



Fall Ball 2024 Rules

All Fall Ball games will be at Donley Field (Longfellow Elementary School in Pasadena). Longfellow Elementary is a secure, fenced site with playgrounds and restrooms. Our concession stand *may* be open for lunchtime games.

EALL will provide game site, game balls, umpires, scheduler, field setup equipment, off-street parking, and field/restroom maintenance.

Teams will provide their own uniforms, arrange their own practice locations, and perform basic field setup/takedown duties on game day.

LOWER MINORS (AA) DIVISION RULES

1. No food shall be permitted in the dugouts during a game. Chewing gum shall be strictly prohibited. Water and sports drinks are permissible.
2. Players must not wear watches, rings, pins, metallic objects, or jewelry of any kind. Medic Alert bracelets shall be accepted.
3. Uniforms must be tucked in at all times.
4. Players, managers, and coaches must remain in the dugouts during games. Only team members, managers, and coaches shall be allowed in the dugouts during games. Restroom visits shall be permitted. Permission of the umpire shall not be required.
5. No player, coach, manager, parent, or other person in the stands shall intimidate, heckle, or make rude remarks to another player. The word "swing" shall not be yelled at a batter by opposing players, coaches, or spectators.
6. Upon the first instance of a batter throwing a bat in a game, the umpire shall warn the batter. Upon the second instance, the umpire shall call the batter "out." If, in the umpire's determination, a batter threw the bat intentionally or in violation of sportsmanlike conduct or in such a manner that a player's safety was jeopardized, the umpire shall instruct the Manager to remove the player from the game. If the Manager removes the player from the game, the player will be allowed to return for the next scheduled game. If the Manager refuses to remove the player from the game, the umpire shall eject the player from the game. If ejected by the umpire, the player shall leave the field for the game ejected and shall not be allowed to play the next scheduled game.

7. Failure to slide is not cause to be called out unless, in the umpire's determination, the runner intended to deliberately make contact to injure or otherwise intimidate the fielder at the base.
8. Teams playing the next game shall not warm up on the playing field while a game is in progress.
9. A manager and a coach, or two coaches, may coach first and third base, respectively.
10. Managers and coaches must have permission of the umpire to walk on to the field.
11. A pitcher warming up between innings or brought in to replace another pitcher will receive no more than eight (8) warm up pitches. The umpire has the discretion to limit the number of warm up pitches, if, in his or her judgment, the defensive team is unnecessarily delaying the game.
12. Continuous batting order shall be in effect for all games. Every player shall bat per the game's batting order, even if those players did not play the field for that inning. A team shall not be penalized if a player has to leave the game for any reason related to illness or injury. In such a case, his/her batting slot shall be skipped with no penalty.
13. The Green Book's minimum play rule shall be in effect for all games. Given the developmental nature of Fall Ball, it is expected that each of the players shall play more than the six (6) outs mandated by the minimum play rule with the exception of injury, illness, or ejection from the game. Furthermore, it is expected that each of the players shall play an infield position for at least one (1) inning during a game.
14. Each team shall be allowed to field a maximum of – that is, up to – ten (10) players in defensive positions. The tenth player must be in the outfield, no closer than 5 feet from the infield area.
15. Base stealing shall be allowed only under the following conditions: 1) Runners shall be allowed to advance one base on a passed ball; and 2) Runners shall be allowed to advance one base on an overthrow. Stealing home shall not be permitted at any time.
16. The "infield fly rule" shall not be enforced.
17. Bunting shall not be permitted. Players should be encouraged to take a full swing at the baseball. The foul ball arc shall be the dirt area in front of home plate. Batted balls that do not travel beyond the foul ball arc shall be considered a foul ball.
18. Players shall pitch to the opposing batters as provided herein. The umpire shall be behind the plate and shall call balls and strikes in the traditional manner. If the pitcher throws four (4) balls during an at-bat, then a coach from the batting team shall come out to the mound to continue pitching to their batter. The coach shall pitch a maximum of three (3) times to the batter. The batter must hit the ball within those

three (3) pitches, otherwise he/she will be called out by the umpire. The only exception is if an uncaught foul ball is hit on what would be the last allowed coach-pitch; in that case, then the at-bat shall continue. The minimum distance from which the coach shall pitch to the batter shall be from the bottom of the mound. No other modifications to this rule shall be permitted without the approval of the EALL President.

19. Managers and/or coaches shall not warm up pitchers between innings, except with the permission of the umpire.
20. Pitch count shall be in place for all games. Each team shall be responsible for keeping and maintaining its pitchers' pitch counts. Each team shall adhere to the pitch limitations and days of rest as set forth in the Green Book.
21. Catchers shall be in full gear during infield practice or when warming up a pitcher between innings.
22. The ten (10) and fifteen (15) run "mercy" rules shall not apply.
 - a. A five (5) run limit shall be placed on each inning, including the last inning.
 - b. No game shall end due to score advantage, unless both managers agree the game has lost its competitive nature. A game can be terminated no earlier than after the 4th inning.
23. There shall be no protests. The umpire's decisions are final and incontestable.
24. All games shall start as close to the scheduled time as possible, but no more than ten minutes after the scheduled start time. Players should warm up on the lower field or on the playground and be ready to play as soon as the previous game ends.
25. There will be no field warm-ups unless there is time available. There shall be no forfeits. Any team that cannot field nine players at the start of the game may use players from the opposing team or players from other Fall Ball teams, provided that those other players are eligible to play Fall Ball (i.e., registered and rostered with a Fall Ball team with appropriate medical release forms, etc.). Pitch limitations as set forth in the Green Book with respect to a player who has pitched in a previous game on the same day shall be adhered to.
26. A one hour and forty-five minute (105 minute) "drop-dead" time limit shall be in place for all games. No new inning shall begin after one hour and thirty minutes (90 minutes) from the scheduled start time. When no following game is scheduled, the inning which started before the one hour and thirty minute (90 minute) time limit shall be completed. Once an inning is started, it shall be completed unless called by the umpire because of any reason stated under Rule 4.00 of the Green Book.

27. No standings will be recorded or maintained in Fall Ball. Thus, tie games will not be played off.
28. Any games not played because of inclement weather, natural disaster, or other unforeseen emergency will not be made up unless, in the determination of the EALL President and Scheduler, a reasonably available date is available. The EALL President and Scheduler shall determine the date or dates, as well as the time and place, for any make-up games. Unless approved by the EALL President and Scheduler, all games shall be played at Donley Field.
29. New balls will be provided to the umpire prior to the start of each game. Lower Minors games shall be played with low compression "Level 5" baseballs (e.g., Diamond DFX-LC5 LL).
30. Both teams shall be responsible for setting up – and for the last game of the day, tearing down – the field. Field support personnel shall be ready to begin field setup 30 minutes before the scheduled game start.
31. Both sides shall be responsible for ensuring that litter is picked up on their respective sides after all games.
32. Unless expressly modified by these Fall Ball Rules, the rules and regulations as set forth in the Green Book shall be adhered to and followed.