



WYBA



Westmont Youth Baseball Association

RULES OF PLAY – FALL BALL – Minors

Amended 8/1/2025

Except for the special provisions below the “Official Regulations and Playing Rules of Little League Baseball” is the standard. See www.littleleague.org for rules.

GAME RULES

GAME TIME LIMITS, RUN LIMIT & MERCY RULE

- A new inning cannot start after 1:50 has elapsed from the game start as announced by the umpire. Current inning must be played to conclusion.
- There is a maximum of 7 runs per inning--no continuation of runners.
- If a team is ahead by 15 runs after 4 innings or 8 runs after 5 innings the mercy rule shall come into effect, and the game will be ended.
- If the visiting team goes up by 8 runs or more in the top of the 6th inning, the game is over.
- Games will be played to completion (6 innings) except for the Time Limit and Mercy rule. Regular season---If an in-process game by weather, it is considered complete after 3.5 innings (if the Home team is ahead). If the game is not complete, the League reserves the right to either reschedule or cancel the game.
- If the game is tied after 6 innings and there is still time left, the game goes into extra innings. We use California Rules for extra innings. Last batted out starts on 2nd base, there is ONE out and each batter starts with a 1-1 count.
- All scores should be recorded in Game Changer by the Home Team within 1 hour of completion.

MANAGERS & COACHES

- Two adult base coaches are permitted. One adult must always be present in the dugout. An adult is allowed to warm-up a pitcher in between innings or in the bullpen.

UMPIRES

- All coaches and parents of each player will provide only encouragement to the umpires.
- All umpire decisions are final. If there is spectator/parent misconduct, the parent will be asked to leave the park. Second warning will call for dismissal from the WYBA Fall Baseball program.
- If a manager, coach, or player is ejected from a game, they are required to leave the park immediately, and may not sit in the stands.
- Any manager, coach, or player ejected from a game is suspended for their team's next game and may not be in attendance for the game.
- We have a zero-tolerance policy for the mistreatment of umpires.



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SUBSTITUTES

If a team is unable to field nine players from their roster for a game, they may use a substitute player(s) from the opposing team to play right or left field only. The opposing team sub player may not bat. They may also request a substitute from another team in the league. The sub(s) must be 8- or 9-year-olds from the current Fall Ball program. The sub(s) must play either right field or left field and bat at the bottom of the batting line-up. If an 8- or 9-year-old cannot be found, you may get permission from the Fall Ball coordinator to use a 10 year old. Minors League Coordinator must be contacted before the game begins to request a sub.

A team must have 7 rostered players to play a game. Otherwise, it's a forfeit.

If using players from a team other than the opposing team, those players may only play right or left field and bat last in the line-up. If, at any point, a ninth player shows up from the team that needed a sub, the sub may still bat in the line-up but can no longer field a position. If there are only 8 players hitting because subs are on the opposing team, then the 9th batting slot is bypassed. There is no penalty. If there are only 7 hitters, then the 8th position is an automatic out. The 9th position is bypassed without penalty.

PITCHING

- The pitching mound is 46 feet from plate.
- No Pitcher may wear ANY long sleeve shirt that is white or light grey in color that is exposed to the batter.
- One pitch thrown to a batter constitutes one inning pitched. Players ages 9-10 are allowed to pitch a MAXIMUM OF 4 INNINGS PER WEEK. The calendar week starts on Friday and ends on Thursday. Pitchers may throw on consecutive days.
 - EXAMPLE: Pitcher "A" pitches two innings in Saturday's game. He may then pitch two innings in Sunday's game to reach the week's maximum limit of 4 innings pitched.
- ALL INNINGS PITCHED AND GAME SCORES MUST BE REPORTED TO ALL MANAGERS, ASSISTANT COACHES, AND THE LEAGUE COORDINATOR WITHIN 18 HOURS OF THE END OF THEIR COMPLETED GAMES. We will send out an email with all the applicable email contacts at the start of the season and continue to use said email for all the game results and innings pitched.
- Pitch information must be added to the pitching log within 24 hours of game completion.



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- Two visits to the mound per inning maximum by a coach and 3 times total before a pitching change must occur. A visit to the mound is when you cross the white lines.
- Hit By Pitch Rule: A pitcher must be removed if he hits 3 batters in one inning, or 5 in one game.
- Any player who catches 4 or more innings (3 full innings plus 1 pitch in a fourth inning, 1 pitch = 1 inning) is ineligible to pitch in that same game. Any pitcher who has thrown 4 or more innings (3 full innings plus 1 pitch in a fourth inning) is ineligible to catch in that same game.

Important Exception: if a team is playing a 3rd game in the week due to rainouts, the following pitching rules apply. Again, these rules will apply ONLY to a team playing a 3rd game in a week.

- All Players are available to pitch a MAX of 2 innings per game.
- Dropped 3rd strike is NOT in effect
- If pitching violation occurs?
 - 1st offense forfeit loss. The Manager is giving a warning
 - 2nd offense forfeit loss. The Manager is suspended one game
 - 3rd offense forfeit loss. The Manager is suspended and presented to the board for reinstatement.

OFFENSE

HITTING

- Wood bats, USSSA bats, and USA bats are allowed.
- A continuous batting order will be in effect for all teams.
- A batter that fakes a bunt attempt then takes a full swing will be called out. The ball is considered dead, and all runners must return to their original bases.
- Dropped 3rd strike is NOT in effect
- Infield fly IS in effect
- Big Barrel Bats are allowed.
- On deck batters are not allowed per local and Little League International rules.

FIELDING

All players present at the scheduled start time of the game must play at least 12 defensive outs in a full 6 inning game. For a game that ends after 5 innings, all players present at the scheduled start time of the game must play 9 defensive outs. All players available for the game will bat in a continuous batting order. Players who show up late will be placed at the end of the batting line-up.



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BASE RUNNING

- Leadoffs are NOT allowed. Bases are 60 feet.
- Stealing is allowed. However, the runner may not leave the base until the ball has crossed the plate.
The play will be declared dead for additional stealing when the pitcher is in position of the ball and is within one stride of contacting the pitching plate. This is an Umpire judgement call that should be discussed before the start every game for delayed steals.
- Headfirst slides going to a base are not allowed and the base runner will be called out. A base runner may return to a base they occupied headfirst when a play is made on them.
- A courtesy runner may be used for a catcher or pitcher at any time.

MISC

PRACTICES

Teams may hold multiple practices until the season starts. Once the season begins, teams may hold only one practice per week at the manager's discretion.

TEAM RESPONSIBILITIES / VOLUNTEERS

The home team is responsible for putting down the bases and providing an adult volunteer to run the concession stand before the game start time. If it is the last game of the day evening the home team is also responsible for putting away the bases, putting down the tarps, locking up the equipment shed & concession stand.

The visitor team is responsible for providing an adult volunteer to run the score board and making sure the score board is turned off and the upstairs area is locked after the game if it is the last game of the day / evening. The visiting team should assist the home team with their responsibilities noted above when possible.

The home team should utilize the third base dugout during games.



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INCLEMENT WEATHER

Weather and/or field conditions may result in the postponement of a game. Both managers and the instructional coordinator must agree if a game is to be postponed. If unable to agree, the instructional coordinator will have final say.

Please keep in mind that the Westmont Park District (WPD) dictates use of their fields, and they have the authority to close fields at their discretion, and WYBA must abide by WPD. Both managers will be informed if the fields are closed in advance of a game, and a coordinated effort between the managers and the coordinator will be made to reschedule the game.

The WPD has a rain hotline that is updated until 3:30 pm during the week. Please download the app because it will tell you if the field is closed or opened. Also please have the parents download it because they will get a text message saying if the field is open or closed.

It is the responsibility of the managers to ensure the proper conduct of themselves, their coaches, their players, and their fan base. Failure to carry out this responsibility may result in suspension and disciplinary actions that could include removal from the program.

MOST IMPORTANT RULE

Please use common sense in any disputes and remember that we are out there to **TEACH OUR CHILDREN ABOUT FAIR PLAY, SPORTSMANSHIP, and TO HAVE FUN!**