ABA Cheat Sheet – Little League Junior
2026/2027 Season

Game Rules	Little League Junior
Innings	7 (min 5) (4 innings counts as a game, if game is stopped due to weather)
Time (game)	2 Hour 30 mins - (No new innings after 2 hours 20 mins)
Mercy rule	15 after 4 or 10 after 5
Runs per innings (max)	6 runs max (+ any involved in the final play). Only applies to first 5 Innings.
Tied game	Extra Inns (no max) – one runner (last batter) on 2nd base. Batting order starts with the next batter in line-up from last 'at bat'.
Double Headers	Rules to be set by Competition Committee if DHs are scheduled
No. of Players / Line-up cards	8 min (9th is auto out) – full or partial roster may be on the line-up card, whether present or not. But no players may be added to the line-up after the plate meeting. Minimum play rules apply to everyone on the line-up card.
Continuous Batting line-up	YES — All players present for the game are included in a continuous batting order and retain their original batting positions throughout the game. Players may freely rotate between defensive positions or sit out defensive innings without affecting their place in the batting order. Pitchers are subject to separate re-entry restrictions.
Pitcher max pitches (Note: may finish batter)	9-10yo = 75, 11-12yo = 85, 13–16yo = 95 Pitch count limits are determined by a player's age - DOB (not by the grade they play in).
Pitcher can return?	YES — once per game. A pitcher who moves from the mound to another defensive position may return to pitch once later in the game. To remain eligible, the player must stay on defence rather than being replaced by another defensive player.
Intentional Walks	**YES**, Notification must come from the defensive manager only. A player may only be intentionally walked once per game.
Pitching in 2 games	**YES** – EXCEPTION, a 12yo playing in Junior & Senior league is not eligible to pitch in 2 games in a day. NOTE: If a pitcher reaches 30 pitches while facing a batter in the first game, the pitcher may "finish the batter". The pitcher would be allowed to pitch in a second game provided that pitcher is moved, removed, or the game is completed before delivering a pitch to another batter. If a player delivers 31 or more pitches in the first game, and is not covered under the "finish a batter" exception, the player may not pitch in the second game that day
Pitcher <u>maybe</u> can be catcher?	**YES,** but a pitcher who delivers 41+ pitches in a game cannot be catcher that **Day.** (Note: may finish batter and end on a count 41+ and still be eligible to play catcher) Catcher with 3 or less innings and delivering 21+ pitches may not return to Catcher that **Day**.
Catcher to Pitcher?	**YES**, only if the Catcher has not caught more than a maximum of 3 innings and not 1 pitch more. A 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**.

Catcher Other	ALL catchers must have a throat guard. All warmup catchers incl in bullpens must have a mask. No skull caps.
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Catcher speed up rules?	**YES** – allows a courtesy runner to replace the catcher on base when there are two outs. Runner should be the last batter out.
Headfirst sliding	**YES**
Infield fly rule	**YES** - This is a judgement call of an umpire.
Dropped 3rd strike	**YES** - Batter is out if first base is occupied with fewer than two outs. If first base is unoccupied or there are two outs, the batter becomes a runner and must be put out by the defence.
Stealing	**YES**
Balks	**YES** (LL Rule 8.05) *Please note LL rule differs from OBR*
Bats	USABat or BBCOR, Wood or wood composite (Max 34 inches long 2 5/8" barrel).
Metal Cleats	**YES**, subject to home club rules
Balls	**As approved by the League.**
Batter on-deck circle?	**YES** – must be position on side of batter's dugout
DH allowed?	**NO** EH – Continuous Batting Order
Special Pinch Runner	**NO** - Continual Batting order
Trips	3 Free (45 secs max). 2 trips in same innings to same pitcher = auto pitcher swap. 2 trips to same pitcher on same batter – not allowed, warn, then eject. Pitcher swap is NOT a visit. Every trip after 3 = pitcher must be swapped.
Re-entry	Free defensive rotation — Players may enter, leave and return to defensive positions throughout the game without changing their batting-order position. A pitcher who leaves the mound may return to pitch once, provided they remain on defence in another position throughout the intervening defensive innings. A pitcher who sits out a defensive inning cannot return to pitch.
Dugout coach?	1 Adult coach must be in the dugout at all times. Players can be base coaches, but must wear a double eared helmet while performing this task
Protests	**Playing rule or improper substitution:** Must be made before next pitch, play or attempted play. **Mandatory Play:** As soon as the facts become known. **Ineligible pitcher or player**: As soon as facts become known, but before either teams' next game.
Foreign Substances	Pitchers must not apply foreign substances (including saliva, dirt or sticky substances) to the baseball. A rosin bag may be used to dry the pitcher's hands. Pine tar and similar grip substances are permitted on bat handles only, provided they do not extend onto the barrel or taper or obscure certification markings.

Bat allowed logos