

2017 BASEBALL / SOFTBALL GENERAL RULES
NBAA / Greendale Twinite / Whitnall / New Berlin Youth Baseball

I. GENERAL RULES

- A. We use National Federation of High School (NFHS) rules as the basis for youth Baseball/Softball. The League Specific rules reflect the adjustments made to NFHS rules due to the ages and skill level of our players.
- B. Eligibility is limited to boys in grades 5 through 9, and girls in grades 3 through 9 who reside within their league's respective boundaries.
- C. Boys and girls may participate on only one team.
- D. **Players must be registered with their respective leagues.**
- E. All players must be listed on the Game Report Sheet before participating in the game. The Home team should provide the Game Report Sheet. The manager of the winning team is responsible for mailing or e-mailing scores to the league coordinator and saving the Game Report Sheet until the end of the season.
- F. All players will wear the complete uniform furnished by their league and must be worn properly - shirts tucked in and caps with bill forward. Only roster players may wear the team uniform. Catchers are not required to wear caps under the catcher's mask, however, they must wear all protective catchers' equipment furnished by their league. Deliberate refusal to wear all designated equipment may cause forfeiture of the game.
- G. No players may wear metal spiked shoes.
- H. Jewelry shall not be worn except for religious or medical medals. A religious medal must be taped and worn under the uniform. A medical alert bracelet must be taped securely but may be visible. All other jewelry, including starter earrings, must be removed prior to the start of the game.
- I. Players may not use cracked, splintered, or altered bats.
- J. Any team using an ineligible player will be subject to suspension and/or forfeit of games in which the ineligible player was used.
- K. Managers may not add, suspend or drop any player from their roster without approval of their respective league.
- L. Double first base will be used for all leagues, if available at the field. This is designed to reduce the risk of collisions at first base.
 - a. On initial play at first base, batter/runner runs to orange base, fielder touches white base.

- b. After the initial approach, only the white base is in play for both runner and fielder.
 - c. If no play is made on batter/runner, he/she can touch white or orange base.
 - d. White base is used to determine fair or foul balls.
 - e. The only exception to this is for those leagues that use the dropped third strike or passed ball on ball four. The fielder would be anticipating a throw from the catcher who is retrieving the ball from foul territory; therefore, the fielder and batter/runner are to trade portions of the double base.
- M. Free substitution rule: Defensive only! Players may leave and re-enter a game defensively without penalty between innings. In case of injury, substitution can be made during an inning. For pitching substitution, see letter O. Free substitution does not affect batting position. However, **no player shall sit two innings until all players have sat one inning. All players shall play in the field at least 3 innings** in a complete game. Failure to do so will result in forfeiture of the game.
- N. Pitching substitution: No pitcher may pitch in more than three (3) innings in a game. One pitch constitutes an inning pitched. Pitchers may not exceed this limit even in extra-inning games. In addition:
- a. For boys, a pitcher can be removed as a pitcher, and reinserted as a pitcher, one time during the course of a game.
 - b. For girls, a pitcher can be removed as a pitcher, and reinserted as a pitcher two times during the course of a game.
- O. Batting order: Each league will use a continuous batting order.
- a. All players in attendance (arriving prior to one complete rotation of the batting order) bat one after another until all players have had a turn at bat. Once that order is complete, the rotation is established for the game, and players must bat in that order for the entire game. If a player must leave the game due to injury, or must leave the field entirely, as long as there are at least nine players remaining in the batting order, that player's batting position becomes closed; no out is recorded when that closed position comes up. If there are less than nine remaining in the batting order, that batting position is open, and an out is recorded when that open batting position comes up.
 - b. If a player arrives late (after one complete rotation of the batting order), that player will be inserted into the end of the order.
- P. There is no mandatory slide rule. When a play is being made on a runner at any base with the exception of first, the runner must slide or avoid contact with the defensive player. No head first slides into home plate. A stand up collision between the runner and a defensive player, unless deemed incidental by the umpire, will result in the runner being called out. A defensive player impeding a runner will result in the runner being called safe.
- Q. If a team requires replacement equipment during a game, it should be borrowed from the opposing team.

- R. A grace period of 10 minutes will be allowed if a team fails to appear with sufficient players to start the game. Legal number of players per team is 9. Play is allowed with 1 less than the legal number of players (or "8"), with an out recorded for the missing batting position. If each team has the legal number of players to start the game, that being 8, the game must begin on time; no grace period will be allowed.
- S. Batters/runners must wear a protective helmet. If a player loses his helmet accidentally during play, play will continue until completed. The umpire will then call timeout, and the player will get his helmet without penalty. A batter/runner who intentionally removes his helmet during play is automatically out.
- T. Any player warming up a pitcher must wear a catcher's mask.
- U. Any base coach under 18 years must wear a helmet.
- V. Pregame warm-ups: The home team will get the infield from 5:25 to 5:40, the away team will get the infield from 5:40 to 5:55.

II. UMPIRES

- A. The home teams' league will assign the home plate umpire (umpire in chief) for each game.
- B. Managers shall not umpire in a game in which they are involved unless the umpire in chief does not appear or is unable to complete the game. In this event, the managers should alternate innings or appoint another person who is mutually acceptable to both teams, to umpire. Alternatively, each team may appoint one person to umpire, and they will alternate innings. If no umpire equipment is available, the umpire will move behind the pitching mound.
- C. An umpire may eject a player for deliberate abuse of any equipment.
- D. An umpire may eject a participant and/or spectator for use of profanity, alcoholic beverages, disorderly conduct or unsportsmanlike conduct, harassment of the opposing team, or physical contact with any umpire. Failure to leave the premises after such an ejection will result in forfeiture of the game.
- E. Umpires will note all ejections on the game report sheet.
- F. Before the start of each game, the umpire in chief shall explain all ground rules of the field to both managers.
- G. The official start of a game is when the umpire calls "Play Ball."

III. MANAGERS/COACHES

- A. Head Coaches must be 18 years of age or older.

- B. A head coach, assistant coach, or responsible adult must be present at all games, practices, or team activities. Coaches, for their own protection, should always have another adult present when one or more players are present.
- C. Managers set the tone and provide the examples for all players and spectators conduct. They are responsible for all behavior good or bad at the field.
- D. Managers are responsible for the distribution of uniforms and equipment for their team and the return of the issued items to their league.
- E. Only the head coach (or an assistant coach designated as head coach for a game) may approach the umpire.
- F. Each head coach is responsible for furnishing a new game ball at each game.
- G. The head coach of the home team will furnish the game report sign-up sheet. Home team is listed last on the schedule and will occupy the third base bench. The Home team shall appoint someone to run the scoreboard, if one is available. The head coach shall designate a scorer who shall check with the opposing scorer after each inning to be sure that they are in agreement. Any dispute in scoring should be settled immediately with the umpire.
- H. Head coach of the home team is responsible for getting the bases before the game and returning the bases immediately after the game.
- I. The head coach of the winning team will be responsible for submitting a completed game report sheet within 24 hours of the game played to their league coordinator. Failure to do so may result in a loss for both teams.

IV. CALLED GAMES/DELAYS/POSTPONEMENTS

- A. All games must be played as scheduled. Head coaches may not postpone or reschedule games.
- B. All boy's games will start as scheduled with nine players, or a minimum of 8 players. Six players in the infield and three in the outfield. When a team fails to appear with the sufficient number of players, the game will be forfeited to the team with enough players. A game report must be filed by the winning coach. If neither team has sufficient payers, both teams will forfeit, and the home team coach will file the game report sheet.

All girl's games will start as scheduled with ten players, or a minimum of 8 players six in the infield and four in the outfield. The minimum number of players to start a game is eight from your own team. If a team has 8 players, there is no penalty. If a team has 7 players, that team may borrow a player with an automatic out when the 8th batter comes up to bat. The borrowed player (8th player on defense) is the player(s) who made the last out(s) in the previous half - inning. No borrowing of players in the playoff or tournament games. A team may borrow up to two (2) players from the opposing team to avoid a forfeit provided that player(s) play(s) the outfield (right if one player; right & left if two players) the entire game. Those players

shall only bat for their own team. A team can end a game with 8 players in the field. If at any time a team cannot field the minimum with the help of the other team, that team forfeits the game. If both teams cannot field the correct amount of players, both teams will be assessed a loss.

- C. The New Berlin Park and Recreation Department / may postpone a game for reasons other than weather. In his event, they will notify both coaches and reschedule. * New Berlin fields only
- D. In the event of adverse playing conditions at game time, the decision of whether to play shall be decided by the umpire in chief.
- E. The umpire in chief has the authority to suspend or call a game in progress because of rain, darkness, or other conditions.
- F. A called game will be considered as official if the visiting team is ahead after 4 innings or the home team is ahead after 3-1/2 innings.
- G. In the event of a called game prior to it becoming official (see F. above), the responsibility of notifying the New Berlin Park and Recreation Department lies with the home team coach who must do so within 2 days. The game will be rescheduled and replayed from the beginning. For Twi Night League & Whitnall League, contact your coordinator.

V. DIVISIONS AND TIE BREAKERS

- A. In leagues of seven teams or less, there is only one division. League winners will be determined by overall record. In the event of a tie, the first tie-breaker will be head-to-head competition.
- B. In leagues of more than seven teams, there will be more than one division. Division winners will be determined by:
 - a. Overall Record
 - b. Divisional Record
 - c. Head-to-Head Competition
 - d. Runs given up Head-to-Head Competition
 - e. Runs given up for all games in the season
 - f. Coin Toss
- C. If the Championship game cannot be scheduled and played (ie weather postponements), the following tie breakers will also be used to determine the League Champion:
 - a. Overall Record
 - b. Divisional Record
 - c. Head-to-Head Competition
 - d. Runs given up Head-to-Head Competition
 - e. Runs given up for all games in the season
 - f. Coin Toss

VI. PROTESTS

- A. Protests must be made at the time of the incident by notifying the umpire in chief and a notation must be made on the game report sheet indicating the inning the protest was made.
- B. All protests must be filed within 24 hours and must state the facts at the time the protest was made.
- C. Protests on judgmental calls will not be accepted.
- D. Protests must be accompanied by a \$25 fee, refundable if the protest is upheld.
- E. Protests should be mailed or delivered to:

NBAA
P.O. Box 510344
New Berlin WI 53151-0344

**ALL RULES ARE SUBJECT TO REVISION AND INTERPRETATION BY THE
RESPECTIVE LEAGUE COORDINATORS**

