



AnJo BASEBALL RULES

American Division

The following rules are to be read by all the managers before the season starts. It is the managers' responsibility to be sure the rules are understood and carried out.

Rules of National Baseball League will govern games played in the An/Jo Baseball League unless superseded by a rule printed here in. The Board of Directors will make final interpretations of the rules and all rulings are final.

1. **SPORTSMANSHIP**

- A. Fair play and good sportsmanship are main objectives.
- B. Fighting or abusive language will not be tolerated by players, coaches or team parents.
- C. **Smoking is *prohibited* at New Era Fields at An/Jo Park and Sports Complex.**
- D. Players not participating will remain on the bench at all times.
- E. Only players, managers, batboys, coaches, and scorekeepers will be allowed on the bench.
- F. **All teams will have 2 team captains per game. Please rotate team captain by game so each player gets a game to be the captain.**
- G. All managers will conduct themselves as gentlemen and good sports, setting a good example for the players. Please respectfully discuss any issues during the game with the umpire and opposing coach in a responsible manner.
NOTE: All managers and coaches will wear Team Jersey or AnJo wear during the games.
- H. Harassment of the umpires or unsportsmanlike behavior by either the managers or players is subject to disciplinary action by the Board of Directors.
- I. Anyone connected with the AN/JO Baseball League who is found to have wagered on an AN/JO game

will be barred from taking any further active part in AN/JO sports activities. Pete Rose Rule!

- J. Any spectators or players who harass players or disrupt the ball game will be ejected by request of managers, the umpire in charge of the game, or the park attendant.
- K. **If the umpire observes any thrown equipment in anger, the offense will result in the offending player being ejected from the game. The offending player will be reported to the Division Vice President and will be subject to disciplinary action by the Board of Directors.**
- L. Alcoholic beverages on ball fields before, during, or immediately following games or practices are strictly prohibited by managers, coaches, players, or parents. This rule will be in effect on all baseball diamonds that the An/Jo Baseball League participates on. The manager of each team is responsible for enforcing this rule. Any violation of this rule will be subject to dismissal of the manager in question.

2. ELIGIBILITY

- A. Age, American Division-eligible players between the ages of 9 and 11 years of age. Any player reaching the age of 12 before May 1, will be ineligible for this division.
- B. Players and parents (guardians) must have signed, completed and paid registration form before practice commences.
- C. All players must have their age verified by birth certificate or baptismal records. Any falsification of age will terminate playing in the AN/JO Baseball League and result in a forfeit loss of all games the offending player participated in.
- D. All fees must be paid by the first week of practice at the latest.
- E. **Please make players and parents responsible for respecting the team and coach by contacting the coach if they are not able to attend a game or practice. Encourage the players to let coaches know in advance when they are not available for a game to avoid any forfeits. If a player misses games or practices without notification then the coach can limit their playing time.**
- F. If a manager questions the eligibility of a player from an opposing team, he must enter a protest with the Board of Directors. Teams using ineligible players will forfeit all games the player in question participated in.
- G. No player can be added to a team roster after the season commences without Board approval

3. EQUIPMENT

- A. All managers will sign for equipment at the beginning of the season, and will be responsible at the close of the season that such equipment will be turned in at the designated date set by the Board of Directors. All baseballs must be turned in with the equipment.

- B. **No catcher is permitted to take his position during the game without full equipment. This rule must not be violated. This includes warm-ups. Full equipment includes helmet and cup.**
- C. All players must wear full uniforms. Players must wear helmets when batting and warming up at pitcher. Players must use regulation gloves according to the position played. Failure to wear the proper uniform will exempt players from participating without the approval of the managers.

NOTE- This is not a protestable rule. A minimum of shirt, pants, and hat should be worn. It is the responsibility of the managers to make sure that players are attired in the proper uniform.
- D. **Pitchers must wear batting helmets when warming up prior to the start of each inning.**
- E. The umpire will pick up 2 baseballs before the game. At the conclusion of the game each coach will award one of the game balls to a player on their team.
- F. A bat cannot be greater than 2 ¼ in diameter and -13 to be legal.

4. PLAYOFFS

- A. In case of tie, when the game is called after completion of 4 innings in the **American** Division the game will be replayed. In case a game is not completed it shall replayed in its entirety. Extra innings are played if necessary.
- B. Playoff format will be determined by the Board of Directors.

5. PITCHING

PLEASE USE YOUR BEST JUDGEMENT TO INSURE THE SAFETY OF OUR PLAYERS

- A. Each An/Jo American Division pitcher is eligible to pitch a maximum of 8 innings in a week. The week runs Monday- Sunday.
- B. **Each An/Jo American Division pitcher is eligible to pitch a maximum of 2 innings per game.**
- C. **If a pitcher hits three (3) batters in a game, he/she will be replaced immediately.**

REMEMBER-ONE PITCH CONSTITUTES AN INNING PITCHED

Rained out, forfeited, suspended or scrimmage games count toward the maximum of 8 innings pitched.

6. GENERAL

THESE RULES APPLY TO BOTH REGULAR SEASON GAMES AND PLAYOFF GAMES.

- A. All games will be played 6 innings in the **American** Division therefore 4 full innings constitutes a ball game. Home team does not have to bat if they are leading in the bottom half of the 6th inning in the **American** Division.
- B. **No new innings may be started after 8:15 P.M or after 2 hours and 15 minutes for day games. Games are scheduled to begin at 6:00 P.M. and no later than 6:15 P.M. Failure to field a team within fifteen minutes of the scheduled start of the game will result in immediate forfeiture of the game.**
- C. Games must be played as scheduled. On all rained out games or postponements the game will be played at 5pm on the immediately following Sunday. If two games are postponed in one week, a double-header will be played. Umpires will be obtained through the Board. If not played as scheduled by the Board a forfeit will result.
- D. Grounds crew in conjunction with the AnJo Board Members will be responsible for calling off the games, if fields become unsuitable for playing.
A decision will be made in a timely fashion to contact the coaches who should in turn contact their team.
- E. In the event an umpire does not show up for the game it will be rescheduled. If a suitable volunteer is found and both managers agree to this, they must sign each others scorebook and the game can be played. AnJo will pay the volunteer umpire the umpires fee.
- F. Write ups are to be sent to Lockport Journal Sports Editor with copy to AVP.
- G. The league prohibits the use of the hidden ball trick. Catchers are not required to catch the third strike.
- H. **All players in attendance and able to play in a given game *must play at least 3 innings* during a game or a forfeit will result.** This includes playoff games. Once the batting lineup is set, it can not be altered unless a player must leave the game due to injury or personal conflict where the player must leave the diamonds. Batting order will consist of all players in attendance (max of 12), but a maximum of 10 batters may bat in an inning.
- I. The manager or a responsible person shall keep the score book. All score books will be kept neat and legible. They will be inspected periodically by the Division Vice-President.
- J. All managers will be issued rules, write up sheets, and schedules are on the website!.
- K. An All-Star game may be played during the season. The Board of Directors will determine the format.
- L. American Division - The regulation pitching distance will be used for all 10 or 11 year old pitchers. The regulation distance is 46 feet from the front of pitching rubber to the rear point of home plate.
- M. **In the American Division a runner may not attempt to advance unless the ball is hit or catcher can make a play on the ball . A runner leaving the base early will result in a team warning by the umpire and the next infraction by that team will result in an out called.**

- N. Once a pitcher is removed from the game he/she cannot return as a pitcher.
A forfeit will result if this rule is broken.
- O. No player under suspension by his/her manager for an infraction of team or league rules will sit out more than 1 game. The league reserves the right to suspend players for a period longer than two consecutive games depending on the seriousness of the infraction. Suspended player MUST attend the game in which they are suspended.
- P. **It is the responsibility of the team manager to insure his team is represented by him self or a team representative, at each managers meeting.**
- S. The infield fly rule shall be in effect during all games.
- T. The **American** Division will play with 10 position players in the game (4 outfielders playing at outfield depth!).
- U. **The 10 batter rule will be in effect for the 1st 5 innings in the American Division. It does not hold for the 6th or any extra innings played. 3 outs need to be made to end a game in the 6th inning. Intentional walks are not permissible at any point in the game.**
- X. All protests will be considered by the Board of Directors of the AN/JO Baseball League, and its determination will be binding.

General Rules

The following rules are designed to prevent forfeits due to the lack of players and to give more playing time to capable players.

- A. If a manager realizes that he will be short of players or with 9 players, he may **only** receive players from the **younger division** of the team that is in need of players.

Contact David Delisanti at 445-7616 or ddelisanti@gmail.com if you are in need of a player to fill our roster for a game. He will contact a rookie player to fill in for your team for that game.

- B. **Catchers at home plate**

Instruct catchers to wait for the runner in front of the plate instead of blocking the plate to prevent a possible collision. This rule applies to all divisions.

- C. **On deck batter**

There will be only one other player off the bench when team is batting. That player will be in a designated area called a batting circle, which will be determined by the manager before the game.

- D. **Bunting**

Bunting is an acceptable way of getting a hit.

E. Dead Ball

The play is considered dead when the pitcher has control of the ball on the mound. If a player is between bases he/she will be granted the next base. This rule will be in effect for all innings inclusive of the last batter when the ten-batter rule is in effect.

F. Stealing is permitted from 1st to 2nd and 2nd to 3rd. Runner can only be scored from 3rd on a batted ball.

G. One coach must coach one of the bases. A helmeted player or a coach may coach the other base.