

## CYO Baseball Rules

All CYO baseball teams will play according to the National Federation of State High School Associations rules unless otherwise specified in the rules as outlined below.

### Field Dimensions:

5th/6th grade divisions will use a base distance of 60 feet and pitching distance of 46 feet.

7th/8th grade divisions will use a base distance of 80 feet and a pitching distance of 54 feet.

On Deck Batters/Circles permitted for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade levels but not at 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grades?

### Equipment (Balls, Bats, Shoes):

Each team is to supply two new baseballs for each game.

5th/6th grade division will use a Little League approved baseballs.

5th/6th grade division may use Little League approved bats that in diameter at the thickest part are 2 1/4" or less.

5th and 6th graders must wear tennis shoes or rubber cleated shoes only.

7th/8th grade division will use a Babe Ruth or Pony approved baseball.

7th/8th grade divisions may use bats as described in the NFHS Rule Book.

There are NO BESR requirements for bats used in CYO Baseball games.

7th and 8th graders may wear steel cleated shoes.

### Line Ups & Substitutions:

All 5th and 6th grade division teams will be required to place every player on the roster in the batting line-up. It is expected that each player will play 2 innings in the field every game and hopefully bat at least once in the game.

There is a 'free' substitution of players in the 5th and 6th grade division.

In the 7th and 8th grade division, it is expected that each player will play 2 innings in the field and get at least one at-bat. Infractions may result in disciplinary action towards both the team and the offending coach.

NFHS Substitution rules apply for the 7th and 8th grade division. Any of the starting players may withdraw and re-enter once provided such player occupies the **same batting position in the lineup**. A substitute who is withdrawn may not re-enter again.

A pitcher removed from the pitching position and remaining on the field and in the lineup may pitch again provided that at least one batter has been put out, or reached base, or a third out has been made.

All teams at all levels must have 9 players to start a game, but may finish with less than 9 players if an injury or the substitution rule makes it necessary.

The use of a designated hitter in the game is **NOT PERMITTED** by any team at any level?

## Scorekeeping and Game Parameters:

All games shall consist of SEVEN innings or a time limit of 2 1/2 hours unless the game is tied.

If a game is called on account of darkness or weather, four innings shall constitute a regulation game.

Umpires are to record the game start time in the official scorebook.

The designated home team must furnish a scorebook and competent scorekeeper who will maintain the official score book for that contest.

If a team is ahead by ten or more runs at the end of 5 innings, the game will be called using a "ten run rule".

## Stealing Bases, Sliding and Malicious Contact:

5th/6th grade players will be **CALLED OUT** for leading off (leaving early) prior to a pitched ball crossing home plate.

5th/6th grade division batters may not run on a dropped third strike.

A runner must slide at home when a play can be made.

Any runner sliding head first, other than as part of a pick off play, will be **CALLED OUT**.

If a runner maliciously slides or runs into a player, the runner will be removed from the game.

**If there is malicious contact at home plate – does the run count? Is the runner OUT as well as ejected?**

## Pitching Limitations:

5th/6th grade division players may only pitch a total of 4 innings in any one game, and may pitch a total of 8 innings during any 72 hour period.

7th/8th grade division players may pitch only a total of 10 innings during any 72 hour period.

A scheduled game's starting time to a scheduled game's starting time shall be the criteria used in the 72 hour rule.

Delivery of a single pitch constitutes having pitched an inning. The inning pitch count shall apply to all organized baseball. Infractions of this rule will result in forfeiture.

## Inclimate Weather:

In the event of rain, the home team coach is responsible for checking the field at least **two hours** prior to game time to determine whether or not the field is playable.

If the field is unplayable, the home team coach must notify the NBUA umpires association and the opposing coach at least **two hours** before game time.

The home team coach shall be responsible for re-scheduling rained out games (with the concurrence of the opposing coach) and notifying the league commissioner and the CYO Athletic Director. The league commissioner and the CYO Athletic Director must be given a full week's notice for all make-up games in order to provide time for scheduling umpires for the games. The league commissioner and the CYO Athletic Director have the authority to forfeit games that are not re-scheduled.

## **Post Season Playoff Tournament Rules:**

All players on the team's roster are to play in each playoff tournament game.

Every player must play the field for a minimum of one inning and get at least one at-bat.

5th/6th American and National leagues will not bat the roster in playoff tournament games.

High school substitution rules apply during playoffs.

No time limit for playoff games.

A coin toss will decide the home team in the championship games.

"Ten run rule" does not apply for championship games.