

Boys A-Ball Rules 2023

1. **Age limits** – 13-15 year olds may play. Any player turning 16 before Sept 1st may not play. **15 year olds are limited to pitching a total of 6 consecutive outs per game. (2019)**
2. **Baseballs** – home team provides 1 new ball per game and it will be a regular baseball.
3. **Rules** – follow High School rules **this includes Balks (warned the first time).**
4. **Distances** - field will have 90 foot base paths and a 60'6" mound.
5. **Bats** - must be hardball bats. **In 2015, bats must be -8 ex: 31 inch / 23 once. This is for safety reasons.**
6. **Hitters** – the entire roster bats every game
7. **Batting helmets** – must be worn at all times by any offensive player while on the field of play.
8. **Bunting** – is allowed.
9. **Thrown bats** – a thrown bat is one that is wildly propelled more than 6 feet at the Umpire's discretion. Violations will be automatic outs and play stopped *immediately* with no runners advancing.
10. **Leading off** – is allowed.
11. **Stealing** – all bases can be stolen.
12. **Sliding** – all runners must avoid contact with fielders.
13. **Number of fielders** – no more than 9 players on defense.
14. There will be free defensive substitutions.
15. Pitchers get 6 warm up pitches per inning
16. Pitchers cannot pitch more than 4 innings (or 12 outs) unless the game goes to extra innings and then he/she can pitch 1 extra inning. **The innings must be consecutive (2016).**
17. **Wild pitchers** – a pitcher shall be removed from the game after hitting 3 batters at anytime during the game.
18. **Players** – a team must have at least 8 to play a game. Less than 8 is a forfeit.
19. **Catchers** – all catcher's equipment is required.
20. **Scoring limits** – **8 run** limit on scoring per inning. There will be a 10 run rule in effect from the 5th inning on.
21. **Length of game** – games begin at **6:15 p.m.** and coaches will decide the length of the games depending on darkness.
22. **Rain outs** – Home coach will call game off by 5 p.m.
23. **Coaches** – are not allowed to touch the runners. Violations will cause the runner to be out.
24. **Umpires** – home team provides home plate umpire while visitors provide base umpire. Umpires are not to coach players during play.
25. **Ground rules** – prior to the game the home team will describe the fields ground rules to the visiting coach and umpires. Additional rules must be agreed upon prior to the game.
26. **Score keepers** – each team should have their own scorekeeper and scores should be compared every inning.
Ejection from the game – The Waushara County baseball program will enforce rules of fair play and sportsmanship. Failure to follow these rules by *anyone* in attendance could cause a forfeit of the game. Any parent ejected from the game will cause his/her child to be ejected as well. That parent must leave the area immediately. The player may play in the next game. Any Coach ejected will leave the field immediately and will be suspended for the next game as well. The Coach may not be in the area of the field when ejected or suspended. Players ejected will leave the area when ejected and is also suspended for the next game. The suspended player must sit on the bench in the next game he attends in order to fulfill his suspension. Failing to appear at the next game will not complete the player's suspension.