



Medina Youth Baseball Association, Inc.

Farm 7-8 League Rules

1. The Farm 7-8 league of Medina Youth Baseball Association, Inc. (MYBA) is for Medina area boys and girls whose birthdates are between the designated dates listed on the annual Official MYBA registration form.
2. The Farm 7-8 League will play on fields at A.I. Root Middle School, Heritage Elementary, Blake Elementary, Ella Canavan, and Reagan Park.
3. All games shall be immediately suspended at any sight of lightning by MYBA officials and Coaches. Coaches and players must exit the playing field. Lightning sightings suspend game restart by 30 minute, (with the game time ending per the original start time restrictions).
4. The Head Coach of the home team is responsible for contacting the commissioner regarding any uncompleted games due to weather. The commissioner will contact the scheduler for rescheduling games.
5. Each Head Coach must ensure that all players have been picked up after the conclusion of each game. Parents must always ensure that arrangements to pick up their children have been made, in case of personal scheduling conflicts.
6. Each jo-box will be equipped with helmets, one set of throw down bases. A First Aid Kit is also included in the jo-box.
7. Farm 7-8 League will use RIF5 safety balls for all games and practices.
8. Each game will consist of five innings and last no longer than one hour and thirty minutes. No inning may begin within five minutes of the end of the one-hour and 30 minutes game time limit. Both coaches should agree upon the start time of the game. That time will determine the time frame of the game.
9. Each inning will consist of three outs or maximum of all rostered batters. No player may bat more than one time in an inning unless matching a team that has more players.
10. Farm 7-8 is an instructional league, but score keeping will be kept and the coaches will be responsible to forward the scores to the commissioner within 24 hours of the game. No umpires will be used during the regular season but an official umpire will be present at the semi-final and championship game in the playoffs.
11. If the visiting or home team is ahead by at least ten runs after 3 innings, the game will be called complete due to the Mercy Rule being in effect.
12. Players should be in uniform but consideration should be taken for lost hats. If a player has registered after the league deadline, he/she may not have received a jersey in time for the first few games. The player should wear a T-shirt in the color of the team uniform if he has one available.
13. Players will not wear earrings, finger rings, watches or any other form of jewelry (seen or unseen) while on the playing field, in dugouts, or during practices or games. No bracelets or necklaces are allowed unless it's for medical reasons only.
14. No players will wear sunglasses unless they are prescription glasses.
15. Every player shall be entered in the batting order. There shall be no changes to the batting order once the game has begun, unless a change is required due to injury or illness occurring to a player. Late arriving players may be added to the bottom of the line-up.
16. Farm 7-8 will use ten defensive players: a first baseman, a second baseman, a shortstop, a third baseman, one catcher, 4 outfielders and one at the pitcher position.
17. An emphasis will be placed on players learning to stay in their assigned defensive area during each play.

18. Coaches can place themselves throughout the playing field to assist with helping players learn the basic skills of baseball. Coaches are not permitted to touch the ball while the ball is in play.
19. The Coaches will pitch the entire game for the first 2 weeks of the season and will throw a maximum of 7 pitches to every batter. The third week, a Coach will pitch the first 2 innings of the game, and beginning in the 3rd inning the kids will pitch to each batter and throw no more than 4 pitches to every batter. If the hitter hasn't put the ball in play, the coach will then throw 3 remaining pitches to the batter. Each pitcher can pitch one inning or three consecutive outs. Kids pitch from 35' and the Coaches pitch from 25'. It is recommended that all Coaches pitch from their knee or knees.
20. Each batter will receive a maximum of seven pitched balls during each at bat. If the batter doesn't put the ball in play after the 7th pitch, the batter will return to the bench and no out will be recorded. No at bat will end with a foul ball, then he/she will receive another pitch. Outs can only be recorded when the ball is hit into the playing field.
21. There are no walks or strikeouts.
22. Infield fly rule is excluded, there will be no balks, and the dropped third strike is not in effect.
23. Coaches will make every attempt to avoid interferences with a ball in play. It is a "live" ball if the pitching coach gets hit with a batted ball unless it is caught by the coach out of reflex. In this case, the ball is dead, and the batter is awarded 1st base and runners advance to the next base.
24. A base runner cannot advance on any over throw, even when the ball goes out of play.
25. If a batter hits a ball into the outfield, the batter and any other base runner may continue to run until the ball is thrown into the infield. If a base runner is between bases when the ball is thrown, he/she may attempt to advance to the next base. Once the ball is thrown into the infield, the play and any advancement of the runners is stopped. **The infield is being described as between the actual bases.**
26. There shall be NO LEAD-OFFS, STEALING or BUNTING in Farm 7-8.
27. Players should avoid contact at all times when base running. Head-first sliding is not allowed and players are not required to slide.
28. Each Farm 7-8 team will have a Bench Coach. The bench coach will assist with the batting order and field positions and help maintain bench discipline. There is to be no swinging a bat behind the fence or bench area, only if the next hitter is on the on deck circle is he able to swing a bat.
29. All players will play every position during the season. All Players must rotate between the infield and outfield positions every 2 innings. Playing time throughout the season should be even for all players. No player will play the same position twice in any one game. All coaches will make every attempt to move players throughout all positions during the game. No player is able to play the same position for two consecutive innings nor play the infield for three consecutive innings. No players can play the Catching position for more than 1 inning per game. Any abuse of these rules should be reported to league commissioner. If continued abuse of these rule's, commissioner will present to board for review for manager dismissal.
30. No player will sit out more than one consecutive inning per game unless he/she is injured or ill.
31. All batters and base runners are required to wear a batting helmet.
32. Players and coaches may not wear metal spikes.
33. MANDATORY-No Exceptions: Any player playing in the catcher's position must wear a protective cup. Any player warming up a pitcher must wear a face mask and a protective cup.
34. Any player who purposely throws any piece of equipment should be given a verbal warning. If the player commits a second offense, he/she must sit out the next two innings. If the offense is at the end of a game, that suspension will be enforced at the beginning of the next scheduled game.
35. No player is permitted to berate or use any verbal sounds to disturb the opposing player, coach, parent or person. This type of behavior shall be grounds for immediate removal from the field. Example: player saying "batter, batter, swing batter", or "he is an easy out" will not be permitted.
36. No player, coach, parent or any other person shall verbally abuse, berate, swear or intimidate any player, coach, parent or person. THIS TYPE OF BEHAVIOR SHALL BE GROUNDS FOR IMMEDIATE REMOVAL FROM THE FIELD.

37. If a coach, player, parent or person has been removed from a game, MYBA Board Approval may be required before that individual is permitted to attend or be involved with a game. Head coaches must report all occurrences to the League Commissioner.
38. Players are not allowed to swing a bat unless they are on the on deck circle. This is to prevent injury in the bench or dugout area.
39. All MYBA Coaches are required to get a designated background check. No parent or coach may be in the dugout, coaching, or running a practice without the back ground check being sub-mitted and approved by MYBA.
40. The head coach is allowed to pick only one Assistant Coach, before the rosters are finalized by the 7/8 league commissioner, with the assistance from the MYBA Registration.
41. The year-end tournament is single elimination tournament umpires will be provided for the semi-finals and final games.
42. All players require a parent to be present for all practices and games.

Field set up and Maintenance

- A. Home team will occupy the third base dugout or bench.
- B. Bases will be set at 50 feet. The pitcher mound will be set at 40 feet away from home plate.
- C. Bases will be the throw-down style.
- D. Each team will be given an equal amount of practice time on the field before the game starts.
- E. Helmet caddies will be used during each game by each team. They are to be stored properly in the jo-box after each game by rolling them up and snapping the caddy closed.
- F. Dugouts/bench area will be cleaned of all debris after each game.
- G. Player and fans shall not climb the fences nor sit on the jo-boxes.
- H. If there is a second game scheduled on the same field, the teams playing the earlier game should remove themselves from the dugout/bench area as quickly as possible. Any post-game meetings should be held away from the playing field.
- I. Occasionally the field might need additional work before a scheduled game. Each Farm 7-8 team should have a group of parents willing to assist with field preparation.
- J. City of Medina employees are not permitted to work on any Medina City School properties until school has been dismissed for the summer.
- K. There might not be field prep performed on the weekends.
- L. Coaches should make every attempt to be at the field no less than 30 minutes prior to their scheduled time. If there has been inclement weather, the coaches should check the fields at least one hour prior to game time. If additional field prep is warranted, a volunteer ground crew will still have time to get this accomplished before the scheduled start, if a crew is available. Every reasonable effort should be attempted to complete each game on its assigned date and time.
- M. ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ARE NOT PERMITTED at any MYBA endorsed game.
- N. MYBA has a "NO SMOKING" policy near players, benches and grandstand areas during practices and games.
- O. Any desired schedule changes shall be requested from the league commissioner. He should be contacted as soon as possible to ensure that the particular games can be rescheduled.

Additional Responsibilities of Head Coaches

- I. Coaches are to submit via email, all assistant coaches' e-mail, phone info, for immediate team contact for the purpose of communication in the absence of the head coach. This will be submitted before the season begins and will be forwarded to the league commissioner.

- II. Coaches are to check the MYBA website for any schedule changes or re-schedules of games due to weather. Also to check with the update of MYBA hotline as progressing weather of any cancellations. The MYBA hotline number is 330-725-6488(MITT).
- III. During games, all coaches should wear the shirts that have been provided by MYBA.
- IV. Coaches are expected to instruct the game of baseball, teach and advise players regarding outs, and to Maintain a good atmosphere on the ball field.
- V. Only coaches (with approved background checks) and players are allowed in the dugout/bench area.
- VI. Each Head Coach will be given keys to the jo-boxes located at their particular field of play. No one is allowed to make copies of any MYBA-provided keys. Any loss of keys should be reported to the League Commissioner. Each coach will ensure the boxes have been locked before leaving the field.
- VII. Both head Coaches need to contact the league commissioner within 24 hours with the game results during the regular season and immediately after a playoff game.
- VIII. Once the season has been completed, all head coaches will return any equipment, including jo-box keys, to the League Commissioner within forty-eight hours after their team's last game.

Head Coaches Objectives

- i. Medina Youth Baseball is an instructional league; all Coaches have the duty to instruct all players about the basic fundamentals of baseball.
- ii. Medina Youth Baseball believes in all players having fun playing the game of baseball and insuring that each player has been given the opportunity to improve his/her playing abilities.
- iii. Each head Coach should teach fair sportsmanship through example and discussion with the players.
- iv. Each Coach should instruct proper fielding, batting, and throwing techniques, as well as proper defensive positioning.
- v. Heckling or berating of the opposing teams' players is not allowed.
- vi. Players should learn that it is more important to play to the best of their ability during each game, not recording wins or losses.

Please contact the league Commissioner for clarification of any league rule.

Farm 7-8 baseball games cannot be protested. Please contact the League Commissioner or Director of Recreation Baseball for any issues that may arise or questions that you may have.