



UPPER LEAGUE RULES



REVISED MARCH 2009

**BY LEAGUE
DIRECTORS**

SECTION I - GENERAL RULE~

- 1) Home team must take dugout along first base line, visiting team along third base side.
- 2) Only a manager, coach and/or uniform players are permitted in coaching boxes.
- 3) Only one manager and two coaches are permitted in bench area.
- 4) Adult managers and coaches are not permitted to use any form of tobacco in the dugout or playing field.
- 5) Steel spikes may be worn.
- 6) Any disciplinary action taken against a player must be reported to the umpire and opposing manager prior to the start of a game. The reason for this action must be made known to both managers, umpire and league director. Swearing by any player, manager or coach shall be reported to the Board of Directors.
- 7) All umpire decisions are final. Any arguing with an umpire will result in the manager, coaches and/or players being asked to leave the game and playing area. (This also applies to spectators).
- 8) In the event a manager is expelled, he or she will be assessed an additional one game suspension (no appeal) and his conduct will be reviewed by the Board of Directors. A second expulsion will result in a three game suspension (no appeal) and reviewed by the Board with more severe penalties possible.

9) The home team manager is responsible for ensuring that the official game reporting sheet is completed (including obtaining the signatures of team managers). The information from each reporting sheet will be available to all managers and members of the Board of

Directors to ensure compliance with pitching rules of the league. League coordinators are responsible for compiling these records.

10) No convenience schedule changes will be allowed unless authorized prior to the beginning of the season.

11) All postponed games must be rescheduled by the home team manager within 48 hours and the game must be made up with-in two weeks. First, if both teams are not playing on the first Friday after the postponement, the game is to be played that Friday. If one team is playing that Friday, the game is to be made up the first Saturday after postponement.

12) Postponed games take precedence over convenience reschedules.

13) All players not playing in the game must be seated on the bench and not engaged in foolish play. No food is allowed in the bench area.

14) No manager or coach shall go on the playing field during a game without permission of an umpire. No manager or coach is allowed outside the dugout or bench area. No manager, coach, or player is permitted to lean on the batting cage or to be behind the batting cage during a game.

15) In order to start a game, at least eight players must be fielded. If the game starts with eight players on either team, the first late arrival must bat in the 9th batting position. When a team plays with eight players, the position of the 9th batter is, an out. With the opposing coach's consent, this 9th batter out rule can be waived. A team unable to field 8 players within 15 minutes after the scheduled starting time will forfeit the game. **Note:** If a team is playing with eight players and a player from that team is ejected, it will be an automatic forfeiture.

16) All teams are subject to free substitution every game.

17) All players attending a game must be put in a numerical batting order that will be followed throughout the game.

18) All players must play four defensive innings per game. **Exception:** A player becomes ill or is injured.

19) No game penalty shall be assessed as a result of a player not playing four full innings, due to an abbreviated game; including the home team not playing the bottom of the 7h inning, provided the player has been inserted in time to play

three full innings. If a player does not play 3 full innings, they shall start the next game.

20) All game protests will be in writing and forwarded to the League Director for review. **NOTE:** There will be no protests on judgment calls.

21) A regulation game shall consist of 7 innings or five innings. If the game is called or if the home team has scored more runs in 4 innings than the visiting team has scored in five complete innings.

22) If a game fails to reach the regulation minimum limit of 4 % - 5 innings played, it is not a regulation game and must be replayed as a new game (all records are abolished).

23) **Tie game:** In case of a "Tie Game", the results are entered into league records as a "Tie Game" and are so indicated in league standings. Ties will only be replayed if they alter standings at the end of season. **NOTE:** A Tie Game must reach the regulation limit of 4 % - 5 innings.

24) If in the judgment of the umpire, a batter recklessly throws a bat after hitting the ball, the batter and his/her manager shall be warned on the first offense and shall be called out on the second offense. No runner shall advance if the batter is called out.

25) If, in the judgment of an umpire, a player throws any piece of equipment in a derogatory manner, the player shall be ejected from the game. No warning is necessary.

26) A maximum of two offensive conferences per inning are permitted. (An offensive conference is the meeting with a batter or runner by any of his coaches).

27) No offensive player may interfere, obstruct or confuse a fielder attempting to make a play. Batter or runner is automatically out.

28) An infield fly is a fair ball which, in the judgment of the umpire, can be caught by an infielder with ordinary effort when first and second base are occupied or bases are loaded with less than two outs. Umpire declares batter automatically out and runners advance at their own risk. Umpire must call infield fly for it to occur.

29) **Adults or carded umpires only.** Non-Adults can be used with permission from the opposing team. In the event an umpire does not show and a parent is used from one of the teams, there will be no protests or complaints in regard to this matter. If your team accepts a parent then expect bad calls.

30) Mercy Rule will take *effect* 10 runs after 4 1/2 innings.

31) All players must have full matching uniforms with numbers. No player can play without matching uniforms unless granted permission from opposing coach. No player can play in jeans.

32) Runners cannot intentionally barrel over a catcher or fielder. Slide or avoid rules apply.

If so, the player can be ejected in the view of the umpire. If a courtesy runner who is not in the game gets ejected for the occurrence, then both he and the player he was running for are out of the game. If it is just a courtesy runner who was last out only the runner will be ejected.

33) If a player is injured and their turn comes up to bat, he is ruled an out, and the next scheduled hitter will bat. Opposing manager has the right to waive the out.

34) No curfew on games unless agreed upon before hand.

35) Teams have the option of switching game times in agreement with the opposing team.

This must be done with 24 hours notice, so league coordinator can notify umpires of time change.

36) Extra Inning games will be played until there is a winner unless it is ended due to darkness. If all pitchers have been used, coaches can agree to a tie.

37) Bat size will be limited to a maximum -9.0 weight limit.

PITCHING

1) Any league player may only pitch **7** innings per calendar week (**Regardless of age**). 2) Monday through Sunday is a calendar week.

3) No players may pitch more than four (**4**) innings per game.

4) If a pitcher delivers one (1) pitch in an inning, he shall be charged for one (1) inning pitched.

5) Four (4) innings pitched requires two (2) days rest. Three (3) innings pitched requires one (1) day rest. Two (2) innings or less does not require a days rest.

Examples of Pitching Assignments:

(a) Pitcher pitches four (4) innings on Monday may pitch three (3) innings on Thursday.

(b) Pitcher pitches three (3) innings on Monday may pitch up to four (4) innings on Wednesday.

(c) Pitcher pitches two (2) innings on Tuesday may pitch two (2) innings on Wednesday and up three (3) on Thursday.

Note: If a game is called before it has become a regulation game and the umpire declares it "no game", the pitching eligibility is the same as it was prior to the beginning of the "no game" situation.

6) A pitcher who has been removed from the pitchers position may not reenter as a pitcher in that game.

7) The second trip in the same inning to the same pitcher shall automatically result in the removal of that pitcher from the game as a pitcher.

8) Any defensive conference with any player is considered a trip to the mound.

9) All pitching infractions must be brought to the attention of the League Director, at which time forfeiture of the game will be declared unless extenuating circumstances are cited which, declare Board consideration.

WARNING: Ignorance of this rule by a manager/or coach shall not be considered. Managers/or coaches shall confer before all games to determine pitching eligibility and requirements.

9) While wearing a mask for protection, an adult or player may warm up a pitcher before and during the game.

10) Balk - Pitcher will receive 1 warning, then balk rule applies.

PLAYOFFS

1) All post season playoff games shall be played under the regular season rules.

2) Final Standings will be based on points plus games played. All games should be played. You receive 2 points for a win, 1 point for a tie, 1 point for each game played. Final seeding will be based on total points plus total games played = Total Points.

3) Playoff Tie Breakers: 1. Head to Head, 2. Record within division, 3. Strength of schedule based on final records of all teams played, 4. Strength of schedule based on final records of playoff teams, 5. Least runs given up, 6. One game playoff.

4) All Playoff Games must be played 7 full innings. If a Playoff Game is postponed, the game will continue from that point to reach 7 full innings. All pitching records on a continued game will count as the same game.