

**KINGSLEY/BUCKLEY/MESICK/MANTON RECREATION LEAGUE,
INC. ALL LEAGUE RULES
Revised 4/2018**

Responsibilities

Coaches- The running of practices at the league scheduled day & time. Teaching the players the fundamentals of the game, sportsmanship, and the respect of the other team, coaches and umpires. Coaches are also responsible for the behavior of their fans toward the players, and umpires. Inappropriate behavior by the spectators should be addressed by the coach, or a league official should be contacted.

Players- Participate, to the best of their ability, for their team. Show good sportsmanship, and respect for their teammates, other players, coaches and the umpires.

Umpires- Arrive 15 minutes prior to game start to meet with coaches. Call the game, to the best of their ability, based on the current league rules for the division. Monitor the behavior of all players, coaches, and players. Acts of unsportsmanship will not be tolerated. The umpire has the discretion to warn or eject a player, coach, or fan for any behavior not deemed appropriate. Repeated offenses or failure to leave the game will result in a team forfeit.

Scorekeepers- Keep track of balls & strikes, indicate how a player reaches base (BB, 1B, 2B, etc.), indicate how a player gets out (K-strikeout, FO-flyout, PO-putout at which base, RO-force out at which base), compare scores after every inning.

Spectators/Fans/Parents- Encourage and cheer for all participants. Leave the coaching to the coaches. Leave the umpiring to the umpires. If you wish to take on either of these tasks please contact a local league official. Please remember you represent your family, team, and community with the way you behave.

Common Rules

- 1) All players are placed into their appropriate leagues based on gender and age. The cutoff date for determining age, will be June 1st. A player is not allowed to play down into another league. A player may play up only if it is to be on a sibling's team and the league approves the move.
- 2) Players must sign up within their school district (Kingsley, Buckley, Mesick, Manton). No out of district players will be allowed.
- 3) When an area has more than one team per league it is recommended that the teams are divided by using a draft of players. The draft will be set up by the local Board.
- 4) League schedules will be put out as soon as possible after the teams are drafted. Practice schedules will be handled by each local board.
- 5) **Standings will be kept in all leagues except T-Ball. A team will get 3 points for a win, 2 points for a tie (please play out all ties when time permits), 1 point for a loss, and 0 points for a game that is not rescheduled.**

Playoffs will take place after the completion of the season for all leagues except T-ball. Playoff seedings will be determined by regular season standings. Tiebreakers will be used to break all ties. The tiebreakers are:

- 1) Head to head
- 2) Records against common opponents, starting with the 1st place team.
- 3) The winner of the last regular season game played head to head.

- 6) The local board will meet with umpires before the season to discuss new rules and interpretations. Whenever possible the umpires for A-League & Fast Pitch will be at least 18 years old.
- 7) Taunting designed to distract or intimidate the opposing team, or racism is unsportsmanlike conduct and will not be tolerated. The umpire will give one warning to the guilty team. On second offense, the forfeit will be called. Chanting (i.e. "batter batter batter swing, goodeye goodeye, etc) will no longer be allowed by either team at any point during the game.
- 8) The home team is determined by the league schedule and must furnish the official scorebook. Lineups need to be in 10 minutes before game time. All players must wear uniforms furnished by the league, or similar shirt if one is missing. Lineups will include the player name and player number.
- 9) The home team is responsible for one league approved new ball and one good used ball. They are also responsible for setting the bases at least 30 minutes prior to start of the game. The home team gets infield practice from 30 minutes to 15 minutes prior to game time, the visiting team the last 15 minutes before game time. Fair/foul lines along 1st & 3rd baselines are not a requirement to play a game.
- 10) Coaches are to remain in the dugout or behind the fence at all times. One 1st base coach and one third base coach allowed when team is batting. Exception is T-ball where two coaches will be allowed on the defensive field
- 11) The home team furnishes the umpire for home plate (and 3rd base) and the visiting team for the 1st and 2nd base. The league will provide the home plate umpire for all A-League, Fast Pitch, Jr League, and Slow pitch games. If the visiting team cannot furnish a base umpire the home team may supply one. If neither team can supply one the home plate umpire can make all the calls.
- 12) All leagues can field up to 10 players (4 outfielders and 6 infielders, no short fielders allowed) Teams with less than seven (7) players will forfeit the game. Outfielders must play on the grass of outfield. Infielders need to start the play behind the baseline in all leagues except A-League & Fast Pitch & Boys Jr. League 1st & 3rd basemen. There will be two infielders on each side of the base. NO SHIFTS in any league.
There will be no participation of any individual, in the field or otherwise, that is not of the appropriate age for that league.
- 13) No metal spikes, rubber coated metal spikes, or ceramic spikes are allowed. If a player comes to a game wearing jewelry, they must either take it off or cover it up with tape. Medical alert jewelry is allowed.
- 14) The whole team bats in order. If a player arrives late to a game he/she will be able to participate, but needs to be added to the bottom of the batting order. A player arriving after the start of the third inning will not be allowed to play unless coaches decide otherwise. A team is allowed to bat out of order, without penalty the first time through the order. Lineups will be adjusted if this happens. All other infractions will result in out of order player being called out, after seeing one pitch or swing. A player missing an at bat for an on field injury or illness will be skipped in the order without penalty. All such occurrences have to be made known to both teams and approved by the umpire.
- 15) All players must stay on the bench, unless they are batting, on deck, or in the field.
- 16) Throwing of the bat will result in a team warning. The next infraction will result in the player being called out. The play is live for all other players on a batter being called out.
- 17) All base runners and batters must wear protective helmets. *Catchers must wear full gear.* Players cannot take off their helmets while at bat, on base, while running, or while walking back to the dugout. EXCEPTIONS: A: If there is a "time out" called. B: If the game is stopped or called, then only while walking back to the dugout. C: If the helmet falls off, with no assistance from the runner, while running the bases.

- 18) All fielders must stay off the base/plate when there is no play. Failure to do so will result in a player warning, and the runner being called safe or advancing to the next base, if obstruction is determined by the umpire. Continued obstruction will result in the player being asked to switch positions.
- 19) There will be no rescheduling of games for any other reason than weather or school functions. All other games are to be played as scheduled. Rain outs will be called by both coaches by 5:30 p.m. Rain out games must be rescheduled at the time of the cancellation and must be played within 10 days of being cancelled. **Your district (Kingsley, Buckley, Manton, Mesick) must be notified by coaches only of a cancelled or to reschedule a game.** Parents contact your coaches to see if a game is cancelled not a league representative. In the event of Lightning the game will be delayed for 15 minutes from the last flash of lightning. Please use common sense. We want the games to be played but not at the expense of our kids.
- 20) During the school year, all games need to be finished by 9:00pm. An inning should not be started after 8:30pm. Once the school year is finished the game should be played until dark. All ties need to be played out with time limits in mind.
- 21) No league rule is to be altered at any time
- 22) All school fields and property are smoke/drug/alcohol free. **NO SMOKING ALLOWED**
- 23) Both coaches and the umpires need to discuss all rules, including local ground rules, before the game.
- 24) For the safety of all players, the diameter of the bat will be no greater than 2 ¼". The enforcement of this rule will be up to the coaches, not the umpires.
- 25) Players using the on deck area are to use it on their dugout side only. Batters must keep one foot in batter's box at all times
- 26) Any player that participates in a high school game (JV or Varsity) is allowed to participate in this league once the high school season is complete if they are age appropriate. If they pitch more than 10 innings in any high school games they will not be able to pitch in this league.
- 27) Players are only allowed to play in one Recreational league during the season. For example: They cannot play in both a junior league and A league. This DOES NOT include other travel leagues.