

GBA BASEBALL SPRING RULES 2016

MAJOR and PONY LEAGUE SPECIFIC RULES

MAJORS: AGES 11 and 12 (5th / 6th Grades)

PONY: AGES 13 and 14 (7th / 8th Grades)

PURPOSE: This is a competitive league with emphasis on full skill development and good sportsmanship.

See Batting rule 5.f for bat restrictions pertaining to certain Major and Pony games.

For Pony, since the Spring League is being combined with Batavia Youth Baseball (BYB) and St. Charles Baseball (STC) leagues, the following rules (taken from our Fall League Rules) will be used in addition to the All League Common Rules referenced above. Any duplication of rules shown, the Fall League Rules shall supersede:

1. PITCHING:

a) Player may pitch no more than four (4) innings in a one game week; eight (8) innings in a two (2) game week; and eleven (11) innings in a three game week. For the purpose of counting games in a week, each week begins at 12:01 am Monday and ends the following Sunday at Midnight. For the purpose of this rule a single pitch thrown during an inning constitutes 1 inning pitch in regards to this limitation.

b) Pitching limitations for 2nd yr players (Note: Option B below must be declared prior to starting the game otherwise Option A is in effect. You cannot switch during the game):

Option A: Teams will be limited to three (3) innings of 2nd yr. pitching during the first five (5) innings of a game. Any appearance by a 2nd yr. pitcher counts as an inning towards this limitation. For example: If you remove a 1st yr. pitcher during an inning, you must replace the pitcher with a 1st yr. pitcher to not count towards this limitation. If you replace a 1st yr. with a 2nd yr. pitcher this will count against your 3 innings for your 2nd yr's. Pitchers after the first five (5) innings may be 1st or 2nd yr. players. Pitchers may not re-enter if removed earlier, or if they have used up their (4) innings of eligibility for this game. For purpose of this rule, a 1st player is defined as a player who has not played before in the current league (excluding the previous fall season). The rule does not pertain to age and/or grade, but rather to experience only. For example, in 2015 spring league a player played in the Major League. In the fall of 2015, that player played in the Pony League. For the 2016 spring season, that player would be categorized as a 1st yr. Pony League player. If in fall 2015 that same player played in the Major League, then for 2016 spring, the player is categorized as a 2nd yr. Major League player.

Option B: Teams may elect that if they are short on 1st yr pitchers to declare the option of throwing a 1st yr player 1 inning during the first 4 innings. They will then be limited to 1 inning each of 2nd yr players for the duration of the regulation game. In essence, no 2nd yr. player can pitch more than 1 inning in that game, unless the game goes into extra innings, then the limitation is lifted and a 2nd yr.

pitcher could pitch into the extra innings. Note: During the course of the game, a team may throw a 1st yr player more than one inning but the 2nd yr restriction will still be in place. .

c) Pitchers will be allowed to pitch on back to back days, but not 3 days in a row.

d) The pitching rubber shall be 54 feet from the furthest point of home plate to the front of the pitching rubber. Bases are to be 80 feet apart.

e) Intentional walks are allowed, however, the pitcher must deliver at least four legal pitches.

f) Umpires will have complete control and authority of all games. Prior to the game, the home team or host organization shall rule on field conditions. Once the game starts, the Umpire governs

delays or whether the playing field is safe. Exception: At facilities equipped with lightning detection systems, the guidelines for the detection system must be followed.

g) Metal spikes will be allowed in all league play.

h) Batting helmets and catchers helmets must be worn during play.

i) Continuous batting lineups shall be used and submitted prior to the game. No designated hitters are allowed.

j) Unlimited defensive substitutions shall be allowed.

k) Catchers may have an optional courtesy runner if they reach base or are on base with two outs in an inning. The courtesy runner must be the player who recorded the most recent out.

l) Game times are to be respected, but traffic may cause game delays or reasonable time. Forfeits for game delays are discouraged, and are only approved by the league committee.

m) A 12 run mercy rule is in affect after 5 innings (4.5 if home team is winning) or 10 runs after 6 innings (5.5 if home team is winning).

n) Jewelry shall not be worn, except for religious or medical medals. A religious medal must be taped down and worn under the uniform. A medical alert must be taped down, but may be visible. o) Games stopped prior to becoming official will be resumed at the exact point they left off. p) Unsportsmanlike conduct is behavior that is unethical or dishonorable. It includes, but is not limited to, disrespectfully addressing an official, any flagrant behavior, intentional contact, taunting, criticizing, or using profanity directed toward any other individual.

q) Slashing is not allowed (show bunt then swing away on same pitch). The batter will be immediately called out and the ball is dead.

r) A Pitcher will receive one warning when a balk is committed. After subsequent infractions, all base runners will be awarded a base.

s) For games played at field's #'s 5, 6 & 8 at Eastside Sports Complex, note that these are turf fields and specific rules apply. No metal spikes, only gym shoes or turf shoes. Bat bags need to be hung out on the fence outside of dugout. Water or Gatorade is allowed, but no gum, seeds, or candy. If a player does not have gym shoes, turf shoes, or rubber spike they will not be able to play on these specific fields.

Any STCYB general rules will apply when playing games (home or visiting team) at STCYB sanctioned fields.