



Barrington Youth Baseball & Softball

Rookie League Rules

1. League Season

- The league season will begin in April and will conclude by the end of June.
- There are no playoffs for this level.
- No Standings

2. Length of Game

- All games are 6 innings.
- No full inning will begin after 1 hour and 30 minutes.
- All games will begin at the published start time, unless the game before has exceeded its allotted time.

3. Conduct & Forfeitures

- a. The goal is a team should have a minimum of 6 players from the team's roster and a minimum of 8 players including replacement players. However, to avoid forfeitures players from the other team can fill in the outfield where needed.
- b. A manager **cannot** discuss any judgment calls with an umpire. The first violation will result in a warning; the second violation will result in ejection. Please discuss rule interpretations in a respectful way. Many of these kids could be yours one day.
- c. The use of profanity by players, fans, managers, or coaches is prohibited.
- d. Unsportsmanlike conduct of any nature will result in ejection.
- e. Any manager or coach ejected from the game will automatically be suspended for the next game. An ejection will result in review by the BYBS Executive Board.
- f. A manager is also responsible for the conduct of their team and fans. If team members or fans engage in unsportsmanlike conduct, the umpire shall warn the team manager. If there is a second incident of unsportsmanlike conduct, the umpire shall inform the BYBS Board or Commissioner.
- g. Only coaches and players are allowed in the dugouts and on the field.
- h. No smoking or drinking of alcoholic beverages while on the field or in the dugout.
- i. All teams are responsible for picking up **everything** in the dugouts after every game.
- j. Occasionally, BYBS will have conflicts with the Barrington Middle/High School schedules. Barrington Middle/High School will have priority in any conflict. Please try to understand and act accordingly.
- k. First Aid Kits will be located in the concession stands both at Field of Dreams, however, it is always a good idea to have one in the team bag.
- l. No soft toss allowed against the backstops. Over time it destroys the fencing!!

4. Use of Players

- a. All players on a team roster will bat in consecutive order. A player arriving after the game starts will be added to the end of the order. The opposing manager must be notified.
- b. **No player may sit out for consecutive innings.**
- c. **No player can sit twice until every player has sat once.**
- d. Each player must play 2 innings at an infield position during the game. The catcher and pitcher are considered infield positions for this rule. A player may play a maximum of two innings at a specific infield position, and a maximum of four innings on the infield. A player may be **exempt** from this rule if the Manager or Coach determines it to be an unsafe situation. If a manager or Coach believes a player should be exempt from this rule, then they must notify a parent of the player and a Commissioner with an explanation, and the commissioner must approve the exemption. A Manager or Coach must notify the opposing Manager of the exemption before each game.



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- e. Each team is allowed to have four (4) outfielders. Outfielders are required to stay on the outfield grass until the ball is hit. An outfielder is required to throw to an infielder to make a putout at any base. Outfielders are not allowed to cover bases.
- f. A team must field a minimum of 7 players at the start of the game, with no less than 5 from their own roster.

Any violations concerning the use of players should be reported to the Commissioner and shall be grounds for suspension of managers. These rules will be strictly enforced.

5. Replacements

- a. If a team loses a player for the season, the manager must notify the Rookie League Commissioner. The league, at its discretion, will provide a substitute player.
- b. If less than 9 players are available for a game, the team may use a player from any other team (including the opposing team) within the BYBS Rookie league or T-Ball League.
- c. A substitute player must bat last and can only play the outfield.

6. Pitching/Defense

- a. Coaches will pitch to their own team from the pitching rubber closest to home plate (40 feet).
- b. Coaches may not pitch underhand.
- c. A defensive player will occupy the position of the pitcher and must be within a 6 ft. radius of the pitching rubber and cannot stand in front of the coach-pitcher until the ball has been hit.
- d. The infield fly rule does **not** apply.
- e. A team is permitted to play four outfielders in the field. Outfielders must play in the outfield grass. Outfielders are not allowed to make any plays in the infield. Outfielders must throw the ball to an infielder for a force or tag at any base.
- f. Defensive Coaches: When your team is on defense, you will be allowed up to 2 coaches in the outfield.

7. Batting

- a. We will have a 6 pitch rule. Each batter will have 6 pitches to put the ball in play. There are no strike outs. If the batter does not put the ball in play after 6 pitches, the player is called out. An at-bat cannot end on a foul ball unless caught on a fly.
- b. A batter will not receive a walk.
- c. A batter hit by a pitch will **not** be awarded first base.
- d. **Each offensive inning will end when 3 outs are recorded or 6 runs are scored.**
- e. A batted fair ball that strikes the coach-pitcher will be in play. If a coach-pitcher intentionally catches or knocks down a ball to avoid an injury to a player, the batter will be awarded a single. A batted fair ball that is intentionally fielded or stopped by a defensive coach will be a ground rule double with all base runners awarded two bases.
- f. ONLY bats with a USA stamp can have a barrel size of up to 2-5/8 inches.
- g. Bats with a USSSA stamp can have a barrel size of up to 2-1/4 inches.
- h. Offensive Coaches: When your team is batting, you are required to provide a 1st and 3rd base coach and allowed to provide a Parent to back-up the catcher to speed up play and help the batter.
- i. All batters and baserunners must wear an approved batting helmet at all times, including on-deck circle and when returning to the dugout.
- j. There may not be more than 1 on-deck batter outside the dugout at any time.



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- k.* All bats and equipment must be removed immediately from the field to avoid safety hazards for fielders.
- l.* Bat slinging is a danger for defensive players, on-deck batters, and coaches and umpires, and will not be allowed. The first two offenses will get a warning; the third time the batter is out.

8. Base Running

- a.* A pinch runner must be used if the catcher is on base with 2 outs. The courtesy runner shall be the last batted out. This rule is in place to speed up the time in between innings so that there is a better chance to get all 6 innings completed.
- b.* **Base stealing is not allowed.** A base runner will be returned to the base originally occupied on any attempted steal.
- c.* **Lead offs are not allowed.** The base runner must stay on the base until the ball is hit. If a runner leaves early on a ball hit in play the runner will be returned to the first open base or called out if the base is occupied.
- d.* When a play is made on a base runner at first base or any other base and the ball is overthrown, the base runner may not advance.
- e.* If a ball is hit but does not leave the infield, runners may advance one base only.
- f.* Play stops once a ball is returned from the outfield to the infield. If the runner is in the process of attempting to advance to the next base, and only if the runner is at least halfway to the next base, the player may advance. For example, if a batter is attempting to get a double when the ball is returned to the infield, the batter/runner may proceed to second base if the batter/runner is at least halfway to second base when the ball is returned to the infield.
- g.* The base runner may only advance as many bases as the batter takes.
- h.* Defensive obstruction of the base runner (including by any field coach) results in the award of the next base. Offensive obstruction will result in the runner being called out.
- i.* Sliding to avoid contact is encouraged at all bases in all potential play situations. No penalties will be administered.

9. Threatening Weather and Lightning Conditions

- a.* Threatening weather conditions and/or lightning will end the game or practice session. The activation of a lightning detector, regardless of existing weather conditions or a visual sighting of lightning, will end the game or practice session at that point. Due to the lack of lightning safe, enclosed structures, the Station Fields (Lines & Station), the FOD facility or Park District (Langendorf or Beese) will be cleared of all persons in lightning conditions. Areas around the concession stands are **not** considered safe areas. No one will be allowed into the Station Fields, FOD Facility or Park District field area while a lightning detector is activated.
- b.* Games scheduled to start while a lightning detector is activated will be cancelled as a rain out if the delay due to the activation exceeds fifteen minutes past the games posted starting time.
- c.* Practice sessions will be delayed until the lightning detector or condition has cleared. No one will be allowed to practice until a detector has cleared.
- d.* Dropping off players by parents or guardians will not be permitted until the activation has cleared. For safety considerations, everyone shall remain in their cars while a lightning detector is activated or lightning conditions exist.

10. Umpires

- a.* A manager **cannot** discuss any judgment call. The first violation will result in a warning; the second violation will result in ejection.



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- b.** Managers or coaches trying to influence the umpires by calling balls, strikes, and safe or out will not be allowed.
- c.** Respect all umpire decisions. If you need to question the umpire, on regards to rules interpretation, you must discuss it in a respectful way after the side is retired.

REMEMBER: Your kids and players are always watching you! Please behave appropriately and show respect for all Managers, Coaches, Parents and BYBS Commissioners and Board Members who are volunteers like yourself. Especially towards our umpires, who are often older kids learning how to be umpires and are trying their best. Like all of us, they too will make mistakes and retaining these umpires year after year is imperative for our program.