

2021 Fall Ball League Rules

Divisions are based upon player's ages as of the year 2022 league age.

Each team needs to check in before first league game and bring the following items:

- Proof of Team Insurance
- Copies of birth certificates for each player
- Roster/ Medical Waiver form
- League fee if not already paid

League rules are as followed: Local Rules then MLB Rules. So if the rule is not found in the Local rules then we go to MLB rules.

Every effort will be made to complete the league. In the event of rain or darkness, the league director reserves the right to shorten games or modify schedules in order to finish the league.

8 regular season games.

LENGTH OF GAMES:

- 7u thru 8u will play 6 innings or 1:30 no new inning. Must complete the inning.
- 9u thru 10u will play 6 innings or 1:35 no new inning. Must complete the inning.
- 11u thru 12u will play 6 innings or 1:40 no new inning. Must complete the inning.
- 13u thru 14u will play 7 innings or 1:45 no new inning. Must complete the inning.

IF HOME TEAM IS HITTING AND WINNING WHEN TIME EXPIRES, THE GAME IS OVER AND THE SCORE IS REPORTED AS WHAT IT IS AT THAT POINT

A new inning begins when the 3rd out is made in the previous inning. The new inning does not begin when the Defensive team takes the field.

If a game is called due to darkness, regardless which team is winning or at bat (UMPIRES JUDGEMENT) score will revert back to the last completed inning unless home team is hitting with the game tied or ahead.

Coin flip will be used to determine Home team for all games.

Ties count on records.

PITCHING RULES:

- 7u thru 12u= 6 innings maximumper day.

- 13u thru 14u= 7 innings maximum per day.

A pitcher who pitches in more than one game on the same calendar day may pitch any combination of innings as long as they do not exceed the division max.

Violation of the above pitching rules will result in the ejection of both the manager and the player from the game. If this violation occurs both manager and player must sit out their next scheduled game also.

Once a pitcher pitches one pitch, it's considered an inning pitched.

No pitches need to be thrown to intentionally walk a batter. Tell umpire you are walking batter and put batter on base.

Upon a second trip to the mound in the same inning, the pitcher must be removed for ALL divisions. Once a pitcher is removed, they may not return to the mound.

A maximum of 9 defensive players in the field and a minimum of 8 required to play. If a team can only field 8 players, every time the 9th spot come up in the batting order it is an OUT. This will continue throughout the game.

Manager may use the following line up options:

- 1) A nine (9) player line-up, or a nine (9) player line-up with a Designated Hitter (DH), or**
 - 2) A ten (10) player line-up with an Extra Hitter (EH), or a 10 player line-up with a DH and EH, or**
 - 3) A continuous line-up of all present, eligible, uniformed players. (No DH allowed)**
- Such line-up must be declared before the start of the game and used the entire game. Only the batter who is assigned as the DH may re-enter as the DH under the re-entry rule. (Note: The DH can be used for any position player.)**

Teams may run for the pitcher/catcher of record at ANY time with a player on the bench. If a team is batting 9 players it must be the sub, if batting entire lineup it's the last out. Once lineup is submitted, the number of batters may not change. Players not in the original lineup may only enter once and once removed can no longer re-enter the batting order. Offensive players that were in the original lineup and removed for substitution must re-enter lineup in the original spot they were removed from and may not be removed again. All substitutions must be made through the umpire, including pitching changes. Late arriving players may be added to bottom of lineup upon arrival if batting entire lineup.

If a player is injured or sick and no substitution is available, the player will not be called out, but may not return to tournament play for remainder of day. All players should wear a uniform. Uniforms need to have numbers on the back (if a player does not have a number on their uniform, please inform the director prior to your first game). If a number is not present, it will be handled at the tournament director's discretion.

Must slide rule is in effect for all ages. Safety of the players is a priority. A runner must slide or attempt to avoid contact with another player. Any player that attempts to hurt or injure another player will be called out. If the umpire feels the contact was malicious the offending player will be ejected from the game.

FORFEITS: In the case a team forfeits the score will be as followed: 6u-10u (10-0) / 11u-14u (12-0).

MERCY RULE:

- 20 run mercy rule after 2 complete innings, 15 run mercy rule after 3 complete innings, 8 run mercy rule after 4 complete innings..

Protest Rule: If a protest is filed a \$100 protest fee must be paid at the time of the protest, this is to eliminate false protest to stall game. If protest is granted in your favor the fee will be returned. The game will be stopped at that point and ruled upon by the **TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR.**

All managers are responsible for their fans, coaches and players. It will be their responsibility the fans in line. If a parent or spectator is causing a distraction to the game or umpire the manager will be warned and if repeated the manager will be ejected from the game. In the event the manager, coach, player spectator is thrown out of the game they will be asked to leave the baseball compound. If he/she does not leave the field within 5 minutes his or her team will forfeit the game at that time. This includes helping us enforce mask rules and social distancing guidelines.

If a player is ejected from the game and no substitute is available an out will be recorded every time he/she comes up in the batting order. If a manager is ejected, they must also sit out the next scheduled game. If a player/fan is ejected, it is at the State Director's discretion if they sit out the next scheduled game.

Metal cleats not allowed in 12U and below.

Bat Rules

All bats must have the USSSA 1.15 stamp on it or the bat will not be allowed to be used. 14U is BBCOR or Wood only. 13U is -8 and lower only. 2 ¾" bats will be allowed. Bats with USA Baseball Stamp are also ok to use. Violation of rule will be an out the first time and ejection of player and coach on the second violation. **(CHECK USSSA BAT LIST FOR SPECIFIC BANNED BATS)**

******7u/8u******

Teams may only field 9 players on defense. In the case where a team has only 8 players the team will receive an OUT every time the 9th spot comes up in the batting order. If a team only has 8 players, one must play the catcher position.

NO INFIELD FLY RULE

Only the manager of record is permitted to call "TIME". There will be only 1 offensive time out per inning.

Stealing is permitted. The runner must remain on the base until the pitch *leaves the pitcher's hand*. If the runner leaves early and is thrown out, the out remains. If a runner leaves early and makes it safely to the next base, the runner will still be called out.

Home plate is open. It is *NOT FROZEN*.

Bunting is allowed.

Only uniformed players and 3 coaches will be allowed on the field or the dugout.

The distance from the pitcher's mound to home plate may be 38/40 feet.

5 run rule will be in until current state guidelines change.

There is a NO Balk rule.

A player may not return to the pitcher's mound after once having been removed as a pitcher.