

C. B.L.S.L. Open Division Rules of Play 2025 Liberty Bell Classic

Player Eligibility

- All players must be at least 18 years of age.
- Ratings – the Liberty Bell Classic (LBC) will be following the 2024 iPride player rating guidelines. Official team rosters should include 2024 player ratings.
- ADA Accommodations – Any player requesting an ADA accommodation must submit their request using the ADA request form on the tournament website. ADA submission must be received 72 hours prior to the start of the tournament. No mid tournament changes/submissions will be accepted. All requests will be reviewed by the Tournament Director and approval granted prior to the tournament.

Registration

- All players must register prior to the end of round robin. If you do not register prior to the conclusion of round robin, you will not be eligible to play.

Protest

- Any protests must be done prior to medal games for 1st, 2nd or 3rd place.
- Protest fee is \$50 for the protest & \$50 for each question. Protest Fees will be accepted as Cash, Venmo, or Zelle
- Monies will only be returned for protest questions won. If you protest 3 questions, \$50 protest fee + \$50x3 questions = \$200. If you win 1 question, you get back the protest fee & \$50 for one question: \$100.
- A protest must be made by the team manager to the umpire before the end of the game. At the time a protest is made, the Tournament Director needs to be notified.
- A ruling of the protest will be made by the protest committee. Such rulings will be final (not subject to appeal).

Home Team

- Home team will be determined by a coin toss for round robin games.
- Double elimination games have the higher seed as the home team.
- Home team for the Championship Game will be the undefeated team.
- Home team for the "IF" game will be determined by a coin toss.

Time Limit

- For all round robin games, no new inning is to start after 50 mins. If an inning starts, it is to be finished
- For all double elimination games, no new inning is to start after 55 mins. If an inning starts, it is to be finished.
- Championship games will have no time limit and play full 7 innings

USA

- Standard USA rules to be followed for all games unless superseded by iPride's rules or set forth otherwise herein.

Batting

- You may use up to 12 batters, but not required
- Team line ups must have at least 9 players ready to start at game time.
- All bats must be currently approved by USA for play (An ASA or USA stamp must be clearly visible on the bat).
- Umpires will check all bats before the start of each game.

One and One Count

- Each batter starts with a 1-1 count (1 Ball, 1 Strike).
- Each batter will receive 1 (one) courtesy foul.
- In the event of inclement weather, the tournament may revert to a one-pitch format at the discretion of the Tournament Director or their proxy.

Courtesy Runners

- 1 per inning and can be any player on the roster.

Pitching

- Pitching ARC will be 6 to 12 feet (contact must be maintained with the mound per USA rules).

Line-Ups

- Teams must submit their line-up with player's names and numbers as well as subs and their numbers to the opposing team and the umpire on the line up cards provided before the start of each game.

Warm Ups

- No infield or outfield warm up after the first inning.
- Pitchers are allowed one warm up pitch after the first inning.
- Pitchers are allowed five warm up pitches at the start of their first inning.
- No "around the horn" is allowed following an out.

Grace Period

- There is no grace period except to allow for the completion of an ongoing game/or time for movement to a new field.

Tie Breakers

- Ties will be allowed in round robin games. In double elimination games, the International Tie-Breaker rule will apply.

Mercy Rule

- 20 runs after 3 innings, 15 runs after 4 innings, 10 runs after 5 innings. This applies to all round robin and double elimination games.

Score Keeping

- Umpires are to record the scores for each game on the sheet provided. At the end of round robin all sheets will be collected.
- Winning Team should report the score to registration table so it can be recorded into Tourney Machine.

Minimum Number of Players

- A team must have nine (9) players to start and continue a game.
- The lineup for each team must have at least ten (10) batting positions listed.
- If a team starts a game with nine (9) players, the (10) tenth batting position will be an automatic out until filled by a late arriving player. If the (10) tenth position does not arrive by the time the lineup has been gone through **once**, they may no longer be added to that position. That position will be an out for the remainder of the game.
- If a team starts a game with (10) ten players but must drop to (9) nine players during the game, the vacated position will be an automatic out for the remainder of the game.
- The result of the game will be final. The game cannot be replayed.

Uniforms

- All teams must have matching uniforms with numbers clearly marked on backs.
- Jewelry should be removed before play begins. Small stud earrings may be taped.

Safety-base

- First base is a safety base with the orange base to be used by the runner, when not making an attempt for further bases.

Unsportsmanlike Behavior

- No warnings will be given.
- Managers and players can be removed from a game.
- Umpires have the power to have offending fans removed

Alcohol and Illegal Drug Consumption

- There shall be no alcohol and/or illegal drug consumption by players, coaches or managers **before, during, or between** their games.
- Any violation of this rule of play shall result in the player being removed from the remainder of the tournament.
- The manager and coach will not be allowed on the field of play (i.e. they cannot coach bases, discuss umpire calls etc.).
- Managers are responsible for making sure that no one (of any age) drinks before or during their games.
- Managers are responsible for communicating the policy to all of their players.

Smoking/Vaping

- In accordance with a Mayoral Executive Order that became effective December 18, 2019, smoking and vaping is prohibited on all outdoor City property, including all parks and recreation centers managed by the Philadelphia Department of Parks and Recreation (PPR).
- At the request of Deptford Township and Stauffer Fields, smoking and vaping is prohibited within the park grounds.
- CBLSL, as the permit holder, is obligated to ensure that all its participants and spectators comply with this prohibition. Any CBLSL member or spectator found to be violating this prohibition may be suspended from attending games at the discretion of the League Commission.

ADA Rules

- Approved ADA players must be designated on the lineup. The manager must verbally confirm the ADA player to the umpire at the start of the game.
- A player with an ADA accommodation can use a designated runner after each at bat once the player reaches first base. The player can not go past first base or will be ruled Out.
- The designated runner must be the last recorded out. For the first inning, and no outs have been recorded, the designated runner will be the last player in the submitted line up.
- The designated runner does not count toward the one courtesy runner per inning.

Ratings

C Division

- All teams rated 140 or lower.
- No players rated over 15 are allowed on a C division team.

D Division

- All teams rated 110 or lower.
- No players rated over 12 are allowed on a D division team.

E Division

- All teams rated 75 or lower
- No players rated over 8 are allowed on a E division team

Team is defined as the top 10 rated players on a team- not the entire roster.

Any issues with rule interpretations or issues that rules do not cover will be governed by USA rules. If no rule is in place, the Tournament Directors Jeff Davis (856) 905-9770 and John Burks (434) 996-1870 will have the final say in the matter. The Tournament Director may consult attending Umpires or others if necessary, to gather information. The rules here govern everything so be familiar with this source.