

2017 SCBA General/Association Rules

- A. **Purpose of the SCBA:** We are here to give the kids in our community a safe and fun environment to learn the games of softball and baseball. Remember, we are a recreational league and it should be treated as such. Everyone has a competitive side, and we do encourage kids and coaches to compete, but remember to do so in a respectful and courteous manner. Coaches and parents set the example for our children and what they see adults do, they too will want to emulate. You have one of the greatest powers of all as parents and coaches, influence. Please use it for good!
- B. **General Rules Disclaimer:** 2014 NFHS (National Federation of State High School Associations) Baseball Rules govern all SCBA Baseball play except as noted in 'Division Specific Playing Rules.' NFHS Baseball rule books can be purchased at www.nfhs.org.
- C. **Division/Grade Bracket:** The grade of the player (January 1, or home school equivalent of season to play) determines the division in which a player will participate. If the grade of the player permits, brothers or sisters will be assigned to the same team. A player may play in only one division at a time. The Division/Grade Bracket is located on the website.
- D. **Fees:** Any player assigned to a team cannot participate in regular season activities until registration fees have been paid or waived by the SCBA Board.
- E. **Head Coach:** The Head Coach will be selected before the drafting of the teams.
- F. **Coaches' Certification Clinic:** Each manager will attend a mandatory Coaches' Clinic to be held at a time to be announced by the Board each year. This is MANDATORY.
- G. **Attendance:** Any player missing two consecutive practices or games without a reasonable excuse may be brought before the SCBA Board for appropriate action. The manager must notify the Board in writing and all decisions will be final. No disciplinary action can be taken against a player without prior approval of the Board. The manager, parents and the player may be present at the review meeting. This rule should be made clear to all players at the first practice.
- H. **Tobacco:** No tobacco use on the playing field or in the dugout during the game. Smoke should never enter any area occupied by players or spectators.
- I. **Drugs & Alcohol:** Drug & Alcohol use will not be tolerated anywhere in the ball park.
- J. **Sportsmanship:** Any manager, coach, or player conducting himself in an unethical, immoral, or unsportsmanlike manner will be subject to review and disciplinary action by the Board and could be subject to suspension from SCBA. Coaches are emphatically reminded that they are to **TEACH AND MODEL APPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR**.
- K. **Ejection:** If a player is ejected at any time during a game, he will be confined to the bench for the remainder of that game and be under the supervision of the coach. That player's spot in the batting order will count as an out each time the player is due up. If a manager, coach, or spectator is ejected, he must leave the field. Umpires will file a report to the umpire coordinator on all ejections. A (1) one game suspension will be automatically imposed on any manager, coach, or player who is ejected from a game regardless of the circumstances. NO APPEALS. The one-game suspension will be the next played and completed game. Rainouts will not be considered played or completed games. If a manager, coach, spectator, or player is ejected a second time during the same season, the manager, coach, spectator, or player will be suspended for (2) two games, and the incident shall be brought before the SCBA BASEBALL Board for review.
- L. **Batting Line-Up:** All players present at the game are to bat in a continuous rotation throughout the game. Any player arriving late will be added to the bottom of the batting line-up. No Designated Hitters.

*During the regular season only, if a player that is present at the start of the game has vacated his spot in the batting line up, it shall not be counted as an out. If a player is ejected during a game, his spot in the line-up will count as an out at any time during tournament or regular season.

*During the In House Tournament, if a player is aware that he will be vacating his spot in the batting line up at some point in the game and the coach informs the umpire and other coach at the plate meeting prior to the game, his vacated spot in the batting line up will not count as an out. The intent is to encourage players to attend the game and play and minimize the impact on the team should they have to depart early. In the case of injury, game delays, emergencies, or other events occurring without prior knowledge and beyond the player's control that may result in a player having to vacate his batting spot prior to the end of the game, his vacated spot in the batting line up will not count as an out. If a player elects to vacate his spot in the batting line up, and does not meet the conditions above (ie: a player's girlfriend wants him to leave, or a player gets upset over a call and leaves the game, etc) his spot in the line-up will count as an out for the remainder of the game. If a player is ejected during a game, his spot in the line-up will count as an out at any time during tournament or regular season.

- M. **Cancelling Games:** The decision to cancel games will be made by the Board (or a person appointed by the board). All cancelled games will be updated on the rain hotline and the website (if possible) by 4:00 pm each day. If the first game of the day is cancelled due to poor field or weather conditions, the second and/or third game(s) still may be played. If the determination cannot be made by 4:00 pm then the decision to play the game will become a game-time decision.
- N. **Coaches' Agreements:** Coaches' Agreements will not override ANY pre written rule.
- O. **Player Rotation:** Coaches are asked to use common sense when playing players. Be courteous and allow all players a chance to experience every position. The idea is to make well-rounded players that can play every position. Do not use the "win-at-all-cost" mentality. Please rotate the players.
- P. **Practice:** Practices will not begin until the SCBA Board approves the practice schedule.
- Q. **Substitutions:** There will be free substitutions.
- R. **Location of Team Personnel:** The only players allowed to be inside the confines of the field shall be the batter, the on-deck batter, 2 team representatives at the 1st and 3rd base coaching box, and the players on defense (If a player is coaching a base, they must be wearing a helmet, no exceptions). All of team personnel including but not limited to players, coaches, and a scorekeeper shall be behind the fence in the dugout and not outside the fence. This is for safety of our players, coaches, and parents. A team will receive a warning for the first offense, 2nd offense will be an automatic out charged to the team who is violating. If the violating team is in the field, they will start with one out their next at bat. 3rd violation will result in ejection of the offending party.
- S. **Umpires:** SCBA game umpires will include the umpire-in-chief and one, two, three, or more field umpires. When possible, at least two umpires will be used. Any umpire has the authority to order a player, coach, or team attendant to do or refrain from doing anything that affects the administration of these rules and to enforce prescribed penalties. An umpire's jurisdiction begins when the umpire arrives at the playing field and ends when the umpire leaves the playing field at the conclusion of the game. **Only the official manager of any team participating in a game may address the umpire on any disputed play during the process of the game.** The umpire has a responsibility to keep control of the game and not allow situations to get out of hand. If there is only one umpire, he/she has complete jurisdiction in administering the rules and may take any position he/she desires, preferably behind home plate. Any umpires decision which involves judgment, such as whether a hit is fair or foul, whether a pitch is a strike or a ball, or whether a runner is safe or out, is final. But if there is reasonable doubt about some decision being in conflict with the rules, the coach may ask that the correct ruling be made. The umpire making the decision may ask another umpire for information before making a final decision. No umpire will criticize or interfere with another umpires decision unless asked by the one making it. ***Under no circumstance will arguing with the umpire be allowed. Umpires will give 1 warning to the parties involved. Second circumstance will be immediate ejection from the Field. This includes Coaches and Parents- No exceptions. Game will not resume until guilty party has left the Field. Players ejected from game will be confined to the bench under the coach's supervision. Ejection from games will be subject to SCBA playing rules and guidelines. Coaches and Parents are expected to show good conduct at all times to set good examples for the players.***
- T. **Forfeited Game:** Any team that is not able to provide enough players to play after ten minutes past the scheduled start of the game shall forfeit to the offended team.
 * A team may borrow from other teams within their division or the division directly below them in order to gain enough players to make it a legal contest. A team may borrow players from the team they are playing to gain enough to play a legal contest. If a team is able to borrow players from other teams within the division or the division below in time, the game will not be a forfeit, it will be a legal contest.
- U. **Protested Game:** NFHS rules apply and are as follows with SCBA specific condition. Protests should be filed with the SCBA Coordinator of your division and the SCBA Board of Directors. Such protests shall be filed using the proper procedure. All individual and team averages shall be included in the official records, except that no pitcher shall be credited with a victory or charged with a loss. Coaches must inform the Umpire-in-Chief before the next pitch is thrown of the protested game. Protests are permitted regarding rules one through nine only.