



Minors
Rules and Regulations

1. Cal Ripken / Babe Ruth Rules shall be used at all times, except in any circumstances when said rules are in direct conflict with posted SOBR Rules. In such case, SOBR shall supersede Cal Ripken / Babe Ruth Rules. Any protest situation must be resolved before continuation of play. Umpire shall be informed of nature of protest and Board Member on Duty (BMOD) shall be sought to rule on protest. BMOD is permitted to seek advice of other board members or officials as he or she determines is necessary to resolve protest, including by telephone conference. Only Rules Questions may be protested. Judgment calls can never be protested.
2. If umpires are not available, contact the Board Member on Duty.
3. Time Limit/Game Length – The official scorer (home team scorer) shall record the official start time in the scorebook according to the umpire’s watch or game clock. No new inning shall begin after the time limit has passed. If an inning starts within the time limit, it must be finished to the extent the outcome of the game may be affected.
 - Time Limit - 2 hours for games
 - If time permits, regulations games will be 6 innings per game
4. If a game is tied, extra innings will be played if there is 15 minutes or more remaining on the game clock, otherwise the game is declared a tie.
5. Mercy Rule - The game will end via 10 run rule when one team leads by 10 or more runs at the end of 3 ½ innings or 4 innings if the home team is behind.
 - 3 ½ innings complete if home team ahead (Visitors must bat 4 times)
 - 4 innings complete if home team behind (Both team have batted 4 times)

6. Weather decisions on field condition, practice / games being played, halting a game or completion of a game shall be made by the following people in order of availability:
 - Baseball President/Minor Director
 - Board Member on Duty
 - Head Umpire
 - Manager – May pull players from field only if both managers agree; however, managers MAY NOT postpone, reschedule or cancel a game. NOTE: Manager may cancel their practice at any time
7. Games halted by weather will be considered complete regulation games if at least:
 - 3 ½ innings complete if home team ahead (Visitors must bat 4 times)
 - 4 innings complete if home team behind (Both team have batted 4 times).
 - All games halted by weather and restarted at a later date shall be considered suspended games if games are not considered regulation games at the time of stoppage.
 - All halted playoff games shall be considered suspended games
8. Official Scorebooks for Minor league will be stored in the Concession Stand and must be returned to the Concession Stand immediately after games, or handed over the next home team MANAGER. Home team is responsible for keeping the “Official” score. Scorebooks will include official start time and the batting order will include first and last names of each player.
9. A team’s batting order must consist of at least 9 players. If a team drops below the required 9 players during the game and a Rookie player cannot be found in a timely manner to bring the team back to 9, than the team dropping below the required number will have to forfeit. The game may continue with eight however the official score will be a forfeit.
10. The batting order shall be the entire roster in attendance at the game. (i.e. the entire team must be in the batting order with no substitutions). If a player arrives after the game has started that player will be added as the last batter in the batting order.
11. If a manager is made aware that he/she is going to have less than the required 9 players at the start of the game than he/she must call up a player from the Rookie division. The call up player must bat last in the batting order except if a player arriving late arrives after the call up batter has batted. The call up player must play in the outfield except in the rare circumstance whereby 4 call up players are needed to field 9 then one call up player may play in the infield.

12. All BATTERS must wear a helmet at all times when batting, on base or on deck.
13. On deck batters are permitted in the on deck circle and must be in the circle to the back of the batter.
14. Players must remain in the dugout during games.
15. Exception: Trips to bathroom or water fountain – one at a time. No player should be sitting in the stands.
16. No fake attempt to bunt and then swing (slash bunt) is allowed. If this occurs the batter is out and ball/play is dead. All runners must return to the based occupied when the slash bunt occurred.
17. No head first slides into any base. Players may slide head first back to a base. Head first slides into a base will result in runner being called out and ball/play is dead.
18. Players must avoid contact. (Avoiding contact is umpire discretion)
19. Courtesy Runner Rule – A courtesy runner may be used for your pitcher or catcher. It is mandatory when there are two outs in the inning unless another player will become the catcher the next time the team is on defense. If the player you are planning to have catch the next time the team is on defense is on base that player may have a courtesy runner with less than 2 outs but must have one with 2 outs. The last batted out will be used as the courtesy runner. If a player is injured during the game and cannot run, and the player reaches base safely, the last batted out shall take his/her place on base as a runner. Refer to rule 31- 33 for further direction. If a player has an injury which occurred prior to the start of the game such that he/she is too injured to be able to run the bases, said player should not be permitted to participate in the game.
20. Infield Fly rule shall apply. The infield fly rule is a judgment call by the umpire and shall not be protested.
21. Only 3 Babe Ruth coaches are allowed on the field at one time.
22. Each team will play 9 defensive players in the field.
23. Each player will play a minimum of 3 defensive innings unless removed due to injury or illness.

24. Pitching will be according to SOBR Baseball Rules. Refer to SOBR Minors Pitching Rules.
25. Balks will not be called.
26. Dropped third strike rule is not in effect. Batter is out, runners may advance at their own risk.
27. Intentional walks are allowed, however pitcher must pitch all 4 balls. No automatic walks.
28. Coaches may warm up pitchers. Coaches must wear a mask if squatting to warm up a pitcher.
29. Catchers must have proper catcher's equipment (including protective cup).
30. Coaches should always try to ensure catchers are ready to take the field while their team is batting to speed up games.
31. In the event of injury, immediate medical attention shall be given and the player taken to the emergency room if necessary. Coaches should always carry Consent for Treatment forms in the team book for such emergencies. League President and Minors Director shall be notified immediately of injuries.
32. Any player bleeding during a game shall be removed until the bleeding has stopped and a bandage applied. If a bandage cannot be applied (bloody nose, Mouth etc.) then player must remain out of the game until bleeding has been stopped.
33. If a player is forced to leave the game as a result of injury which occurs during the game, the player may be removed from the game. A player removed from the game shall be skipped over and no out recorded when that player's turn to bat comes up. The injured player may be returned to the line up (in the same batting position) once they are physically able to resume play. If a team drops below the required 9 players and a Rookie player cannot be found in a timely manner to bring the team back to 9 then the team dropping below the required number will have to forfeit. The game may continue with eight however the official score will be forfeit.
34. Players shall not wear jewelry.
35. No metal cleats.
36. Behavior of players, managers, coaches and spectators will be according to the SOBR Code of Conduct.

37. Players or coaches ejected from a game will automatically sit the next game. An out will be recorded each time a ejected player's turn to bat comes up.
38. If a batted ball goes under the fence it will be ruled a ground rule double. The outfielders are encouraged to wave their hands in the air to notify the umpire that the ball has gone under, or is trapped under the fence.
39. Ball Buckets – Each team is permitted 2 ball buckets on the field while on defense. The bucket is for the defensive team only. It must be placed within 2 feet of the dugout fence in such a way to minimize any interference with the game. A defensive coach should be sitting on the ball bucket while it is on the field and the coach shall attempt to move the bucket if possible to minimize any interference with a live play. If no coach is sitting on the bucket it should be returned to the dugout. The ball bucket shall be considered part of the field of play and if hit by the ball, the ball shall remain live. The offensive team shall remove their bucket from the field when it is their turn at bat. There shall be no penalty for any ball hitting any bucket regardless of how it occurs.
40. Dress Code - The League furnishes each player with a hat, shirt, and socks. Uniform shirts will be tucked in and hats worn with hat bill facing forward. Per Babe Ruth rule 1.1, all players shall wear a uniform of like color, trim and style. SOBR has waived this rule in rare instances to allow players to play. Abuse of the exception to the uniform rule will be brought to the attention of the Board. Players shall make every attempt to play in uniform, including replacing lost uniform at their expense.

SOBR Minors Pitching Rules

1. Pitching week starts on Monday and ends on Sunday.
2. Pitching limitations:
 - Each pitcher can pitch up to 6 (six) innings per week
 - An inning consists of the pitcher throwing at least 1 (one) pitch to a batter once the umpire has returned the game to play.
 - Pitcher may pitch any number of innings in a game until the week limit.
 - Any pitcher pitching 2 or more innings in a game must have 2 (two) calendar days of rest until they are eligible to pitch again.
 - Upon 2 (two) trips to the mound by a coach in the same inning with the same pitcher - manager must remove the pitcher from the mound and the pitcher is ineligible to return as pitcher for that game.
3. Pitching rules broken will result in the pitcher not being able to pitch in their next eligible game. Managers will be suspended for 1 (one) game or more based on the decision by the Baseball Board of Directors.