

NPYL Rookie Division Rules

Boys 7 & 8 years of Age

Revised May 2021

The governing rules of play will be officially recognized **Cal Ripken** baseball rules with the following exceptions and/or local rules adopted.

1. Only 10 defensive players will play per inning. All outfielders must be positioned as close as possible to the natural outfield positions (LF, LC, RC, RF) and must be stationed at relatively the same depth. No 7th infielder (Rover) will be permitted to be positioned at the edge of the dirt.
2. Failure of either or both teams to field and maintain (8) players throughout the game will constitute a “forfeit” for the violating team. The missing 9th player is an automatic out.
3. Offensive half of the inning will continue until three outs are made or five (5) runs are scored. All players will bat. 6th inning will be unlimited runs during all-star tournament as long as mercy rule is not in play.
4. Games will end if a team is leading by eleven (11) or more runs after four (4) complete innings.
5. Ages- Players shall be 7 or 8 years old. Player age is based on the child’s age on **May 1st** of current year. Ages 6-7 for 7U and ages 7-8 for 8U.
6. Base runners may not leave the base until the ball is hit. If the ball is not hit or if the batter strikes out, the base runner must return to the base. No Stealing in the Rookie League.
 - 6A. If a runner or multiple runners are caught leaving a base before the ball is hit, the pitch will be a considered a No Pitch/Dead Ball. The first infraction will be a team warning, and runner(s) will return to their original base(s). Any subsequent infractions, the pitch will be a No Pitch/Dead Ball, and the runner will be out. If multiple runners are caught leaving their base before the ball is hit, (subsequent infraction), the pitch will be considered a No Pitch/Dead Ball, then the lead runner will be called out. Other runners will be sent back to their original base.
7. For the safety of the players, helmets must stay on until the batter reaches their dugout. If a player removes their helmet before reaching their dugout, a team warning will be given and the next infraction will be an out.
8. For the safety of players at the “pitchers helper” position, a mask, or helmets with face masks must be worn. Heart protection will also be worn at all times by pitchers helper position.
9. **No T-Ball bats are to be used in Rookie League.**

10. Infield fly rule and dropped third strike will not apply.
11. Play shall stop once the defensive player with the ball stops the lead runner or no further play is being made. Umpires have authority to stop play, however coaches should recognize this as well. **For the integrity of the game and instruction of the kids, excessive running will not be permitted.
12. The All-Star Tournament will be played coach pitch only. No player pitching.
13. No bunting or stealing will be permitted in Rookie League.
14. The distance from home plate to pitching rubber will be forty (40) feet.
15. Two defensive coaches may be stationed in the outfield and must remain in the outfield during a live ball. Base coaches and defensive coaches are not permitted to contact any players during a live ball. If an Offensive coach touches a runner, runner is out. If a Defensive coach touches a runner; interference rule will come into effect (delayed call).
16. Duration of games will be:
 - a. Completion of regulation game.
 - b. Termination of game by the umpire.
17. No inning may begin after 1 hour and 30 minutes from the start of the game. The inning begins when the last out of the previous inning is recorded.
18. The umpire will give the starting time of the game after the first pitch is made.
19. If still tied at the end of the 6th inning, game will be scored as a tie. There will be no ties during tournament play.
20. Runner will be given one (1) base on an overthrow that goes out of the field of play.
21. With 2 outs, the offensive team may substitute run for the next defensive inning's catcher on base with offensive player who made the last batted out.
22. The bat may not exceed 33" in length, and the bat barrel may not exceed 2 5/8 " in diameter. The bat must be marked with the "USA Baseball" logo. Solid one-piece wood barrel bats up to 2 5/8" do not require the USA baseball logo stamp. Bats with the USSSA Logo will be allowed at the size of 2 ¼ ONLY.

SEEDING FOR ALL-STAR SHOOTOUT

1. WINS
2. RUNS ALLOWED
3. RUNS SCORED