

**Game Rules:**

- See Official Cal Ripken Baseball Rules
- Changes/amendments/additions indicated below:

**Coaching:**

- All teams are limited to 1 official head coach/manager and 1 official assistant coach/manager for roster purposes.
- Grievances with scheduling, umpiring, rules, protests, game results, etc. are to be directed to the league commissioner by the official coaching staff only.
- WYBSA reserves the right to approve/disapprove of all Assistant Coaches/Managers.

**Coaching/Team Expectations:**

- For each game, the Home Team is responsible for 2 game balls, base placement and field lining. The Home Team is also responsible for the return of applicable items to the lock box.
- Both teams are responsible for removing trash and debris in and around the dugout areas.
- Both teams are responsible for the replacement of all applicable equipment to the trailer.
- Both teams are responsible for maintaining field conditions (i.e. dragging the infield, repairing holes at mound and plate, etc.) upon game completion.
- To expedite the game and minimize delays between innings, Head coaches are required to post their lineup in their own dugout before the start of the game. The lineup should include projected positions for each inning. The coach may alter the lineup during the game to accommodate for absences, injuries, or other circumstances not anticipated. It is critical that the players know their positions prior to the start of an inning to keep the game moving.

**Sportsmanship:**

- All coaches, parents and players are required to demonstrate proper respect toward opponents, teammates, equipment and umpires. Disrespecting opponents, teammates, equipment or umpires is subject to disciplinary action.
- All issues and/or complaints will be investigated by the commissioner and/or Board.
- All players and coaches will congratulate their opponents at the conclusion of each game.
- All players are to hustle (run) on and off the field of play.
- WYBSA understands chanting and singing is part of the fun of baseball, however any chanting or singing should be in a positive vein for one's own team. Any negative chanting or singing towards your opponent, any timed chanting or singing to affect opposing pitcher, or any rhythmic chanting that is focused on distracting the opponent will be stopped immediately. We want to encourage the kids to have fun while being good sports.

**Scheduling/Game Length/Scoring**

- Every effort should be made to play all games as scheduled.
- Non-weather related cancellations are prohibited unless approved by league commissioner.
- All weather related cancellations will be rescheduled by the two affected coaches and scheduler for the next immediately available opportunity (possibly Sundays). Contact your commissioner if assistance is needed to reschedule games.
- Extra innings will be played IF before time limit.
- Game will be limited to 1 hr 45 min (complete the inning, if started before time limit).
- Playoff games will NOT have a time limit and will be played until the game is complete/official.
- The game ends if one team leads by 12 or more runs at the conclusion of the 4<sup>th</sup> inning.
- A Half inning ends after 5 runs cross the plate, in every inning except the last inning. Unlimited runs are permitted in the last inning for both teams.
- The home team is always allowed last at bat.(**example: rain after 5 ½ innings, score would revert back to end of 5 full innings**)
- The last inning depends on the pace of the game, and is not necessarily the 6<sup>th</sup> inning. It could be, for example, the 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> inning. Coaches and umpires must communicate during the game to determine the appropriate "last inning".
- 3.5 innings constitutes a complete (A/K/A "official") game (or 4 full innings if the visiting team is ahead). If the game is stopped because of rain or darkness, or the field is deemed unplayable after 3.5 or 4 innings (if the visiting team is ahead) then the game becomes a "complete" game.

- Incomplete games due to rain will be rescheduled by the two affected coaches and the scheduler for the next immediately available opportunity (possibly Sundays) and resumed where left off, with all statistics in place from game prior to delay. Strikes, balls, inning, score, etc... will be maintained.

### Standings:

- All standings will be maintained through the WYBSA website scoring portal.
- Within 24 hours of game completion, the winning team is responsible for reporting scores, call-up names and pitching information for both teams. The pitching report is to include the names of pitchers as well as the number of innings pitched by player.
- Standings will be determined via point system- 2 points for a win, 1 for a tie. Tie breaker will be head to head record, runs against, runs scored then coin toss.

### Farm League Call-ups:

- Team's fielding 9 or fewer players for any given regular season game may call-up players from the Farm League.
- Teams fielding 8 or fewer players for any given playoff game may call-up players from the Farm League.
- An official Call-up list will be provided by the Farm League Commissioner prior to opening day. (Minors and Farm league coaches must work together).
- A team may not call up the same player more than once in a 7 day period and called up players are not to miss their assigned team game as a result of a call up.
- FARM League call-ups may not pitch. **There are no exceptions.** Coaches who violate this rule will forfeit the game in which the violation occurred and risk suspension.
- FARM League call-ups must bat last in the order. Coaches who violate this rule will forfeit the game in which the violation occurred and risk suspension.
- Called up players are to be handled like the last player available in the line-up. Under no circumstances will a called up player play more innings or get more at bats than any one healthy player on the team calling up a player.
- **All call ups are to be reported to the Minors Commissioner.**

### Pitching:

- A pitching week runs Sunday to Saturday. Rest periods do not reset when a new pitching week begins.
- Once a pitcher has been removed from the mound for another pitcher, the removed pitcher cannot, under any circumstances, re-enter the same game as a pitcher. He or she can reenter the game as a position player. The removed pitcher will require the allocated rest between starts once removed from mound during his or her outing.
- All innings pitched in an incomplete game will count towards innings pitched for that week.
- A coach is allowed one trip to the mound per inning; on the second trip in an inning, the pitcher must be removed from the mound. Calling a pitcher or catcher to the sideline will be considered a trip to the mound.
- WYBSA pitching rules are setup around innings pitched. Pitchers shall be limited to 2 innings per day. Please pay close attention to the amount of pitches thrown. Kids at this age should not be throwing more than 45-50 pitches in an outing regardless of amount of innings played.
- Intentional walks are not allowed.
- Pitchers are limited to 6 innings per week **regardless of age.**
- Pitchers throwing 1 inning a game, do not require rest. Kids at this age should not be throwing back to back days if their 1 inning outing was not clean. If a player throws 35 pitches in a single inning, please use common sense on the next day- we do not want to injure a players arm.
- Pitchers throwing for 2 innings in a game, must rest for 1 full day.
  - If a pitcher pitches 2 innings on:
 

▪ Monday	They cannot pitch again until Wednesday.
▪ Tuesday	They cannot pitch again until Thursday.
▪ Wednesday	They cannot pitch again until Friday.
▪ Thursday	They cannot pitch again until Saturday.
▪ Friday	They cannot pitch again until Sunday.
▪ Saturday	They cannot pitch again until Monday.
▪ Sunday	They cannot pitch again until Tuesday

- 1 pitch constitutes an inning pitched.
- Pitchers who hit 2 batters in an inning, or 3 in a game, must be replaced.
- **NO curve balls, 1<sup>st</sup> time pitch is ruled a ball. 2<sup>nd</sup> time pitcher is removed from the mound for the remainder of the game.**
- All players are to be coached to pitch properly from the rubber. Many kids tend to move in front of the rubber, this is a safety issue as well as an opportunity for teaching good sportsmanship.

### Sliding/Stealing

- With the exception of first base, all base runners must slide or avoid contact on close plays.
- A close play results when the defending player, at the base in question, has the ball in his possession or is in the process of making a play on the ball.
- The final determination of a close play is at the discretion of the umpire.
- Headfirst slides are prohibited unless returning to a base.
- Teams are allowed 4 stolen bases per inning.
- Teams are allowed to steal home 1 time per game (**1 attempt**).
- Runners can advance on catcher overthrows, **except for home**. Advancements will count as a stolen base.
- If a catcher attempts a play on a lead, the runner is allowed to advance on an overthrow.
- No stealing on throws from the catcher to the pitcher, including overthrows to the pitcher.
- The ball is live on all other overthrows, including overthrows to the pitchers and catchers making the play on a base runner, and runners may advance at their own risk.
- When a pitcher has the ball on the mound, the ball is dead and base runners may not advance.
- Runners may not leave their base (steal and/or lead) until the pitch reaches the batter.
- If a runner leaves early (prior to the ball crossing the plate), the runner is returned to the original base of origin
- If a runner leaves early and the batter gets a hit, the runner may not advance farther than forced by the batter's action (i.e., if a runner is on first and leaves early and the batter hits a double, the runner from first may not advance farther than 3<sup>rd</sup> base)

### Batting Order:

- All players must bat.
- There is no pinch-hitting allowed.
- **Slashing is NOT allowed.**
- Late arrivals must bat last in the order.
- All offensive players on the field of play are required to wear helmets.
- Bunting is allowed and should be used appropriately.

### Fielding:

- Free substitution is allowed with the exception of the pitcher. See pitching rules above.
- All players must play a minimum of 4 innings in the field.
- Infield fly rule is in effect.
- **All players must play 1 inning of infield and 1 inning of outfield.**
- Catchers may catch up to 4 innings. Please try to rotate catchers in and please check on their health status. No catcher should be playing with leg pain.
- No "hidden ball" tricks allowed.
- Catchers are required to wear a cup.

Please direct all questions to your League Commissioner. Playoff format will be determined by Minors League Commissioner and WYBSA BOD.

**Minors League Commissioner – Jeff DeBaggis**