



International Tournament Rules and Guidelines Changes for 2015 as Enacted at the 26th Little League® International Congress

The following changes to the Little League® Tournament Rules and Guidelines will be in effect for the 2015 International Tournament. These items were voted upon by the Congress Delegates (District Administrators or their appointees) at the 26th Little League International Congress, and approved by the Little League International Board of Directors for implementation in 2015.

Text in *red* indicates a change in the rule or regulation. The text in each "Summary and Implementation," a short explanation of the new rule or regulation, will not appear in the Rule Books.

TOURNAMENT RULES AND GUIDELINES – PLAYER ELIGIBILITY in the Baseball and Softball Rule Books will be amended to read, in part:

Big League - Any player League Age 14 (*softball only*), 15, 16, 17 or 18, with amateur status, who **has participated as an eligible player in 40 percent of** the regular season games (special games may be counted toward this requirement) by the start of Tournament Play in their respective District, with the exception of the high school or college season, on a:

1. Big League Team, or;
2. Senior League Team, *or*;
3. *Junior League Team (softball only)*.

Summary and Implementation: Beginning with the 2015 International Tournament, this mandates Big League players participate in a minimum of forty (40) percent of the Regular Season games to be eligible for Tournament. **For the purposes of qualifying for an International Tournament Team under this rule, participation is considered as having completed one or more of the following:**

- (1) The player bats one (1) time - which is defined as entering the batter's box with no count and completing that time at bat by being retired or by reaching base safely; or
 - (2) The player enters the game in one of nine (9) defensive positions and occupies such position for one (1) defensive out or one (1) at-bat; or
 - (3) The player is entered as a special pinch runner and scores, is retired or three (3) outs end the inning.
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