



2024 Lefty Grove Fall Ball League Rules

- o Rules stated here are exceptions to the NFHS Rules Book. All other playing rules follow NFHS guidelines.
- o Lefty Grove reserves the right to modify rules prior to the start of and during the season or if any item listed here is misinterpreted.
- o Lefty Grove or any appointed representative (I.E. umpires) shall be the sole judge as to the playing conditions of the fields and is responsible to make a decision for a called game and/or termination of play.
- o All teams are permitted to have an open roster. Players must have played in a game by the 4th week and played in 4 games to be playoff eligible.
- o Players age as of April 30 2024 - Players may play same age as current summer division
- o Players may not play on multiple rosters.
- o Awards will be presented to the tournament winner and runner up in each division. (13 per team)
- o All games are 6 innings, 4 innings constitute an official game (3 ½ if Home team winning)
- o Umpire fees are paid at home plate each game in CASH. \$70 10U and below (\$35 per team) \$140 for 12U and 14U (\$70 per team)
- o If a team cannot field a team at the scheduled start time, a 15 minute grace period will be allowed. Teams can start with and play with 8 players. All forfeits are scored 8 – 0. **Any team forfeiting is responsible for ALL umpire fees.**
- o No protests are allowed.
- o The infield fly rule shall be in effect for the 12U and 14U divisions.
- o Speed-up rule : Teams may use a courtesy runner anytime for the **PITCHER** and/or **CATCHER**. The runner must be a player from the bench, or if none are available- use the last batted out.
- o The “Designated Hitter” Rule will be allowed for 14u
- o An “Additional Hitter” Rule will be allowed. The “AH” Rule is optional in all age divisions. The “AH” is a 10th hitter placed anywhere in the line-up. The “AH” can be substituted for and the re-entry rule will apply. The “AH” is considered a defensive position and can play in the field.

o Roster batting will be permitted in all age divisions.

a. Teams can bat a 9-player lineup, a 10-player lineup using an additional hitter (AH), or roster bat all present uniformed players. The lineup must be declared before the start of the game and used the entire game.

b. If a team uses a lineup that contains 10 players, the player in the AH position, while not actually playing a defensive position, is treated as such for substitution purposes.

c. If a team chooses to roster bat, then all players other than the nine defensive position players are additional hitters and can move freely in defensive positions.

d. If a team is batting all present, uniformed players, with no eligible substitutes listed on the lineup card, and the number of players is 11 or more, that team is considered to be roster batting for the purposes of defensive substitutions and courtesy runners, unless the coach has specifically declared otherwise at the pregame plate conference. If additional players arrive after the game has started, those players are placed at the end of the batting order. If the coach declares at the pregame plate conference that he is not roster batting, the late players are listed on the lineup as eligible substitutes.

o Pitching Rules: One pitch constitutes one inning pitched. (Does not include warm-ups)

8U----- N/A (Coach Pitch)

10U ----- 4/game--- 6/weekend

12U/14U----- 6/game---6/weekend

** A pitcher may not return to the mound once removed in that game. If a pitcher returns to the mound “illegally” prior to pitching to a batter --- Correct the wrong—NO PENALTY –

** If “illegal” pitcher (either by returning after removal OR once inning count is reached)

pitches one pitch to a batter, it will constitute a forfeit.

o No Metal cleats

o Bat Restrictions :

- 8u/10U Bat Restrictions: – None
- 12U Bat Restrictions: (-5 bat restriction)
- 14u Bat Restrictions: (-3 bat restriction / BBCOR)

o There is NO DROP 3rd Strike Rule in the 8U/10U

Batter out and runners may not advance.

o There is NO SLUG BUNTING allowed. Penalty: Batter Out – Dead Ball

o No malicious contact in effect on all close plays. Umpires discretion.

o All games have a 1 Hour 45 Minute Time Limit. No new inning shall start after.

- Game clock starts at the conclusion of ground rules.
- New inning starts when the 3rd out is recorded from the previous inning
- Time Limit waived in Championship Game.

o Profanity or misconduct by a player, coach, or manager will not be tolerated and may result in dismissal from the game, park and/or League.

o There can be Tie Games in Fall Ball regular season games.

o Playoff Teams are decided by POINTS Teams will be awarded:

- 3 pts for a WIN
- 1 pt for a TIE
- 0 pts for a LOSS

o If there is an unequal number of games played then winning percentage may be used Tie Breakers :

- Two (2) Teams Tied:
 - o Head to Head
 - o Fewest runs allowed vs. each other
 - o Fewest runs allowed for the season.
 - o Run Differential (+/- 8/game)
- Three (3) or More Teams Tied:
 - o Head to Head only if the tied teams played one another if equal amount of games for all
 - o Fewest runs allowed for season
 - o Run Differential (+/- 8/game) General Points of Reference

General Points of Reference

	Innings	Official Game	Mercy Rule	Stealing	Lead-Offs	Base Distance	Pitching Distance	Pitching Innings per Game/Weekend
8U	6	4	12 After 4 - 10 After 5	No	No	65	46	N/A (Coach Pitch)
10U	6	4	12 After 4 - 10 After 5	Yes	Yes	65	46	3/6 Per Pitcher
12U	6	4	12 After 4 - 10 After 5	Yes	Yes	70	50	4/6 Per Pitcher
14U	6	4	12 After 4 - 10 After 5	Yes	Yes	80	54	6/6 Per Pitcher