

GAA BASEBALL RULES & REGULATIONS

13-14 AND 15-17 LEAGUES

The expectations for 13-14 and 15-17 League play is relatively simple - allow our older players to play baseball. This will be their first taste of "real baseball" on a regulation field. With proper training and instruction in the junior leagues, our 13-14 and 15-17 League players should be prepared to further build on their baseball knowledge and skill execution. While baseball at this level is by nature far more competitive than our junior leagues, coaches cannot lose sight of the fact these are still considered recreational programs, and emphasis must be placed on instruction vs. simply playing games. By building on the individual skills of players, our goal is to keep them involved and interested in youth sports instead of other (sometimes dangerous) pursuits.

LEAGUE SPECIFIC PLAYING RULES

1. FIELD DIMENSIONS

- 1.1. The distance between bases will be 80 or 90 feet.
- 1.2. The pitching rubber will be 54 feet or 60 feet 6 inches from the back point of home plate.

2. GAME AND INNING LENGTH

- 2.1. The game shall be a maximum of seven (7) innings, or 1:35 in length when Williamson County Schools are in session and 1:45 in length when Williamson County Schools are not in session.
- 2.2. If the game is tied after seven (7) innings, and time remains before the time limit has expired, the teams will play extra innings. If the game is still tied after the time limit is reached, the game will be scored as a tie.
- 2.3. There is a 7 run per inning run limit.

2.4. The Mercy Rule will be 15 runs after 4 innings or 10 runs any time after 5 innings.

3. PLAYING TIME

3.1. The USSSA rule governing use of an "extra hitter" will be in force if teams choose not to bat the roster.

3.2. Upon the agreement of the Head Coaches, teams may bat the roster in games between GAA teams, or games involving a GAA team and an outside team played on GAA fields, or they may choose to bat 9 and use the "EH or extra hitter". This must be understood and agreed to prior to the start of the game by both coaches. If the coaches do not agree, both teams must bat the roster.

3.3. There will be free substitutions in and out of the game among players, with the exception of the pitcher, if you are batting the roster.

3.4. If you choose to bat 9, once a player is removed from the game, that player may not reenter. The player subbing for the starter will assume the starter's spot in the batting order.

3.5. All players must play a minimum of 2 innings per game.

4. OFFICIATING AND SCORE KEEPING

4.1. In the event regular umpires do not arrive by the time a game is scheduled to start, the Home team shall supply the home plate umpire and the visiting team will supply the base umpire. The home plate umpire shall assume a position behind the pitcher. The base umpire shall assume a position to as to cover first and second bases.

5. PITCHING

5.1. The league will follow a pitch count format with the sole purpose of the pitch count rules being to save the arms of the young men playing in our league. Any interpretation of the rules of the league should err on the side of protecting the player.

| Daily Max | Required Rest (Calendar Days) | | | | |
|-----------|-------------------------------|-------|--------|--------|--------|
| | 0 Days | 1 Day | 2 Days | 3 Days | 4 Days |
| 95 | 1-20 | 21-35 | 36-50 | 51-65 | 66+ |

5.2. If a pitcher pitches more than 21 pitches in a game is not allowed to pitch any pitches in a double header. Additionally, a pitcher is not allowed to pitch more than 95 pitches in any day under any circumstances.

5.3. Each head coach is responsible for recording the number of pitches for all pitchers on his team in his score book, and for providing team pitching information to the opposing head coach prior to the start of the game.

5.3.1. Coaches are encouraged to talk to one another in-between innings as to the pitches pitched in the preceding half inning. If there is a discrepancy, it is up to the non-pitching team to dispute the pitch count of the pitching team. Such a dispute must take place during the change of innings and the dispute will be resolved by the head umpire after discussing with the two scorekeepers the pitches of the last half inning. The decision by the head umpire is final. If the dispute is not mentioned or dealt with at that time, the pitch count for that half inning will be whatever the pitching team reflects in their book.

5.3.2. Coaches must email commissioner immediately after each game with score and pitch count of their team.

- 5.4. Any attempt to change pitcher's information in a score book will result in an immediate one (1) game suspension for both the Head Coach and the impacted pitcher(s).
- 5.5. If a pitcher throws one pitch past the maximum number of pitches allowed, the game will be a forfeit. This must be appealed by the opposing manager, and may be appealed at any time after the maximum number of pitches is reached.
- 5.6. There will be no re-entry of pitchers. If a pitcher is removed from the mound or does not throw the first pitch of a new inning after pitching the previous inning, that pitcher cannot return to the mound for the remainder of the game. The second trip to the mound by a coach in the same inning to the same pitcher shall automatically result in the removal of that pitcher from the game AS A PITCHER ONLY. If the game is suspended and is to be completed at a later date, that player still may not pitch. This must be appealed by the opposing manager, and may be appealed at any time during the game after the illegal pitcher has thrown a pitch.
- 5.7. The withdrawal of an ineligible pitcher after that pitcher is announced (on the mound warming up), but before a ball is pitched, shall not be considered a violation. Coaches urged to avoid unnecessary incidents and mistakes, and if possible should address the use of an illegal pitcher prior to the start of an inning.

6. BATS & SHOES

- 6.1. Spiked or regular cleats are permitted.
- 6.2. All bats used in all leagues must comply with the USABat standard for the specified age.

7. MISCELANEOUS RULES

- 7.1. Courtesy runners are allowed for pitchers and catchers.
- 7.2. Infield fly rule is in effect.

7.3. Balks will be called

GRASSLAND ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION