



## 2018 NCLL Field Ground Rules

NILES-CENTERVILLE LITTLE LEAGUE

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### 1 SENIOR FIELD (90 ft Diamond)

The following ground rules apply to the Senior Field (90 foot diamond) at NCLL field.

1. **Backstop:** The chain link fencing hanging from the upper corners of the backstop is to be considered an extension of the regular backstop. Any batted ball that touches this portion of the backstop is considered “foul.” Any thrown ball that touches this portion of the backstop and remains inside the fenced playing area is considered alive and in play. Any thrown ball that becomes lodged in or touches this portion of the backstop and then leaves the fenced playing area is considered “dead” and out of play. The umpire shall award bases to all runners accordingly.
2. **Third Base Dugout:** Any batted or thrown ball entering into the third base dugout is considered “dead” and out of play. The swinging gate at the entrance to the third base dugout is to remain open and secured to the dugout fencing during play.
3. **Third Base Fence:** There is a four-foot fence extending from the dugout entrance toward the left field foul pole. Any ball hit or thrown over this fence, or through the walk-through gap, is considered dead and out of play. The umpire shall award bases to all runners accordingly.
4. **Dirt Walkway:** There is a dirt walkway adjacent to the third base foul line starting at the end of the third base fence and extending beyond the left-field foul pole. This path is considered part of the normal playing surface.
5. **Third Base Bullpen:** The third base bullpen is located at the end of the third base fence and is outside of the dirt walkway. The bullpen is defined by the two chain-link backstops – one behind the bullpen plate and one behind the bullpen pitching plate – and the outside edge of the dirt walkway. Any hit or thrown ball that enters into this area shall immediately be called dead and out of play. The umpire shall award bases to all runners accordingly.
6. **Left Field Foul Pole:** There is no fence between the left field foul pole and the adjacent 6-foot fence running parallel to the left field foul line. Any ball that passes beyond an imaginary line between the foul pole and the 6-foot fence is considered “dead” and out of play. Should a batted fair ball pass to the left of the foul pole, the hit is to be considered a ground rule double. A foul ball passing to the left of the foul pole remains a foul ball. Note: Should the outfield fence extend all the way to the 6-foot fence, this special ground rule will be ignored and normal rules shall apply.
7. **Portable/Temporary Outfield Fence:** Any fair-batted ball passing over the portable outfield fence in flight is considered a Home Run. Any fair-batted ball that strikes any part of the portable fence in flight and passes over the fence before touching the ground is considered a Home Run. Any bounding fair-batted ball passing over the portable fence is considered a ground rule double. Should a fair batted ball become lodged in, or passes through, or passes under the portable fence, it is considered a ground rule double. A fair-batted ball caught or fielded by a fielder, who subsequently jumps over or crashes through the fence, shall be declared a “dead ball.” The umpire shall award bases according to the L.L. Rule Book.
8. **First Base Dugout:** Any batted or thrown ball entering into the first base dugout is considered “dead” and out of play. The swinging gate at the entrance to the first base dugout is to remain open and secured to the outside four-foot fence during play.
9. **First Base Fence:** There is a four-foot fence extending from the dugout entrance toward the right field foul pole. Any ball hit or thrown over the short fence is considered dead and out of play. The umpires shall award bases accordingly.
10. **First Base Fence Extended:** An imaginary line extends from the end of the four-foot fence to the asphalt walkway. Any batted or thrown ball that crosses over this imaginary line is considered “dead” and out of play. Should a player field a ball before crossing the line, and then steps onto or over this line, and remains on his feet, the ball is considered “alive” and in play.

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11. **Asphalt Walkway:** There is an asphalt walkway adjacent to the first base foul line. The edge of the walkway closest to the foul line defines the edge of the playing surface. Any batted or thrown ball that crosses over and/or onto the asphalt walkway is considered “dead” and out of play. Should a player field a ball before crossing onto the walkway, and then steps onto or over the walkway, and remains on his feet, the ball is considered “alive” and in play.
12. **Right Field Fence:** A fair ball hit over this fence is a Home Run. (Note: This rule only applies for play *without* the temporary outfield fence. In this case, the right field fence refers to the short chain-link fence that extends from the right-field foul pole to the storage container in right-center field.)
13. **Scoreboard Area:** A fly ball hit over the scoreboard is a Home Run. Any fly ball or bounding ball that hits the scoreboard and rebounds back towards home plate is alive and in play. Any fly ball or bounding ball that, other than one that is hit over the scoreboard, goes under or behind the scoreboard is to be called "dead" by the umpire and runners advance two bases from the TIME OF THE PITCH (ground rule double). (Note: This rule only applies for play *without* the temporary outfield fence.)

**Note:** Teams are required to leave all equipment in their dugouts or outside the fence.



## 2018 NCLL Field Ground Rules

### 2 Major Field (60 ft Diamond, 200 ft Outfield Fence)

1. **Backstop:** The netting and its supporting cables and structure hanging from the upper corner of the backstop is to be considered an extension of the regular backstop. Any batted ball that touches this portion of the backstop is considered “foul.” Any thrown ball that touches this portion of the backstop and remains inside the fenced playing area is considered alive and in play. Any thrown ball that becomes lodged in or touches this portion of the backstop and then leaves the fenced playing area is considered “dead” and out of play. The umpire shall award bases to all runners accordingly.
2. **Third Base Dugout:** Any batted or thrown ball entering into the third base dugout is considered “dead” and out of play. The swinging gate at the entrance to the third base dugout is to remain open and secured to the four-foot foul line fence during play. Any batted or thrown ball that rolls underneath the gate is to be considered “dead” and out of play. The umpire shall award bases to all runners accordingly.
3. **Third Base Fence, Outfield Fence, and First Base Fence:** The four-foot fence extending from the third base dugout entrance towards the left field foul pole, around the perimeter of the outfield, and towards the entrance to the first base dugout defines the perimeter of the playing field. Any batted or thrown ball that passes over the fence is considered “dead” and out of play. The umpire shall award bases to all runners accordingly.

Note: The gate in the left field corner of the outfield fence is to remain closed during play. Regardless of whether or not the gate is closed, any fair-batted ball that rolls under or passes through this gate is to be considered a “ground rule double.” The ball is “dead” and out of play. The umpire shall award two bases to all runners and the batter-runner from the base last touched at the TIME OF THE PITCH.

4. **First Base Dugout:** Any batted or thrown ball entering into the first base dugout is considered “dead” and out of play. The swinging gate at the entrance to the first base dugout is to remain open and secured to the four-foot foul line fence during play. Any batted or thrown ball that rolls underneath the gate is to be considered “dead” and out of play. The umpire shall award bases to all runners accordingly.

**Note: Teams are required to leave all equipment in their dugouts or outside the fence.**

## 2018 NCLL Field Ground Rules

### 3 Minor Field (60 ft Diamond, 180 ft Outfield Fence)

1. **Backstop:** The plywood extending from the upper edge of the backstop is to be considered an extension of the regular backstop. Any batted ball that touches this portion of the backstop is considered "foul." Any thrown ball that touches this portion of the backstop and remains inside the fenced playing area is considered alive and in play. Any thrown ball that becomes lodged in or touches this portion of the backstop and then leaves the fenced playing area is considered "dead" and out of play. The umpire shall award bases to all runners accordingly.
2. **Third Base Dugout:** Any batted or thrown ball entering into the third base dugout is considered "dead" and out of play. The swinging gate at the entrance to the third base dugout is to remain open and secured to the four-foot foul line fence during play. Any batted or thrown ball that rolls underneath the gate is to be considered "dead" and out of play. The umpire shall award bases to all runners accordingly.
3. **Third Base Fence, Outfield Fence, and First Base Fence:** The four-foot fence extending from the third base dugout entrance towards the left field foul pole, around the perimeter of the outfield, and towards the entrance to the first base dugout defines the perimeter of the playing field. Any batted or thrown ball that passes over the fence is considered "dead" and out of play. The umpire shall award bases to all runners accordingly.

Note: The gate in the right field corner of the outfield fence is to remain closed during play. Regardless of whether or not the gate is closed, any fair-batted ball that rolls under or passes through this gate is to be considered a "ground rule double." The ball is "dead" and out of play. The umpire shall award two bases to all runners and the batter-runner from the base last touched at the TIME OF THE PITCH.

4. **First Base Dugout:** Any batted or thrown ball entering into the first base dugout is considered "dead" and out of play. The swinging gate at the entrance to the first base dugout is to remain open and secured to the four-foot foul line fence during play. Any batted or thrown ball that rolls underneath the gate is to be considered "dead" and out of play. The umpire shall award bases to all runners accordingly.
5. **Trees Along First Base/Right Field Fence:** Any batted ball in flight that contacts any part of the branches and trees along the first base/right field fence line will be called a "foul ball" by the umpire. This includes the branches that overhang above the playing field as described above. The ball becomes dead and no runners may advance. Any thrown ball that contacts any part of the branches and trees along the first base/right field fence line is considered "dead" and out of play. The umpire shall award bases to all runners accordingly.

**Note: Teams are required to leave all equipment in their dugouts or outside the fence.**