

# NEW PALESTINE YOUTH LEAGUE

## PLAYING REGULATIONS

Rev 01-18-2017

The following regulations, as established by the League Rules Committee, will serve as the basic guidelines under which all activities related to the “Youth League” (NPYL, Inc.) programs will be conducted. Their interpretation by the Rules and Grievance Subcommittee will be considered final authority for any action, which is questioned or protested by members of the League. The rules set forth in the recognized “ASA Softball”, “Babe Ruth”, “Babe Ruth Cal Ripken” and “Cal Ripken League” Rule Books, respectively, will apply. These regulations will not be amended or revised during the current league year and will remain in force until repealed or amended by a succeeding Rules Subcommittee.

### OBJECTIVE OF NEW PALESTINE YOUTH LEAGUE

1. The objective of the NPYL, Inc., shall be to implant the ideals of good sportsmanship, honesty, loyalty, courage, and reverence into the children of the community, so that they may be finer, stronger and happier children.
2. This objective will be achieved by providing supervised, competitive, athletic games. The supervisors shall bear in mind that the attainment of exceptional athletic skills or the winning of games is secondary to the prime objective of molding upstanding adults of the future.
3. Let’s all, in a combined effort, help keep our youth league grounds as clean as possible.
4. In order to be fair to all participants of the NPYL, Inc., the completion of the scheduled regular season will be of top priority in all divisions. If circumstances will allow, an intra-divisional tournament may be held prior to the beginning of the all-star tournaments.

### SEVERE WEATHER/LIGHTNING POLICY

*Policy applies to Rec and Blaze Leagues utilizing NPYL Facilities*

Lightning has the capability to travel up to 10 miles outside of a storms perimeter and by the time thunder is heard, a storm is approximately 3-5 miles away, NPYL will adopt the following in regard to lightning safety.

**“It you hear it, clear it.”**

**“If you see it, flee it.”**

- At first sound or sight of thunder or lightning by an NPYL on Duty Officer of the Day, Umpire and/or other league official the fields will be cleared via an announcement by the Officer of the Day. All players and spectators will need to return to their vehicles and remain in the parking lot until games are either cancelled or resumed. If no vehicle is available, the two buildings on NPYL premises that is considerate a “substantial” dwelling is the main concession and the vending machine stand/restroom by Diamond 7 – players should be directed there. Managers will report to the umpire garage to wait for further direction.
- Make sure the teams clear the fields completely. Including playing gear in case games are postponed.
- Play will be suspended for 20 minutes after the first sound or sighting of thunder and lightning and if more is seen or heard, the clock will “restart”. The number of times the clock will be reset will depend on the situation of the day of play. Weeknight games and Saturday games will have different needs and capabilities in terms of time needed to complete postponed games if the weather clears. Tournaments will certainly have more extenuating circumstances in the need to continue postponing rather than canceling games. This will be at the discretion of the Officer of the Day for all regular

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Rec season and Rec tournament games. For travel ball and weekend tournaments, this will be at the discretion of the tournament directors.

- Games are considered postponed until the Officer of the Day or tournament directors determine the games cannot be finished. At this time, there will be an announcement made.

### **Extreme Heat**

The heat index is the main determinant in appropriate outdoor activity. While it is important for athletes to stay hydrated in all circumstances, in extreme heat, it is essential that coaches, parents, and league officials provide a safe environment for play.

- When the heat index exceeds 95 degrees, Officer of the Day will make frequent announcements (approximately every 30 minutes) to remind coaches, umpires and parents to make sure the athletes are taking breaks and taking in fluids.
- When the heat index exceeds 105 degrees, it will be at the discretion of the Officer the Day to cancel or reschedule games as they feel appropriate and safe.

## MANAGER AND COACH INSTRUCTIONS AND INFORMATION

1. Tobacco products will not be permitted on the playing field or in the dugout during warm-up or game time.
2. One (1) manager and two (2) coaches are allowed in the dugout during games. There may be four (4) adults total in the dugout.
3. Managers and coaches may not enter the field of play until the umpire grants a time out.
4. Each participant and spectator will be responsible for the clean-up of their dugout and adjacent spectator area. The League Director will schedule clean-up days prior to the start of the season. During the season, it will be the responsibility of all teams to remove trash from the dugout and the surrounding area after each game and practice.
5. Protested games:
  - a. Judgment calls by the umpire(s) cannot be protested.
  - b. If, in the opinion of the team manager, a rule has been violated, he must inform the umpire that the game will continue under protest. This notification of intent to protest must be made and recorded in the official score book (HOME TEAM) prior to delivery of the "pitch", following the said infraction. The official written protest must be delivered to a member of the Rules and Grievance Subcommittee not more than 24 hours after the game being protested. The specific rule violated must be stated in the protest.
6. Rainouts will be rescheduled by the appropriate League Director and must be played when scheduled. Both managers will be responsible for contacting the League Director to request the rescheduling.
7. No child can be a non-starter in consecutive games and must play a minimum of 3 completed innings in a six-inning regulation game.
8. The umpire will have the authority to rule on any situation not specifically covered by these rules or in the Official Rule Book.
9. Throwing bats will result in a warning to the player for a first infraction and being called out for any additional infractions.

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10. Unsportsmanlike conduct by a player, a manager, a spectator or coach in the form of profanity, thrown objects, etc., could result in ejection from the playing field. If the manager/Coach is ejected that person will not be allowed to be at their next game. The ejected individual must meet with 3 neutral individuals, appointed by the NPYL President before he/she will be permitted to resume his/her role in the League. Note: If the ejected individual is a player, a parent (or a team manager) must accompany him/her when appearing before the committee.
11. A player must be considered resigned after missing three (3) consecutive practices, or two (2) consecutive games, without notification to the team manager. The player's names must be given to the League Director, who will contact the player and the player's parents for confirmation of the player's resignation. After notification, the player will be dropped.
12. In case there is a tie in the division standings at the end of the season, the tie will be broken by the following criteria (listed in priority order):
  - a. Wins are worth two points and ties are worth ½ point.
  - b. The winner of the head to head contest(s) during the season will be placed in the higher position.
  - c. Provided the tying teams have completed the same number of games, then refer to "d" below. If they have not, then the schedule must be completed so that each team will have completed the same number of games. If for some reason, this would not be possible, the League Director will name the tying teams as Co-Champions.
  - d. The team with the lowest total "Runs Scored Against" will be placed in the higher position. If the teams are still tied then refer to "e".
  - e. The teams involved in the tie will meet in a one game playoff to determine the winner. This will only take place if the teams involved are in consideration for Seeds 1, 2, or 3 all lower seeded ties will be decided by a coin flip.
13. Umpire Responsibility:
  - a. The Umpire Director is responsible to select, train, and certify individuals to be game (home plate) umpires for the Baseball, Babe Ruth, and Softball Divisions. He/she will schedule umpiring assignments so that each regular season and post-season tournament game will have a certified game umpire. If the league provides for the hiring of a specific group of umpires, then the Umpire Director will coordinate the scheduling of umpires with the representative of that organization.
  - b. In the event that a game does not have an (home plate) umpire or the umpire is unavoidably detained, the Umpire Director (the League Director, or Officer of the Day in his absence) will have the responsibility to locate a reasonable replacement.
  - c. The Umpire Director and the League Directors will coordinate with each other to insure that all games are adequately staffed with umpires.
14. Home teams prepare the field for play, such as lining the diamonds. Home team will also be responsible for the official scorebook. Home team will be in the third base dugout. Visiting team will rake the field after the game.
15. Both the home team and the visiting team will be required to clean up their dugouts and the surrounding areas after each game and practice.
16. No individual statistics will be used, displayed, or distributed.
17. No mandatory slide will be in effect on any close play. The runner will be called out for blatant obstruction on a close play at any base. This will be a call based upon the judgment of the umpires. The runner will not be required to slide if the defensive team attempts to put the runner out away from the immediate area of the base. The intent of this rule is to prevent injuries. No head first slides unless returning to a base. (The runner will be called out if he or she violates this rule.)

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### **UNIFORM REGULATIONS**

1. Players' shoes must be tied at all times. Play will be stopped for this reason.
2. Catchers must wear all protective equipment provided by the League, for use in that position. Any player warming-up a pitcher must wear a catcher's mask, including the warm-up areas.
3. All players in an offensive position will wear helmets at all times. An infraction of this rule will be corrected immediately or the umpire will call the player out or eject the player from the game.
4. Baseball shoes with steel spikes will be allowed in Babe Ruth (Jr/Sr) only.
5. The league will supply approved shirts, socks, and hats. Additional lettering in good taste will be allowed on shirtsleeves and hats. The league will not supply this additional lettering but the board **MUST** approve any deviation from the standard uniform.
6. All players should have their shirts tucked in and hats worn forward while in the field or batting

### **LATE REGISTRATION**

The President, Vice President, League Director and Division Directors will place late registrants on teams with vacancies in draft order. In the event that no vacancies exist at the time of his/her registration, the registrant will be placed in a player pool. As vacancies develop, assignments from the pool will be made according to age, by the earliest registration date.

### **TEAM COMPOSITION AND PLAYER ASSIGNMENT**

Responsibility for player distribution and assignment will rest with the President, the Vice President, the League Director, and Division Directors. Their primary consideration will be that all teams will be as equally balanced as possible to allow each player the opportunity to play, to learn, and to improve or enhance his/her baseball/softball skills, and to enjoy participation in the New Palestine Youth League program.

The method to be used will be considered by league and division areas with a view towards the overall league structure to preclude the possibility of imbalances, which might result from a blanket policy.