

YOUNGSTOWN CLASS "B" LEAGUE
Minor League Division
OFFICIAL RULES 2022



President: Scott Ruark
Vice-President: Tom Otto
Secretary: Tim Joyce
Treasurer: Scott Ruark
Player Agent: Tim Joyce
14u Commissioner: Steve Leslie
16u Commissioner: Bob Beam
18u Commissioner: Don Zeisler

The goal of Youngstown Class “B” Baseball is to become the premier amateur league in the country. Under the direction of the officers and with the cooperation of league sponsors and managers, a revamping of policies and procedures has taken place.

The league has placed a strong emphasis on playing a top-notch brand of baseball. All phases of operation have been taken to insure fans will see the game played as it should be.

Class “B” Baseball is an operation dedicated to playing the game with the respect it deserves. Class “B” offers players an opportunity to compete on the finest facilities available.

Developing young men as citizens and athletes is a source of great pride to all those involved. Players must adhere to a code of conduct that promotes playing the game with class. To ensure players can play on a higher level when they leave Class “B”, the league is committed to a strong on-field supervision program.

Managers and coaches have developed a program that is geared to player development both on and off the field. Under their direction, players are able to improve their skills and approach the game with an attitude that reflects their maximum effort and sportsmanship.

Class “B” baseball has instituted a program to enhance the caliber of league umpires. With the cooperation of the umpires governing body, the league has in place guidelines that will enhance game operations and supervision.

A promotional program geared to bringing fans into the park has been instituted. Making Class “B” Baseball an important part of the community is the goal. Families attending games will see an outstanding brand of baseball in a wholesome atmosphere.

Minor League Teams Contact Info

<u>Team</u>	<u>Manager</u>	<u>Email Address</u>
Astro Falcons	Dom Triveri	Dtriveri@yahoo.com
A2Z Athletics	Rod Pallerino	Hurricane84@comcast.net
Athletix	Joe Scott	joejscott@sbcglobal.net
Whiting Roll-Offs	Dale Ross	dross1@ecolab.com
Eaglewear	Dan Memo	Memo6866@yahoo.com
Prospects	Doug Williams	Dwilliams@dinesol.com
Knightline	Tom Otto	kbenyo@brilex.com
Ballistic Baseball	James Hillyer	Jamesjosh12@yahoo.com
Avalanche	Brad Beckert	cbbeckert@gmail.com
Creekside	Frank Senediak	franksenediak@gmail.com

SECTION 1

1. Any amateur baseball team or player of legal age may become a member of the Class “B” League.
2. Teams wanting to join the Minor League must submit a written application to the President. The President will then review the application with the executive board and the remaining parties in the league.
 - 2a. The 10 Franchise teams take precedence over any other teams wishing to become a member of the Class “B” League.
3. All player entry fees shall be equal. All moneys collected at the playoff games must be put into the league treasury for the following years, except Cene Park, which will be half. The league will furnish all the baseballs for the playoff games.
4. The league entry fees (sponsor fees) of \$400.00 must be turned in Wednesday, February 16, 2022, NO LATER than 6:30PM at the meeting. If the entry fees are not turned in the team will not be scheduled and the team could lose its’ spot in the league. Contracts will be issued October 21, 2020.
5. The playing rules as published in the Official Rules of the American League shall be the rules of the league. The league will also conform to the NABF and PONY Baseball eligibility rules.

EXCEPTION-The Ohio High School Athletic Association Rule pertaining to re-entry will be adopted.

6. EP can be entered into game as a defensive player at any time. If you start the game with 10 players, you must end the game with 10 players. EP is optional for all teams. *** EP can be entered into game as a defensive player at any time. If you start the game with 10 players, you must ‘end’ the game with 10 players. ‘End’ occurs at EP’s next at bat. EP is optional for all teams. EXCEPTION to Rule Section 1,6.....there will be NO FORFEIT due INJURY...and INJURY ONLY. If no player is available to replace the INJURED player, then when such player’s spot in the batting order comes due, it will be recorded as an OUT. The batting order never changes! INJURY is determined by agreement between both team’s managers. In the case of disagreement, then a League Officer will make such determination. (Rev. Feb. 16, 2022)
7. The Class “B” League Treasurer will pay umpires and scorekeepers. The moneys will come from the league entry fees.
8. RECRUITING BOUNDARIES- PONY Baseball Restrictions.

SECTION 2

1. No player shall be eligible unless his legible contract is on file with the league. In the event he has been playing with a team in the league he shall not play with a second team until he has been released. This must be submitted to a league officer from the authorized agent of his original team.

2. All contracts should be printed in ink. The signature of the player must be above the name. A legal birth certificate, a current picture and a liability form must accompany all contracts. Contracts must be on file with a league official prior to the player playing his first game. Any player found to be ineligible and plays would result in a forfeit of his team for all the games he has played in.
3. Signature of a player and parent required on the contract.
4. All players pay a fee of \$250.00 for registration in the Minor League Division. Fee due prior to the player playing his first game. You must pay for a minimum of 12 players' total in Minor League. Any amount over \$3,000.00 goes back to the sponsor.
5. MANAGERS: Put each picture, contract, liability form, PONY Medical Release, and birth certificate together for each boy.
Managers and Coaches are required to complete the Concussion Course and include a printed Certificate of Completion in that team's Roster Book. Also, each Manager and Coach shall include a signed "Concussion Liability" and "League Liability" forms in the Roster Book. Concussion Course website: <https://nfhslearn.com/courses>. (Revised 11/16/2016) Starting for the 2022 Season, electronic files of players and coaches Roster Book paperwork will now be required and turned in in place of the "Book". (Rev. Nov.25, 2020)
6. Teams will be limited to 21 players. Only 30 contracts will be issued to each manager. A new contract can be signed as of October 21, 2020. Only five (5) 13 year olds will be allowed on each Minor (14U) League team.
7. RELEASE RULE
Manager may be suspended for 1 year if he signs a player who has not been released.

Any player, who was under contract, regardless if he gets released, cannot sign with the team that picked him up for an NABF tournament the previous year.
8. A player disabled after the signing deadline may be replaced upon notification to a league officer by a registered physician about the disability. The player must be replaced within 7 days from the date in which written notification was received.
9. For the 2015 season and forward: All 13 year old players from the previous season are released.

SECTION 3-TOURNAMENTS

1. Minor league teams will play an 18-game schedule.
2. A Shawnassey Playoff for the 2022 season shall be for the Minor League Championship.
Team #1 VS Team #4- Three game series – Team #1 will be home in Game 1 and 3
Team #2 VS Team #3- Three game series – Team #2 will be home in Game 1 and 3

If two teams are tied for 4th place, we will have a play-in game. If 3 teams are tied for 4th place and no one has head to head criteria with the other teams, we will draw for a bye. The remaining teams will play and the winner will play the bye team to get into the playoffs. If there is one team that has head to head advantage on the other two teams, they will automatically receive the bye and wait for the winner of the game between the other two teams.

The remaining teams after the 1st round will play a five-game series to decide the Minor League Champion. The highest seed team will be home team in games 1, 3, and 5.
3. All Shawnassey games for the 2022 Minor League must be decided before any tournament play. The ONLY cancellation will be through the act of God.
4. Any forfeiture of the championship series removes a team from the 2022 tournament play. The next team in the standings will replace the forfeited team in the tournament position.

2022 TOURNAMENT SPOTS:

Shawanassey Playoff Winner is the Minor League Champion. This team will receive a berth to the 14u NABF World Series in Struthers, Ohio. The Playoff Runner-Up will also have a bid to the 14u NABF World Series. The other 2 teams in the playoffs will also be awarded a bid to the 14u NABF World Series. Since there will be no regional in 2022, the playoff series must conclude prior to the World Series.

5. NABF picks for World Series play will be every other pick starting with the league champion, then league runner-up, and next best record. NABF picks will be 1,2,3..1,2,3 etc.
6. We will have **one** league all-star team that will compete in the PONY HOST-AREA Tournament with the winner going to the PONY World Series in Washington, PA. Players must participate in at least one half of the regular season games to be eligible for an All-Star team. NOTE: Starting in 2018, PONY has gone to Aug. 31st for the age cut-off date. Class B League will remain May 1st. Therefore, any 14 year old player who turns 15 years of age on or after May 1st thru Aug. 31st is ineligible to play on the All-Star Team.
7. The Manager of the Pony All-Star Team will be 14U League Champion Manager or a Manager the Board would appoint to take the team. If the League Champion does not take the team, then it will be determined by the win-loss record of the teams in the League. If that Manager refuses, then the next best record on down the line until a Manager accepts.

SECTION 4-PLAYER REQUIREMENTS

1. Any player quitting a Class Minor League team at any time will not be eligible to participate for another team in tournament play at that level. Teams will be required to turn in a list of players that quit.
2. Players must participate in at least half the games to be eligible for the All-Star Team. This can be altered by the President because of situations.

SECTION 5-GENERAL RULES

1. The officers will be elected each year. They shall be President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, President-Emeritus, and Player Agent. These officers will hold the same position on the Class B League Board.
- 1a. League meetings will be conducted under Robert's Rules of Order. The quorum voted to hold a Class "B" meeting must be more than 50% of the total teams entered into the league.
 - A. Opening of meeting.
 - B. Reading of the minutes from the previous meeting (and the approval)
 - C. Treasurer's report (and approval)
 - D. Reports of standing committees.
 - E. Reports of select committees.
 - F. Unfinished business.
 - G. New business
 - H. Closing of meeting. An adjourned meeting to close with a motion, when this meeting adjourns, it adjourns to meet at such a date and time.
2. Any team withdrawing from the league after the schedule is completed will have all games won and lost remain as such in the league standings and shall forfeit all games to their scheduled opponents and lose all moneys. Any team forfeiting 2 games in a season will be gone from the league.
3. Minor League games will have a 15 Run Mercy Rule after 3 ½ or 4 innings, 10 Run Rule after 4 ½ or 5 innings, and 8 Run Rule after 5 ½ or 6 innings. No inning should start after 2 hours and 15 minutes from the start time. Any game suspended after 4 ½ - 5 innings for weather, darkness or any other reason will be an official game.

4. A team may use a “courtesy” runner for the catcher at any time, but the player must not have played in the game and be an eligible player. (Rev. Jan. 7,2021)
5. **TIME LIMIT: All Minor League games will have a limit of 2 hours, 15 minutes. No NEW inning will start at the 2:15 hour mark. If the visiting team is winning at the 2:15 mark, then the home team will bat and the INNING will BE FINISHED. In the event that the game is tied at the 2:15 mark, then the 2020 MLB “TEXAS SHOOT-OUT RULE” will be followed for ONE INNING ONLY. A runner will be placed on second base. This “runner” must be the last batter in the line up for the previous inning. After the one inning Texas shoot out, the results will stand and the game will be considered complete. (Rev. Jan. 7,2021)**
6. **For regular season games only, any games stopped due to weather delay, the clock STOPS. When such game is rescheduled, the “time clock” will pick up where it left off. (Rev. Jan. 7,2021)**

7. **PITCHING RULES MINOR LEAGUE**

Will institute USA Pitch Smart Rules:

Age	Daily Max (Pitches in Game)	0 Days Rest	1 Days Rest	2 Days Rest	3 Days Rest	4 Days Rest	5 Days Rest
7-8	50	1-20	21-35	36-50	N/A	N/A	N/A
9-10	75	1-20	21-35	36-50	51-65	66+	N/A
11-12	85	1-20	21-35	36-50	51-65	66+	N/A
13-14	95	1-20	21-35	36-50	51-65	66+	N/A
15-16	95	1-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76+	N/A
17-18	105	1-30	31-45	46-60	61-80	81+	N/A

14u Division –

- A.) 1-20 – 0 Days Rest
- B.) 21-35 - 1 Days Rest
- C.) 36-50 - 2 Days Rest
- D.) 51-65 - 3 Days Rest
- E.) 66+ - 4 Days Rest
- F.) 95 Pitches Max per day

(If the pitch count rule is “blatantly” broken, you forfeit the game.) The Executive Board will be the deciding body in determining “blatant”.) (Revised 11/20/2019)

8. All pitching will be monitored by Tim Joyce and teams are mandated to use Game Changer as the scoring system.

A pitcher may “finish the batter” ONLY if said pitcher reaches the MAX pitch count of 95 (14U) pitches during the act of pitching to a batter. Then that pitcher must come off the mound prior to the next batter. That pitcher will be considered done for the day and has reached the maximum number of pitches allowed. (Rev. Jan.7,2021)

9. Under no circumstance shall a team leave the field during a game. The penalty is losing the game by forfeit.
10. **IF AN UMPIRE SHOULD NOT REPORT FOR A GAME:**
If an umpire should not report for a game the manager must first contact the President for a replacement. If a replacement cannot be found a request to the stands for an umpire in attendance can be made. If there is still no umpire, then a person upon whom both managers can agree can officiate. Call the 14U Commissioner, Steve Leslie (330) 518-8590 for help resolving any issues.
11. Each team roster, as submitted by the manager, must conform to all the conditions of eligibility as outlined in the Minor League Official Rules. Any deviation will be subject to forfeiture of the entrance moneys and game or games in which the ineligible player or players participated.

12. SPONSOR RESPONSIBILITY:

Sponsors are to pay all entry fees prorated to the number of teams in the league.

13. The manager or adult in uniform, other than a member of the team, must be in charge of the team at all times during all games.

14. The wearing of a two-eared helmet is MANDATORY at bat and on the bases at all times for players. Some organizations will require the wearing of a skull cap on bases by the coaches

15. All catchers must wear either a hockey-style mask in league play or hardhat with throat protector. The rules of the tournament would need to be followed for that particular tournament.

16. SLIDING RULE

We will use the High School Slide Rule. You must avoid contact. You must avoid contact at all bases and this includes double play situations. Malicious contact **WILL NOT** be tolerated and players will be automatically ejected. The League President will issue a 1 game suspension or more based on the circumstances. Please see NHFS Rule Book, Rule 8-Baserunning, Section 4.

17. EJECTION RULE:

If any coach or player is ejected from a game, he must leave the dugout for that game. The player will be suspended for 1 game, which is the very next league or playoff game. If a player is ejected for a second time, the player is suspended for 3 games. The player can attend the games but must sit in the stands. If a player is ejected from 3 or more games, the President will then take charge of the situation. A player suspended from Minor League shall not play for the other league during his suspension. Any coach ejected must leave the dugout area and act accordingly.

18. All protests must be in writing and filed with any officer of the Class "B" League within 48 hours after the completion of the game in question. A fee of \$125.00 must accompany the protest. If the protest is sustained the fee will be refunded. Under NO circumstances will the fee be refunded if the protest is not sustained. Such fees not returned will be given to the league to help defray the expenses for the year.

19. All Minor League players must use a BBCOR certified -3 aluminum bat for the 2022 Season. If an illegal bat is used, the batter will be out and the player and manager will be ejected for that game and the next scheduled game.

20. The final 21 man roster MUST BE turned in as a HARD COPY into the Press Box prior to the start of the first game for every league team on June 15, 2021. If a team or teams fails to do so, then the Manager(s) of that team or teams will face a 3 game suspension. If the hard copy of the roster has still not been turned in, further sanctions will be determined by the President of the League. The Manager cannot return to his team until the Final, Hard Copy of their team's roster is turned in. On June 17, 2022 all Final Rosters will be emailed to each team. NOTE: Please use the "Roster Template" that is provided in the "FORMS" tab on the Leagues website.

21. Any rule that is in question will be interpreted by the President and Vice President and acted upon.

CENE PARK FIELD RULES 2022

1. Teams playing on field #1 take BP in cages outside left field fence.
2. Teams playing on field #2 take BP in cages between field #1 and #2.
3. **NO** soft toss against any fences.
4. **NO** batting practice inside fences on any field.
5. Pepper games played inside foul lines in outfield only.
6. Teams playing on field #2 use warm up mounds between field #1 and #2. **DO NOT** warm up pitchers on the warning tracks.
7. Teams playing warm up catch **MUST** be 10 ft. inside foul lines.
8. Players should **NOT** play catch or swing bats in grass areas in front of dugouts.
9. Hitting ground balls or taking infield is **NOT** permitted in the outfield or on warning tracks.
10. Coaches or players hitting fungos to outfielders **MUST** be 10 ft. inside foul lines.
11. Coaches and players hitting extra ground balls to infielders **MUST** stand in dirt walkways leading to the plate.
12. When possible, keep infielders off grass during infield practice or when the ball is thrown around.
13. Dugouts are to be cleaned before you leave after the game.
14. **NO** tobacco of any kind permitted in dugout.
15. Home team in 1st base dugout. Visitor in 3rd base dugout.
16. **NO** food or drink may be brought into Cene Park. We have a concession stand. (**EXCEPTION- drinks for players**)
17. **Absolutely NO coolers are permitted in the park.** (Rev. 11/15/17)
18. You may drop off equipment as street gate on field #2. Please park in the lot provided and not on the street. The gate will be opened for you from inside to get your equipment.
19. **There are no ball chasers-you shag your own balls. Please ask your fans or players to chase foul balls.**
20. 10-minute infield warm up will be allowed **ONLY** if weather and time permits and that is at the discretion of park personnel. Home team will go 1st.
21. Field #3 has its own admission gate and parking lot.
22. You must warm up outside the fence, in the bull pen area on all fields.
23. Both teams must help with the tarps on all fields when instructed to do so.
24. The presiding league "field manager" (Ron Bovo) will make all determinations as to the playability of all fields at Cene Park. An umpire may stop the game for safety reasons, but the determination of resuming the game or postponing it, is the responsibility of the field manager. If the field manager is not available, then this responsibility will fall on a league official, not the umpire.

Your help in keeping all of our facilities in tip-top condition would be greatly appreciated!