

Sequoia Softball Player Pool

In an effort to reduce games being rescheduled or cancelled due to lack of available players on a roster (Camp, sickness, vacation) or to prevent a team from facing a potential forfeit due to injury and only having nine players available (no bench players in case of injury), the Sequoia Softball, in conjunction with the policy set forth by Rule V in the Little League, Inc. rule book will apply pool play for Rookie, Minor and Major divisions.

Pool play allows for players who have a desire to play more frequently than their assigned team's schedule to volunteer their time to teams who have a shortage of their players for a scheduled game. It is our hope that this will provide all teams with the opportunity to play its full schedule ever having to forfeit or cancel a game (by providing substitute players) AND maximize playing time for those children who love to play softball.

Pool Play Structure and Rules

1. All players in the league are eligible to be pool players.
2. All pool players must have all registration forms turned into the League in order for a child to be eligible to play.
3. Players may only fill roster spots within the division in which they are currently assigned. (If NO player is available then a player from a lower division may play up with permission of parent and league president).
4. Generally, the player pool will try to replace missing players with players of comparable skill when possible.
5. When a manager anticipates the need for a replacement player, they must contact the league who will try to find an available player.
6. Managers may not decline to use a player once they have arrived at the field. Even if a team is subsequently able to field nine players, the pool players must play the Little League minimum.
7. Managers may use the player pool to ensure they have at least ten players at a game but may not use the pool to get to eleven (or more) players.
8. No pool player may play more during a game, than an original team member. If the players available at game time, then exceed the teams' original roster, then the pool player(s) who exceed the roster maximum shall ONLY play the minimum.
9. Pool players are NEVER to be used as pitchers in any division, or as 1st base in the Minor/Major Division or as a Catcher in the Major division. The "pool player" should bat last in the line-up as to not take away at-bats from players on the existing team.
10. The opposing coach should be notified of the player pool player at the start of the game to minimize confusion. The player may wear their regular season uniform, an extra from the team they are playing for or another appropriate jersey.
11. A team may not forfeit a game without first trying to field a team using the player pool. Managers seeking to forfeit instead of using the player pool will be subject to suspension by the board. Our goal is always to provide playing opportunities for the kids.
12. Use common sense and best judgment in using the player pool. Any manager found by the board to be abusing the player pool system will lose the use of the pool and serve a one-game suspension. (i.e. instructing lesser skilled players not to come to game and replacing them with pool players).