

Appendix E - Baseball “AA” Division Playing Rules

All games shall be played in accordance with the Little League Baseball Minor League Division Official Regulations, Playing Rules, and Policies (LLOR) unless stated below. This is an Instructional Minor League Division.

Time Limits

No new inning shall begin after 1 hour 40 minutes from the scheduled start of the game.

No new batter shall bat after 2 hours from the scheduled start of the game.

Umpires

The Home team shall provide the Plate Umpire and the Visitor team shall provide the Field Umpire. If the Visitor team is from another league, the Home team shall provide both umpires.

Scorekeeper

The Home team shall provide the official scorer and scorebook. The final pitch counts shall be reported to the league management system.

Game Balls and Bats

Level 5 safety baseballs shall be used.

The Home team shall supply two (2) new game balls to the Plate Umpire at the start of the game. When asked by the Plate Umpire, the Home team shall supply extra game balls of satisfactory quality.

Only approved baseball bats (27” or longer) shall be used.

Minimum Number Of Players

A game may be started and played with only eight (8) players. In such an event, teams will skip over the ninth (9th) position in the batting order without penalty.

Additional Coach

Each team is allowed one (1) additional adult approved volunteer to occupy the field when the team is at bat. This shall allow one (1) adult to remain in the dugout at all times, two (2) base coaches, and one (1) adult pitcher.

Pitching

The pitcher’s plate shall be positioned at a distance of 40 feet from the back of home plate (i.e. six (6) feet in front of the regulation pitcher’s plate). Adult and player pitchers shall pitch from this pitcher’s plate.

The VP of Baseball, after discussions with the appropriate Division Director and Managers, shall select the dates games will be played under the following pitching options.

Coach Pitch

Each team shall use an adult pitcher.

The batter is out after three (3) strikes or after eight (8) pitches, whichever occurs first. If the final pitch is hit foul, the batter shall receive additional pitches until they fail to hit the ball into play or foul.

If a pitch touches the batter, the batter is NOT entitled to first base.

Modified Player Pitch Option #1 - No Walks

A player shall pitch to the batter until the ball is hit into play or the umpire calls three (3) strikes or four (4) balls. If the umpire calls four (4) balls, the batter's coach shall then pitch to the batter and the batter shall retain their strike count. The player pitcher shall position themselves on the regulation pitcher's plate. The coach shall pitch to the batter until the ball is hit into play or the umpire calls three (3) strikes. There are no walks. If the umpire calls three (3) strikes, the batter is out. If a pitch from a player touches the batter, the batter shall be awarded first base. If a pitch from a coach touches the batter, the umpire shall call a ball and the batter is NOT entitled to first base.

Any pitches delivered by the batter's coach shall NOT be counted towards that player's pitch count.

Modified Player Pitch Option #2 - Limited Walks

A player shall pitch to the batter(s) until three (3) base awards from base on balls or hit by pitch have been awarded in an inning. At such time the rule **a)** below will be in effect for the remainder of the inning.

- a) A player shall pitch to the batter until the ball is hit into play or the umpire calls three (3) strikes or four (4) balls. If the umpire calls four (4) balls, the batter's coach shall then pitch to the batter and the batter shall retain their strike count. The player pitcher shall position themselves on the regulation pitcher's plate. The coach shall pitch to the batter until the ball is hit into play or the umpire calls three (3) strikes. There are no walks. If the umpire calls three (3) strikes, the batter is out. If a pitch from a player touches the batter, the batter shall be awarded first base. If a pitch from a coach touches the batter, the umpire shall call a ball and the batter is NOT entitled to first base.

Any pitches delivered by the batter's coach shall NOT be counted towards that player's pitch count.

Run Limit

The side is retired when three (3) offensive players are legally put out, or when the offensive team scores four (4) runs. When no further action is possible and play is stopped, the official scorer shall notify the Plate Umpire.

This four (4) run limit is suspended after five (5) innings of the game.

Bunting

Bunting is never permitted. A bunt attempt shall be charged as a strike, regardless if the ball is struck and lands in play. If this is the third strike, the batter is out, regardless if the ball is struck. A check swing is not a bunt attempt.

Stealing

Stealing is never permitted.

Thrown Ball Out of Play

If the ball is thrown out of play, each runner may continue to their next base if they were advancing to that base and may legally acquire that base; otherwise, the runner shall remain at their last legally acquired base.

Infield Fly

The infield fly rule shall not be called.

Pitcher Development

Every rostered player shall appear as a pitcher in no less than two (2) games and face no less than six (6) batters during the regular season. No player shall pitch more than 50 pitches per game.

No player shall be forced to appear as a pitcher. The player and their parent(s) or guardian(s) may ask to be excused from this requirement. This notice shall be reported to the manager, Player Agent, and VP of Baseball.

If a team fails to fulfill this requirement during the regular season, a report shall be submitted to the President for consideration of disciplinary action.

Protests

Whenever it is found that an ineligible pitcher or ineligible player is being used, said pitcher shall be removed from the pitcher's plate or said player shall be removed from the game and the game shall continue. A report shall be submitted within 24 hours to the President for consideration of disciplinary action.

When a violation or interpretation of a playing rule is questioned, the umpires shall consult with each other and issue a decision. If a manager believes the decision is in error, a report shall be submitted within 24 hours to the league Umpire-in-Chief. The league Umpire-in-Chief will clarify the rule as guidance for future games.