



2026 Little League State Championships Manager/EO Handbook



Rules

The Rules of the Championships will be as per the Little League Baseball 2026 Rulebook. More specifically the Tournament Rules under Section Titles - **CONDITIONS OF TOURNAMENT PLAY** and **TOURNAMENT PLAYING RULES**. Where the Tournament Rules {referenced within as “TR”} are silent on an issue the Regular Season rules apply {referenced within as “PR”}. Where those rules are silent on a subject the Rules of Baseball will be applied. Where there is a conflict between the Little League Tournament Rules and this handbook, the latter shall be applied.

NOTE - Game Information

Game duration is six (6) innings. There shall be no time limit on games and all games shall play to a result. EXCEPTION: Consolation games may have a maximum time limit enforced and shall be communicated to the teams and officials by the Tournament Director.

There are no run limits per inning.

Sixty (60) seconds will be allowed for innings change over.

If at the end of a regulation game (four innings) one team has a lead of ten (10) runs or more OR a lead of fifteen runs (15) after three (3) completed innings, the manager of the team with the least runs shall concede victory to the opponent.

SECTION III – TIEBREAKER PROCEDURES will be used to seed teams after pool play if necessary.

Protests involving playing rules not resolved before the next pitch or play shall not be considered – a tournament official will be available at all games to assist with protest resolution.

NOTE - Determining Home / Away Teams

All fields are considered neutral – the home team shall be determined by the toss of a coin with the winner having the choice. Managers are to arrange between themselves at least 25 minutes before the scheduled start time of the game.

NOTE - Mandatory Play

All team must adopt a Continuous Batting Order that includes all players on the team affidavit present at the start of the game {TR9}.

An improper batter will be considered as batting out of turn {TR9(c)}.



NOTE - Pitching

Pitching Rules, including limits and applicable rest days, are included in {TR4}.

Maximum Daily Pitching limits are included in {TR4 (d)}. Limits are based on the players' League Age.

Pitcher's Rest requirements are included in {TR4 (e)}.

The pitchers pitch count for the days rest threshold is determined by the first pitch thrown to the batter.

No Player is permitted to pitch in three consecutive days {TR4(e)Note}

A player cannot pitch in two games in a day {TR4(f)}.

Pitchers are permitted to pitch up to, but not exceed, eight (8) preparatory pitches at the commencement of an innings or assignment. {PR8.03}

Balks shall not apply in this division. Any illegal pitch shall be awarded as a ball.

Pitchers once removed from the mound may not return as pitchers. {TR4(c)}

Managers or coaches are not permitted to warm up a pitcher at home plate or in the bullpen or elsewhere at any time. They may stand to observe a pitcher during a warm-up in the bullpen.

NOTE - Intentional Walk

The Defensive Manager may elect to "Intentionally Walk" a batter **at any point during an at-bat** by requesting, and being granted, "time" by the umpire before notifying the plate umpire of the defense's intent to walk the batter.

A player may only be intentionally walked once per game but may achieve base-on-balls through four pitched balls in other at-bats.

NOTE 2: The ball is dead, and no other runners may advance unless forced by the batter's award. The appropriate number of "balls" needed based on the count on the batter at the time of the manager's request to complete the Intentional Walk pitches will be added to the pitch count.

NOTE - Pitching and Catching in One Day

Please refer to Tournament Rules 4 for a complete list of pitch and catch restrictions in one day.

Players can occupy the position of pitcher and catcher on the same day as long as the imposed limits are observed.



Any pitcher, who delivers 41 or more pitches cannot play the position of catcher for the remainder of that day (the pitcher can finish pitching to the batter in the box when the threshold limit is reached but cannot start a new batter) {TR4 (d) NOTE}.

Any player, who has played the position of catcher 'IN' 4 or more innings in a game, is not eligible to pitch on that calendar day {TR4 (a)}. A player who has played the position of catcher then pitched may return as a catcher on the same day subject to the restriction in {TR4 (a) EXCEPTION}.

NOTE - Visits

A Manager or Coach may come out once in one inning to visit with the pitcher, the second time out the player must be removed as a pitcher. The Manager or Coach may come out two times in a game to visit with the pitcher, but the third time out the player must be removed as a pitcher. {PR8.06(a)}

NOTE - Collision Rules

In NSW Junior Baseball we have an anti-collision rule:

The Championships will be played with the interpretation that rule {PR 7.08 (a) (3)} the runner is out if “... *the runner does not slide or attempt to get around a fielder who has the ball and is waiting to make the tag...*” will align with our anti-collision rules – if a play is imminent then the runner must avoid a collision.

Note: there is no must slide rule. The act of sliding, in a legal manner, is a means to avoid a collision.

The runner is out when they slide headfirst whilst advancing bases.

NOTE- Protective Equipment

Base Coaches must wear approved helmets (skull caps acceptable for adults). Junior base coaches must wear batting helmets.

Catchers must wear hockey-style catcher's mask (skull cap and mask style are not acceptable) with dangling throat guards during infield/outfield practice, pitcher warm up and games {TR 1.17}.

NOTE - Courtesy Runner

Courtesy Runners are allowed for the pitcher or catcher of record after there are two outs {TR 3 (d)}. The pitcher or catcher of record is the player who played in those positions in the previous half inning.



The courtesy runner shall be the player who was the last (2nd) out in that inning. If a second courtesy runner is used that runner shall be the player who was the first out of that inning and replaces the lead runner.

Dug-out Designation

The team listed first on the draw will occupy the third-base dugout, the team listed second will occupy the first-base dugout unless a team is *in situ* due to a prior game.

Teams are permitted to have three eligible coaches in the dugout regardless of the tournament team roster size.

Team EO's are allowed to enter the team dugout during Game times only to address player welfare and injury issues but otherwise are to remain outside of the dugout. An exception to this is where the EO is also listed as a coach and forms part of the eligible number of coaches on a team's coaching staff.

Infield/Outfield

Infield/Outfield can only be undertaken if there no preceding game, or the preceding game finishes more than 30 minutes before the scheduled game commencement and the Ground Crew have vacated the field 20mins before game time.

If teams wish to complete an Infield/Outfield as part of the pre-game the following protocols will be observed.

At 20 minutes before scheduled start time, the home team will take the field for infield/outfield (7 Minutes available)

12 minutes before scheduled start time the away team will take the field for infield/outfield (7 Minutes available)

Scheduling of Games

Where possible the games will be played as per the published schedule.

Should it be necessary to move games between diamonds or alter scheduled start times the Tournament Director will advise the affected teams as soon as possible with confirmation of the change due to weather, extended games, light etc.

Minimum Time Between Games



Should game durations extend beyond the times allowed for in the draw, the game start time will be adjusted and the following minimum times between games will apply:

Where the following game is to be played between two teams that have not played in the preceding timeslot – the following game will commence 20 minutes after the completion of the preceding game.

Where the following game is to be played between one or more teams that have played in the preceding timeslot - the following game will commence 30 minutes after the completion of the preceding game.

Opening Ceremony

There will be a brief ceremony on Day 1 of the Championships, as shown in the draw. All Teams are required to attend the Opening Ceremony.

Closing Ceremony

There will be a brief presentation after the Little League Tournament Games. Teams present are welcome to join and the Championship Banner will be awarded to the winner.

Medical Support

Medics Australia will be on site for the Championships for all players and spectators. They will be in the main amenities building.

Medics will provide pre-game strapping if players supply their own tape.

VENUE

Blacktown International Sports Park
81 Eastern Road, Rooty Hill, NSW 2766





PARKING:

Parking is permitted in all parking areas except specified marked areas that have been reserved for Baseball NSW staff, and tournament officials.

Baseballs may enter the parking area; parking is at its own risk. Car's parking on grassed areas or not in designated parking spaces may be fined by council inspector.

EVENT HOSPITALITY:

Canteen, Coffee van available

There are no dogs allowed under any circumstance at BISP, and failure to comply could result in a heavy fine and removal from the ground.

2026 TEAM STAFF LIST

TEAM NAME	MANAGER	EO
CRONULLA BLUE	SAMANTHA CRAIG	RYAN STAFFORD
CRONULLA BLACK	ANDREW SMITH	MATT FOWLER
HILLS RED	ADAM BILLINGTON	ALICIA LANSOM
HILLS BLUE	JOHN GOLD	NATALIE GOLD
RYDE BLACK	SCOTT TRUELOVE	EMMA WOLSTENHOLME
RYDE RED	PAUL JONES	MATT PEARSE
HUNTER COAST	JASH VAN EYNDE	ELAINE SCOTNEY
ILLAWARRA	BEN GARVEY	BRENDAN DUNPHY
MANLY MAROON	COLIN ROSSELLO	LINDA MACBRIDE
MANLY WHITE	JAYSON PAGE	KYLIE WHITE
GW WARRIORS	DEAN HAZELL	KIRSTIN HAZELL
MACARTHUR COLTS	RICK BURROWS	SHAUN WOOD

TOURNAMENT OFFICIALS AND STAFF

TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR	MICHAEL BRYAN	0404 093 100
COLMED		
UMPIRES COORDINATOR	MATT WAGNER	0466 306 933
SCORERS COORDINATOR	VERA BONHAM	0412 512 580



General but Important Information

- Championships balls will be supplied by Baseball NSW to each game.
- Each team must have a scorer. An official results sheet will be provided to each game – this will be completed by the home team scorer as the official scorer for the game.
- Only bats that meet the BNSW Bat regulations for Junior League State Championships, may be used in the tournament.
- All players should be well hydrated. Water is the preferred method of hydration of players in this age group.
- Supporters may wish to bring additional shelter for diamond side. Shaded tent areas will be provided in certain areas of the facility.
- BNSW facilities are non-smoking venues.
- **Parents and supporters are not permitted in or adjacent to the dugouts or on to diamonds to take photographs.**
- Parents and supporters are not permitted to ask questions of the scorers or umpires of each game.
- There are NO dogs allowed under any circumstance at BISP, and failure to comply may result in a heavy fine and removal from the ground.

Baseball NSW is pleased to welcome all Charter teams to the Championships and wishes all teams the best of luck.

We also take the time to remind all Managers, Coaches, Players and Supporters of the Little League ethos.

Character Courage Loyalty