



# Anne Arundel Baseball Cooperative

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## Playing Rules for 4-5U Division (Clinic Tee Ball)

Revised March 30, 2017

### 1. General

- a. This division shall follow the PONY league rules for this division, except where modified herein.
- b. Coaches from both teams will be designated as umpires prior to the start of the game.
- c. For the spring season, a player's age is his age on May 1 of the current year. A player may not be older than 5 to play in this division.
- d. A player shall not also be on a travel or select team.

### 2. Field & Equipment

- a. 50 foot bases. A pitching circle approximately 35 feet from the plate. A fair ball Arc approximately 8 feet in front of the plate.
- b. The Home Team and/or Organization is responsible for preparing the field for play.
- c. The Home Team shall select its dugout before the Visiting Team.
- d. The Visiting Team is entitled to use the infield for practice beginning 30 minutes before the scheduled start of the game. The visiting team must yield the infield to the home team 15 minutes before the scheduled start of the game.
- e. Both teams shall supply one NEW game ball, and one GOOD back-up ball. A soft or safety ball is used in this division.
- f. Metal bats may be no more than 2 ¼" diameter. Wood bats ARE allowed.
- g. Plastic cleats are permitted, but not required.
- h. Protective cups are NOT required.
- i. SAFETY. Batters and baserunners must wear helmets at all times. There is only one batter allowed on deck at a time. The only players allowed to swing a bat are the batter and the on deck hitter.

### 3. Game & Innings

- a. There will be a short pre-game conference held at home plate between opposing managers to discuss these and any other ground rules.
- b. A regular game is 4 innings. A shortened game (for time, weather, etc.) is official if it has completed 3 innings.
- c. No new inning shall start after 1 hour from the start time.
- d. 1st half of season - team outs are NOT counted. An offensive inning consists of one time around the batting order regardless of the number of outs made by the defensive team. 2nd half of season - team outs ARE counted. An offensive inning ends after three outs, or max of once around the batting order. IF one defensive team turns three outs twice in the same game, all remaining innings revert to once around the batting order.
- e. Scores will not be kept, so there is NO run limit or mercy rule in this division.

### 4. Batting & Baserunning

- a. All players on the roster will bat continuously. The order must be announced prior to game time, but no later than the pre-game conference.



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- b. A team may start with any number of players. If a player must leave the game for any reason, he is simply removed from the batting order. Any player arriving late is inserted at the end of the batting order.
- c. 1st half of season - all batters hit from the tee. There is no coach pitching. 2nd half of season - a coach pitcher may throw up to 6 pitches to each batter. Balls and strikes are not counted. If a fair ball is not hit in 6 pitches, the batter hits from a tee.
- d. Batter and runners advance as far as they can during the batted ball. Once a batted ball has been fielded and thrown by a fielder, runners may not advance beyond the base they are on or already headed to.
- e. If a batter or runner is put-out, they must go back to the bench, whether team outs are being counted that inning or not.
- f. First and third base coaches are permitted in the coaching boxes to coach the runners.
- g. Bunting is NOT permitted.
- h. Leading off is NOT permitted. Players cannot leave the base until the bat makes contact with the ball.
- i. Stealing is NOT permitted.
- j. No sliding at any base or plate. Do not teach players to collide with defensive players.

## 5. Pitching

- a. The manager or a coach may pitch to the batters during the 2nd half of the season, but any batter may elect to hit straight from the tee all season.
- b. If a batter is pitched to, he may receive not more than 6 pitches, good or bad. If a fair ball is not hit after 6 pitches, then the batter must use the tee. This MUST be enforced or games will become too long and uninteresting for the children.

## 6. Fielding

- a. All players are in the field on defense.
  - i. A catcher is optional, but must wear a catcher's helmet and mask, and stand well away from home plate. The catcher is used to make plays at home and field balls hit near the plate.
  - ii. A pitcher is placed on the mound, no closer than 38 feet.
  - iii. The remaining players are placed around the infield area, with one designated first baseman. A defensive coach is permitted, and encouraged, to be on the field behind players for instructional purposes. Coaches are not to touch a live ball.
- b. Play will stop when the batted ball is first thrown by any fielder.
- c. Coaches shall position runners between bases to the nearest base.
- d. No extra bases on overthrows, in play or out of play.
- e. One defensive coach is permitted on the field to guide the players in the fielding of their positions.



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## Playing Rules for 6U Division (Clinic Coach Pitch)

Revised March 14, 2017

### 1. General

- a. This division shall follow the PONY league rules for this division, except where modified herein.
- b. Coaches from both teams will be designated as umpires prior to the start of the game.
- c. For the spring season, a player's age is his age on May 1 of the current year. A player may not be older than 6 to play in this division.
- d. A player shall not also be on a travel or select team.

### 2. Field & Equipment

- a. 50 foot bases. A pitching circle approximately 35 feet from the plate. A fair ball Arc approximately 8 feet in front of the plate.
- b. The Home Team and/or Organization is responsible for preparing the field for play.
- c. The Home Team shall select its dugout before the Visiting Team.
- d. The Visiting Team is entitled to use the infield for practice beginning 30 minutes before the scheduled start of the game. The visiting team must yield the infield to the home team 15 minutes before the scheduled start of the game.
- e. Both teams shall supply one NEW game ball, and one GOOD back-up ball. A soft or safety ball is used in this division.
- f. Metal bats may be no more than 2 ¼" diameter. Wood bats ARE allowed.
- g. Plastic cleats are permitted, but not required.
- h. Protective cups are NOT required.
- i. SAFETY. Batters and baserunners must wear helmets at all times. There is only one batter allowed on deck at a time. The only players allowed to swing a bat are the batter and the on deck hitter.

### 3. Game & Innings

- a. There will be a short pre-game conference held at home plate between opposing managers to discuss these and any other ground rules.
- b. A regular game is 5 innings. A shortened game (for time, weather, etc.) is official if it has completed 3 innings.
- c. No new inning shall start after 1 hour from the start time.
- d. Team outs are counted. An offensive inning ends after three outs, or max of once around the batting order. If one defensive team turns three outs twice in the same game, all remaining innings revert to once around the batting order.
- e. Scores will not be kept, so there is NO run limit or mercy rule in this division

### 4. Batting & Baserunning

- a. All players on the roster will bat continuously. The order must be announced prior to game time, but no later than the pre-game conference.



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- b. A team may start with any number of players. If a player must leave the game for any reason, he is simply removed from the batting order. Any player arriving late is inserted at the end of the batting order.
- c. A coach pitcher throws up to 6 pitches to each batter. Balls and strikes are not counted. If a fair ball is not hit in 6 pitches, the batter hits from a tee.
- d. Batter and runners advance as far as they can during the batted ball. Once a batted ball has been fielded and thrown toward a fielder in the infield, or a play is made on a runner, runners may not advance beyond the base they are on or already headed to.
- e. If a batter or runner is put-out, they must go back to the bench, whether team outs are being counted that inning or not.
- f. First and third base coaches are permitted in the coaching boxes to coach the runners.
- g. Bunting is NOT permitted.
- h. Leading off is NOT permitted. Players cannot leave the base until the bat makes contact with the ball.
- i. Stealing is NOT permitted.
- j. No sliding at any base or plate. Do not teach players to collide with defensive players.

## 5. Pitching

- a. The manager or a coach pitches to the batters all season.
- b. Each batter receives not more than 6 pitches, good or bad. If a fair ball is not hit after 6 pitches, then the batter must use the tee. This MUST be enforced or games will become too long and uninteresting for the children.

## 6. Fielding

- a. All players are in the field on defense.
  - i. A catcher is optional, but must wear a catcher's helmet and mask, and stand well away from home plate. The catcher is used to make plays at home and field balls hit near the plate.
  - ii. A pitcher is placed on the mound, no closer than 38 feet.
  - iii. The remaining players are placed around the infield area, with one designated first baseman. A defensive coach is permitted, and encouraged, to be on the field behind players for instructional purposes. Coaches are not to touch a live ball.
- b. Play will stop when the ball is returned to the infield, or after first throw to a base on an infield ball.
- c. Coaches shall position runners between bases to the nearest bases not make a play. No baiting the catcher.
- d. No extra bases on overthrows out of play.
- e. One defensive coach is permitted on the field to guide the players in the fielding of their positions.



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## Playing Rules for 8U Division (Pinto/Rookies)

Revised March 14, 2017

### 1. General

- a. This division shall follow the PONY league rules for this division, except where modified herein.
- b. The Home Team shall pay the FULL Umpire Fee. If the home organization does not provide umpires for this division, then a coach from both teams will be designated as umpires prior to the start of the game.
- c. For the spring season, a player's age is his age on May 1 of the current year. A player may not be older than 8 to play in this division.
- d. A player shall not also be on a travel or select team.
- e. Rules labeled as COACH PITCH, MACHINE PITCH, or KID PITCH only apply to the divisions that have agreed to play by those rules before the start of the season.

### 2. Field & Equipment

- a. 50 foot bases. A 7-foot diameter pitching circle, centered approximately 35 feet from the plate. A fair ball Arc, approximately 8 feet in front of the plate, beyond which the ball must go to be a fair ball. Three Basepath Marks, half-way between first and second, second and third, and third and home; used to position runners to the nearest base when play is stopped.
- b. The Home Team and/or Organization is responsible for preparing the field for play.
- c. The Home Team shall select its dugout before the Visiting Team.
- d. The Visiting Team is entitled to use the infield for practice beginning 30 minutes before the scheduled start of the game. The visiting team must yield the infield to the home team 15 minutes before the scheduled start of the game.
- e. Both teams shall supply one NEW game ball, and one GOOD back-up ball. A regular hard ball is used in this division.
- f. Metal bats may be no more than 2  $\frac{5}{8}$ " diameter. Composite 2  $\frac{5}{8}$ " bats must be stamped BBCOR; 2  $\frac{1}{4}$ " bats must be stamped BPF 1.14 or less. No bats longer than 42". Wood bats ARE allowed.
- g. Metal cleats are NOT permitted.
- h. All male players MUST wear a protective cup when catching, and recommended all other positions.
- i. SAFETY. Batters and baserunners must wear helmets at all times. There is only one batter allowed on deck at a time. The only players allowed to swing a bat are the batter and the on deck hitter.

### 3. Game & Innings

- a. There will be a short pre-game conference held at home plate between opposing managers and the umpires prior to the start of every game to discuss these and any other ground rules.



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- b. A regular game is 6 innings. A shortened game (for time, weather, etc.) is official if it has completed 4 innings.
- c. No new inning shall start after 1 ½ hours from the start time.
- d. A Run Limit of 5 innings for all innings except the last inning, and any extra innings. When the time limit is approaching, a "Last Inning" may be declared if both managers agree before the start of the top of that inning.
- e. There is NO mercy rule in this division.

## 4. Batting & Baserunning

- a. All players on the roster will bat continuously. The order must be announced prior to game time, but no later than the pre-game conference.
- b. A team may start with 8 players and the ninth spot IS NOT AN OUT. If the ninth or more player shows up late, that player will be put in the last spot in the line-up. If a player must leave the game for any reason, it must be permanent, and the team will NOT be charged with an out.
- c. The Dropped Third Strike rule shall NOT be enforced. The batter is automatically out on strike three whether or not the catcher holds on to the third strike.
- d. Bunting is NOT permitted. A deliberately attempted bunt is a foul ball.
- e. Leading off is NOT permitted. Players cannot leave the base until the bat makes contact with the ball.
- f. Stealing is NOT permitted.
- g. No head-first sliding at any base or plate. Do not teach players to collide with defensive players. Offending runner shall be called out.
- h. A Courtesy Runner for the catcher is permitted at any time. The courtesy runner must be the most recent batted out. The player removed for the courtesy runner must catch the next inning. The umpire may disallow this substitution if it is not speeding up the game.

## 5. Pitching

- a. COACH PITCH ONLY. A coach pitcher throws up to 6 pitches to each batter to hit a fair ball. The batter is out after 6 pitches or 3 swinging strikes, whichever comes first. A foul ball on the 6th or subsequent pitch allows another pitch. A batter hit by a ball counts as a pitch, but the batter is NOT awarded 1<sup>st</sup> base.
- b. MACHINE PITCH ONLY. The machine will be set at 40 mph. The coach will deliver 6 pitches per batter. No balls or strikes are called. If the batter does not put the ball in play by the sixth pitch, the batter is out. No foul outs, unless caught by a defensive player.
- c. KID PITCH ONLY. Upon the 4<sup>th</sup> ball, the coach will rescue the pitcher and continue pitching to the batter strikes out or puts the ball into play. A batter hit by a ball pitched by a coach is NOT awarded 1<sup>st</sup> base.
- d. KID PITCH ONLY. Maximum innings for any one pitcher in any one game is 2 innings. Once a pitcher throws one pitch in an inning, that is considered a full inning. Once a pitcher is removed from the mound, he CAN be brought back in to pitch as long as he is



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under the two inning maximum. A pitcher who hits two batters in the same inning shall be removed and cannot re-enter as a pitcher.

## 6. Fielding

- a. 10 players are in the field on defense. The 10th player must play in the outfield, and all outfielders must play at least 30 feet behind the infield. Short-sided teams (8 or 9 players) must field a pitcher, catcher, and 4 infielders.
- b. You Pay, You Play - a minimum of four innings in the field per 6 inning game, and a minimum of 2 of those in the infield. No player shall sit on the bench in consecutive innings. To the maximum extent possible, all players shall play in the field equally.
- c. To encourage infielders to throw to a base, on a batted ball that stays within the infield, whether it touches a fielder or not, runners may not advance more than one base from the beginning of the play, regardless of whether the ball is overthrown or not, or even if it is thrown out of play.
- d. Batted balls to the outfield must be returned to the infield and be in possession of an infielder, before that infielder may attempt to make a play, or call time (raise ball over head). If player is calling time, the umpire positions runners based on the Basepath Marks.
- e. ONE base on an overthrow if it is out of play. Overthrows to a coach pitcher after play has stripped does not result in extra bases.
- f. The Infield Fly rule shall NOT be enforced.
- g. No hidden ball tricks.
- h. 1st half of season - One defensive coach is permitted in the outfield to guide the players in the fielding of their positions.



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## Playing Rules for 10U Division (Mustang/Minors)

Revised March 14, 2017

### 1. General

- a. This division shall follow the PONY league rules for this division, except where modified herein.
- b. The Home Team shall pay the FULL Umpire Fee.
- c. For the spring season, a player's age is his age on May 1 of the current year. A player may not be older than 10 to play in this division.
- d. A player shall not also be on a travel or select team.

### 2. Field & Equipment

- a. 60 foot bases.
- b. The Home Team and/or Organization is responsible for preparing the field for play.
- c. The Home Team shall select its dugout before the Visiting Team.
- d. The Visiting Team is entitled to use the infield for practice beginning 30 minutes before the scheduled start of the game. The visiting team must yield the infield to the home team 15 minutes before the scheduled start of the game.
- e. Both teams shall supply one NEW game ball, and one GOOD back-up ball.
- f. Metal bats may be no more than 2  $\frac{5}{8}$ " diameter. Composite 2  $\frac{5}{8}$ " bats must be stamped BBCOR; 2  $\frac{1}{4}$ " bats must be stamped BPF 1.14 or less. No bats longer than 42". Wood bats ARE allowed.
- g. Metal cleats are NOT permitted.
- h. All male players MUST wear a protective cup when catching, and recommended all other positions.

### 3. Game & Innings

- a. There will be a short pre-game conference held at home plate between opposing managers and the umpires prior to the start of every game to discuss these and any other ground rules.
- b. A regular game is 6 innings. A shortened game (for time, weather, etc.) is official if it has completed 4 innings.
- c. No new inning shall start after 2 hours from the start time. A new inning starts when the 3rd out is recorded from the previous inning. At Severna Park fields, when a following game has been scheduled, there is also a dead stop at 2 hours and 15 minutes from the start time, and if the inning is not completed the score reverts back to the previous completed inning.
- d. A Run Limit of 5 innings for all innings except the last inning, and any extra innings. When the time limit is approaching, a "Last Inning" may be declared if both managers agree before the start of the top of that inning.
- e. The game will end if one team is ahead by 10 runs after 4 or more complete innings.

### 4. Batting & Baserunning



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- a. All players on the roster will bat continuously. The order must be announced prior to game time, but no later than the pre-game conference.
- b. A team may start with 8 players and the ninth spot IS NOT AN OUT. If the ninth player shows up late, that player will be put in the last spot in the line-up. If a player must leave the game for any reason, the team will NOT be charged with an out.
- c. The Dropped Third Strike rule shall NOT enforced. The batter is automatically out on strike three whether or not the catcher holds on to the third strike.
- d. Bunting is permitted.
- e. Leading off is NOT permitted. BASE RUNNERS must stay on their bases when a pitcher is in contact with the pitcher's plate and in possession of the ball and the catcher is in the catcher's box ready to receive delivery of the ball. Base runners shall not leave/lead off base until ball has crossed home plate. If a runner leaves a base ahead of time, the runner's advance, and the advance of every runner on base at the time, is restricted to no more than how far the batter advances as the result of his safe hit.
- f. Stealing permitted on all bases (including home on a passed ball). There is no stealing of home on an overthrow from the catcher to the pitcher after a pitched ball. At the discretion of the BOTH teams, both may agree to not steal or modified stealing (i.e. No stealing of home, etc.) but must inform the umpire of any changes.
- g. No head-first sliding, with the exception of returning to a base on pick-off throw from pitcher or catcher. Offending runner shall be called out.
- h. A Courtesy Runner for the catcher of record is permitted at any time. The courtesy runner must be the last batted out. The umpire may disallow this substitution if it is not speeding up the game.
- i. A player throwing a bat will be issued a warning; a second occurrence will result in the batter being out.

## 5. Pitching

- a. Maximum innings for any one pitcher is 3 innings in one game, and 9 innings in a calendar week.
- b. Once a pitcher throws a single pitch in an inning, that is considered a full inning.
- c. Innings must be consecutive within a game. Once a pitcher has been removed from the mound in a game, or does not come back out to the mound after pitching the previous inning, he cannot be brought back in to pitch in that same game.
- d. A pitcher who hits two batters in the same inning, or three in a game, must be removed.
- e. There are NO balks in this division.
- f. Intentional Walks are NOT permitted. If the umpire believes that a batter has been intentionally walked, he will warn the manager that it is against the rules. If it happens a second time, the manager will be ejected at the discretion of the umpire and the game is subject to forfeit.

## 6. Fielding

- a. Only 9 players are allowed in the field on defense.



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- b. You Pay, You Play - a minimum of four innings in the field per 6 inning game. No player shall sit on the bench in consecutive innings. To the maximum extent possible, all players shall play in the field equally.
- c. ONE base on an overthrow if it is out of play.
- d. The Infield Fly rule shall NOT be enforced.



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## Playing Rules for 12U Division (Bronco/Majors)

Revised March 14, 2017

### 1. General

- a. This division shall follow the PONY league rules for this division, except where modified herein.
- b. The Home Team shall pay the FULL Umpire Fee.
- c. For the spring season, a player's age is his age on May 1 of the current year. A player may not be older than 12 to play in this division.
- d. A player shall not also be on a travel or select team.

### 2. Field & Equipment

- a. 70 foot bases.
- b. The Home Team and/or Organization is responsible for preparing the field for play.
- c. The Home Team shall select its dugout before the Visiting Team.
- d. The Visiting Team is entitled to use the infield for practice beginning 30 minutes before the scheduled start of the game. The visiting team must yield the infield to the home team 15 minutes before the scheduled start of the game.
- e. Both teams shall supply one NEW game ball, and one GOOD back-up ball.
- f. Metal bats may be no more than 2  $\frac{5}{8}$ " diameter. Composite 2  $\frac{5}{8}$ " bats must be stamped BBCOR; 2  $\frac{1}{4}$ " bats must be stamped BPF 1.14 or less. No bats longer than 42". Wood bats ARE allowed.
- g. Metal cleats are NOT permitted.
- h. All male players MUST wear a protective cup when catching, and recommended all other positions.

### 3. Game & Innings

- a. There will be a short pre-game conference held at home plate between opposing managers and the umpires prior to the start of every game to discuss these and any other ground rules.
- b. A regular game is 6 innings. A shortened game (for time, weather, etc.) is official if it has completed 4 innings.
- c. No new inning shall start after 2 hours from the start time. A new inning starts when the 3rd out is recorded from the previous inning. At Severna Park fields, when a following game has been scheduled, there is also a dead stop at 2 hours and 15 minutes from the start time, and if the inning is not completed the score reverts back to the previous completed inning.
- d. A Run Limit of 5 innings for all innings except the last inning, and any extra innings. When the time limit is approaching, a "Last Inning" may be declared if both managers agree before the start of the top of that inning.
- e. The game will end if one team is ahead by 10 runs after 4 or more complete innings.

### 4. Batting & Baserunning



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- a. All players on the roster will bat continuously. The order must be announced prior to game time, but no later than the pre-game conference.
- b. A team may start with 8 players and the ninth spot IS NOT AN OUT. If the ninth player shows up late, that player will be put in the last spot in the line-up. If a player must leave the game for any reason, the team will NOT be charged with an out.
- c. The Dropped Third Strike rule shall be enforced.
- d. Bunting is permitted.
- e. Leading off is permitted.
- f. Stealing is permitted on all bases.
- g. No head-first sliding, with the exception of returning to a base on pick-off throw from pitcher or catcher. Offending runner shall be called out.
- h. A Courtesy Runner for the catcher of record is permitted at any time. The courtesy runner must be the last batted out. The umpire may disallow this substitution if it is not speeding up the game.
- i. A player throwing a bat will be issued a warning; a second occurrence will result in the batter being out.

## 5. Pitching

- a. Maximum innings for any one pitcher is 3 innings in one game, and 9 innings in a calendar week.
- b. Once a pitcher throws a single pitch in an inning, that is considered a full inning.
- c. Innings must be consecutive within a game. Once a pitcher has been removed from the mound in a game, or does not come back out to the mound after pitching the previous inning, he cannot be brought back in to pitch in that same game.
- d. A pitcher who hits two batters in the same inning, or three in a game, must be removed.
- e. The umpire will issue one BALK warning per pitcher per inning. If, on the play that an umpire issues a balk warning, a runner is attempting to advance, and if in the judgment of the umpire the runner would have reached the base safely despite the balk, the umpire will not require the runner to return to the base he was on at the start of the play. All other occurrences will result in a balk being called and all base runners shall advance one base.
- f. Intentional Walks are NOT permitted. If the umpire believes that a batter has been intentionally walked, he will warn the manager that it is against the rules. If it happens a second time, the manager will be ejected at the discretion of the umpire and the game is subject to forfeit.

## 6. Fielding

- a. Only 9 players are allowed in the field on defense.
- b. You Pay, You Play - a minimum of four innings in the field per 6 inning game. No player shall sit on the bench in consecutive innings. To the maximum extent possible, all players shall play in the field equally.
- c. ONE base on an overthrow if it is out of play.
- d. The Infield Fly rule shall be enforced.



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## Playing Rules for 13-15 (Babe Ruth) & 16-18 (Colt) Divisions

Revised March 14, 2017

### 1. General

- a. The 13-15 division shall follow the Babe Ruth League rules for this division, and the 16-18 division shall follow the High School Federation rules, except where modified herein.
- b. Both teams shall pay their half of the \$120 Umpire Fee (\$60 per team).
- c. For the spring season, a player's age is his age on May 1 of the current year. A player may not be older than the maximum age of each division (15 or 18, respectively).
- d. A player shall not also be on a high school JV or Varsity team.
- e. A player shall not also be on a travel or select team.

### 2. Field & Equipment

- a. 90 foot bases.
- b. The Home Team and/or Organization is responsible for preparing the field for play.
- c. The Home Team shall select its dugout before the Visiting Team.
- d. The Visiting Team is entitled to use the infield for practice beginning 30 minutes before the scheduled start of the game. The visiting team must yield the infield to the home team 15 minutes before the scheduled start of the game.
- e. Both teams shall supply one NEW game ball, and one GOOD back-up ball.
- f. Bat Regulations for 15U division:
  - i. Bat may not exceed 34" in length.
  - ii. Bat barrel may not exceed 2 5/8" in diameter.
  - iii. All aluminum barrel bats are allowed.
  - iv. All aluminum barrel/composite handle bats are allowed.
  - v. Composite barrel bats must be stamped BBCOR .50(-3).
  - vi. Wood bats conforming to the specification of Official Baseball Rule 1.10 are allowed.
- g. Bat Regulations for 18U division:
  - i. All bats must be BBCOR .50(-3).
  - ii. Wood bats conforming to the specification of Official Baseball Rule 1.10 are allowed.
- h. Metal cleats ARE permitted.
- i. All male players MUST wear a protective cup when catching, and recommended all other positions.

### 3. Game & Innings

- a. There will be a short pre-game conference held at home plate between opposing managers and the umpires prior to the start of every game to discuss these and any other ground rules.
- b. A regular game is 7 innings. A shortened game (for time, weather, etc.) is official if it has completed 4 innings.



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- c. No new inning shall start after 2 hours from the start time. A new inning starts when the 3rd out is recorded from the previous inning. At Severna Park fields, when a following game has been scheduled, there is also a dead stop at 2 hours and 15 minutes from the start time, and if the inning is not completed the score reverts back to the previous completed inning.
  - d. A Run Limit of 5 innings for all innings except the last inning, and any extra innings. When the time limit is approaching, a "Last Inning" may be declared if both managers agree before the start of the top of that inning.
  - e. The game will end if one team is ahead by 10 runs after 5 or more complete innings.
- 4. Batting & Baserunning**
- a. All players on the roster will bat continuously. The order must be announced prior to game time, but no later than the pre-game conference.
  - b. A team may start with 8 players and the ninth spot IS NOT AN OUT. If the ninth player shows up late, that player will be put in the last spot in the line-up. If a player must leave the game for any reason, the team will NOT be charged with an out.
  - c. The Dropped Third Strike rule shall be enforced.
  - d. Bunting is permitted.
  - e. Leading off is permitted.
  - f. Stealing is permitted on all bases.
  - g. No head-first sliding, with the exception of returning to a base on pick-off throw from pitcher or catcher. Offending runner shall be called out.
  - h. A Courtesy Runner for the catcher of record is permitted at any time. The courtesy runner must be the last batted out. The umpire may disallow this substitution if it is not speeding up the game.
  - i. A player throwing a bat will be issued a warning; a second occurrence will result in the batter being out.
- 5. Pitching**
- a. Maximum innings for any one pitcher is 4 innings in one game, and 12 innings in a calendar week.
  - b. Once a pitcher throws a single pitch in an inning, that is considered a full inning.
  - c. Innings must be consecutive within a game. Once a pitcher has been removed from the mound in a game, or does not come back out to the mound after pitching the previous inning, he cannot be brought back in to pitch in that same game.
  - d. A pitcher who hits two batters in the same inning, or three in a game, must be removed.
  - e. Balks shall be called. NO warnings.
  - f. Intentional Walks are permitted.
- 6. Fielding**
- a. Only 9 players are allowed in the field on defense.
  - b. You Pay you Play - a minimum of three innings in the field per game. No player shall sit on the bench for more than 2 consecutive innings. To the maximum extent possible, all players shall play in the field equally.



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- c. ONE base on an overthrow if it is out of play.
- d. The Infield Fly rule shall be enforced.