up to 10 players. You win. At your next game, John is not available because he is playing for his regular season team. You get another pool player, Jim. You win. John's team was eliminated from the tournament, so at your next game, you must ask John to come back to play for your team, thereby Jim is not allowed to play on your team.

1. Penalty: Upon review, and at the district’s discretion, the penalty for violating the Pool Player Rule(s) will result in the suspension of the manager of the team for the remainder of the tournament.
2. If an ineligible pool player is used, a protest can take place. This protest can take place at any time during the game or until the umpires leave the field. A penalty could result in the forfeiture of the game. The district protest committee will determine the appropriate penalty. Note: This rule is slightly different than the must play rule during the All-Star Tournament. Since this policy is an extension (and replacement to) the Little League Pool Player rules, violations will be handled at the local District level and not forwarded to the Regional Director for a ruling.

PLEASE REMEMBER, IF YOU NEED A PLAYER TO MAKE SURE WE GET THE KIDS TO PLAY THE GAME, THE NEXT ONE IS LINE IS WHO YOU GET. WE SHOULD NOT BE ATTEMPTING TO GET THE MOST SKILLED PLAYER FROM A TEAM.