

Andover-Anoka/Ramsey Partnership

10-12U League Rules & Guidelines

The following rules and regulations will govern play in the Andover Baseball Association, **with no exceptions. The official rules will be the National Federation of State High School rules except where modified below.** Any situations not covered here or in the National Federation rule book will be determined by the In-house and Umpire Director. ***It is your responsibility to read, understand and adhere to the rules.***

Conduct Policy:	Unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated on any level in ABA. Any player, coach, manager or spectator ejected from a contest for flagrant unsportsmanlike conduct will be ejected for the remainder of the game and will not be permitted to return to a game prior to meeting with the ABA President and the In-House Directors. Some examples of “flagrant unsportsmanlike conduct” include but are not limited to abuse of the game and/or officials, use of a declared ineligible player, fighting, repeated use of profane language, etc.
Eligibility:	May 1 at 12:01 AM is the determining date for the age of the player.
Pre-Game	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A team must have 8 uniformed players to start • Each team will play 9 players in the field at a time, consisting of: 3 - outfielders, 4 - infielders, 1 - catcher and a pitcher. • The team listed second on the schedule is the home team. • The home team will sit on the first base bench - visiting team will sit on the third base bench • The home team will provide the game balls and keep the official scorebook. • The visiting team will take infield 30 minutes prior to game time • The home team will take infield 15 minutes prior to game time
Game Length:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 innings • No inning starts after 8:30 PM • For games played under lights, no inning shall begin 1 hour 45 minutes after start time • Ties will stand in games called due to darkness

Rainouts/Lightning:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When thunder is heard, or a cloud-to-ground lightning bolt is seen, the thunderstorm is close enough to strike your location with lightning. Play is suspended. • Once play has been suspended, wait at least 30 minutes after the last thunder is heard or flash of lightning is witnessed prior to resuming play. • Any subsequent thunder or lightning after the beginning of the 30 minute count, reset the clock and another 30 minute count should begin. • If a game has completed 4 innings, it is not considered a rain out, but will be an official game. The score reverts back to the last completed inning if the game is called. If called with the home team batting and in the lead it will be considered a completed inning. • Rescheduled games are considered “suspended” and shall resume exactly where they left off. If the coaches disagree on whether or not to postpone due to weather, the umpire shall have the final say.
Scoring Limitations:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five runs per inning except the designated final inning and all extra innings. • Based on time constraints, the Umpire and Head Coaches should discuss and determine the designated final inning prior to starting the final inning. The designated final inning and all extra innings will have unlimited runs for both the home and away teams.
Report Scores	The winning coach is required to report the score of the game to the In-House Director. League standings will be posted on the ABA website.
Pitching/Base Distances:	10U: 46 feet / 60 feet 11U: 46 feet / 65 feet 12U: 52 feet / 75 feet
Pitching:	10U: A pitcher may pitch a maximum of 2 innings per game and a maximum of 6 innings per week. 11U: A pitcher may pitch a maximum of 2 innings per game and a maximum of 6 innings per week. 12U: A pitcher may pitch a maximum of 3 innings per game and a maximum of 8 innings per week. One pitch in an inning constitutes one inning pitched. A week is considered Monday through Friday.
Hit By Pitch:	If a pitcher hits two batters in an inning, the pitcher must be removed from the position for the rest of the inning. Batters hit by a pitch will be awarded first base. Batters must make an effort to avoid getting hit.

Curveballs:	<p>Curve balls are not allowed in the 10U-12U divisions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The first offense will be a warning. • The second offense will be an ejection from the pitcher's position.
Balk:	<p>10U - 11U: No balks will be called.</p> <p>NOTE: At 10U - 11U, pitchers should be instructed to pitch from the stretch when runners are on base. This is an instructional rule to help pitchers learn how to hold runners on base.</p> <p>12U: Any fake pitch will be considered a balk. Warnings will be issued on all other infractions.</p>
Batting:	<p>Continuous batting is mandatory for all age groups. Everyone bats, but only nine play in the field.</p> <p>NOTE on Continuous Batting: An injured batter or runner that cannot continue to participate will be replaced by the last player to be put out. This will end the injured player's participation for the remainder of that game. It will not be recorded as an out unless it drops the batting lineup below nine players.</p> <p>Batting out of order will constitute an out and the base runners, if any, return to their original base.</p>
Bunting:	Bunting will be allowed in every age group.
Base Running:	<p>10U: The runner may lead off and/or steal after the ball crosses the plate. Batters may not attempt to advance to first base on a dropped third strike. Runners may not steal home under any circumstances until after June 1st.</p> <p>11U: The runner may lead off and/or steal after the ball leaves the pitchers hand. Batters may not attempt to advance to first base on a dropped third strike.</p> <p>12U: The runner may lead off and steal according to NFHS rules.</p>
Courtesy Runner:	A courtesy runner (the last runner to be put out) will be allowed only for the catcher and only when there are two outs.

Sliding:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A player running on a batted ball to 2nd, 3rd, or home should make every attempt to slide in order to avoid contact if there is a play at the base/plate. • A clear attempt of a player sliding head first into home plate will be called out - which is at the discretion of the umpire. • Feet first sliding is required if there is a play at the base.
Dropped 3rd Strike:	<p>10U - 11U: Batters may not advance on a dropped third strike.</p> <p>12U: Batters may advance on a dropped third strike according to NFHS rules.</p>
Substitution:	Free substitution is allowed in the field. However, each player must play in at least two of the first four innings. Note: Your batting lineup never changes for that game.
Fielding Positions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each player is required to play at least 12 defensive outs – minimum 1 infield (includes pitcher/catcher) and 1 outfield position per player. • No player can play more than 2 innings at one position.
Outfield:	Outfielders must play on the outfield grass, not on the dirt part of the infield.
Infield Fly Rule:	The infield fly rule is in effect.
Time-Outs:	Coaches may call one time out per inning during any dead ball.
Calling Time:	Time is called when the umpire calls time.