

# 2017 Dighton National League Special Rules

March 1, 2017

- 1) Cal Ripken Director will make call for weather postponements. Jarett Mendoza will contact coaches and umpires on decision, which will be made no later than 1 hour prior to schedule start time to avoid cancelation fees for canceled games.

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- 2) Pitching Week Begins on **FRIDAY MORNING** during the regular season. (Friday – Thursday)

Regular Season Pitching Rules:

- 6 innings per player, per week, when teams have 3 games or less for a week. (week begins on Friday Morning- Thursday Night)
- Pitchers can only pitch 3 innings maximum per game.
- Once starting pitcher has been removed, he **is not allowed** to pitch later in the game.
- If a team has 4 or more games in a week due to cancellations, the pitchers on that team may be used up to 9 innings for that week.
- One legal pitch equals one inning for all pitchers.
- Pitcher must be removed after 3 hit batters in an inning, or 4 in a game.
- Coach may visit pitcher once every inning, on second visit the coach must remove pitcher.
- Every coach should attempt to give every kid the opportunity to pitch. Especially, if he wants to try.

- 4) Regular Season Defensive Substitution:

- No player should sit more than one inning per game. (Special exceptions Ok.)
- All teams must use a continuous batting. Late arriving players are placed at the end of the batting order.
- Unlimited /free defensive substitutions.
- Four outfielders are used defensively.
- Injured players may be removed from the line-up without penalty.
- Players should have the opportunity to at least play 2B, and 3B for a couple innings during a game.
- OF, 2B, and 3B positions during the regular season should be rotated with players, unless a safety concern is feared.

- 5) Regular Season Special Rules:

- No pinch runners may be used, unless a player has been injured, in this case the last batter who was deemed out, shall run for that player.
- Base runners may only steal home twice per inning.
- Base runners may continue to steal home if the catcher or any other positional player tries to throw runner out stealing third, tries picking runner off third, makes an errant throw back to the pitcher on the mound, or tries making a baseball play to eliminate the base runner.
- Once pitcher establishes contact with the Rubber, the base runner must return to the base.

- 4 run limit per inning. Unlimited in the 6<sup>th</sup> inning including stealing of home.
  - A minimum of 8 players is required to start a game and complete an official game
  - There will not be an out taken on the ninth batting spot to start a game
  - Game start-times are not flexible - they must start on time. However, a 15 minute grace period is allowed if one team has only 7 players. If the 15 minutes transpire and the 8th player has not arrived, a forfeit is called and coaches are encouraged to have a scrimmage. Final Score (6-0)
  - All regular season games will be 6 innings in duration. If a game at the end of 6 innings is tied, then one inning will be played to break the tie. No inning will start past 7:30pm, if home team doesn't get to bat in 7<sup>th</sup> inning, final score reverts back to score at the end of the 6<sup>th</sup>inning (which game would end in a tie score). Each team would receive 1pt.
  - All games will start at 5:30pm and no inning will start after 7:30pm.
  - If a game is halted by an umpire due to darkness, the final score will be reverted back to the last full inning of completion. A minimum of 4 innings has to be played (or 3 ½ if home team is winning) to be recorded as an official game.
  - If a game is halted by inclement weather, game will restart from the beginning if game is in the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, or 3<sup>rd</sup> inning. If one pitch is thrown in fourth inning, game will be resumed from that point at a later date. If 3 1/2 innings are played and the home team is winning, game is deemed official.
- 6) Mercy Rule:
- A 10-run mercy rule applies at each half-inning interval when the trailing team is behind by 10 or more runs and has completed 12 or more outs (4 innings) at the plate assuming the home team has completed its at bat. Losing team must concede.
- 7) Protested Contests
- Initiate a protest by contacting **Jarett Mendoza. @774-406-1018** . A voice mail message or text message is an acceptable means of filing your protest.
  - You have 24 hours after the start of the game to request a protest

### **Housekeeping Items**

- Winning team enters game scores that night of the game played at **www.godbsl.com** (All Managers should have log on Id's and passwords).
  - Post score right from the Manager's Main page.
- For the playoffs only the 1<sup>st</sup> round will get seeded. #1 seed will receive first round bye. #4 vs #5 in a first round game winner plays #1 seed. #2 vs #3 seed winner then plays in winner bracket. It will be a double elimination tourney.
- For the playoffs the team in the winner's bracket is awarded home field for the championship game.
- For the playoffs if the "if needed" game is required a coin toss will be used to determine the home team at home plate.
- If a manager, coach, or player is ejected from a game that person will also be suspended from the next scheduled game, including the playoffs. The second offense of a manager, coach, or player is subject to removal by the Cal Ripken Director, Player agent, and President.

- Sportsmanship is required every game. Throwing the bat and helmet is automatic removal of the game. 2<sup>nd</sup> offense the player is removed for a week. 3<sup>rd</sup> offense, players are subject to removal by the board. Managers should help police your own players.
- **No arguing balls and strikes**
- Home team is responsible to provide 2 new game balls to the umpire
- Only managers are allowed to have discussions with the umpire. All other coaches should remain in the dugout.
- Home team is responsible for pre-game field preparations, which must be completed at least 30 minutes prior to game time.
- Infield/Warm-up begins 25 minutes prior to the game time. Game start times are 5:30. Home team goes first for 10 minutes (5:05– 5:15). Visitor second for 10 minutes (5:15-5:25). Umpire meeting: 5 minutes. If a team begins warm-ups late, they may not extend warm-ups to make-up for lost time. Use it or lose it.
- Trash pick-Up: each team is responsible for leaving their bench area litter free
- Visiting team is responsible for the trash barrels and grooming the field at the conclusion of the game.
- Coaches will discourage players from digging holes in the field or otherwise damaging the fields
- No slash bunts
- Head first sliding is acceptable only when returning to a base.
- No batting practice or soft toss on the playing field prior to any game

Most important: All coaches and managers should conduct themselves in a professional manor. It's not about putting 10 runs up over another team. Sportsmanship should always prevail. Managers, coaches, and parents should always be positive to kids from both teams. Managers should always look for opportunities to get kids involved. Remember the eyes of these young children are watching how the adults behave. Coaches should discourage taunting at third base.