



Coach's Manual

2021



BJLBA Contact Information:

Address: PO Box 7404 Bloomington, IN 47407-7404

Email: <http://www.bjlba.org>

Website: www.bjlba.org

BJLBA Board Members Contact Information:

Position	Name	Contact Info
Commissioner:	Dave Huss	812-325-6162
President:	Mark Wynalda	812-278-6960
Vice President:	Jesse Goode	812-606-6671
Treasurer:	Whitney Carr	812-320-2749
Secretary:	Ron Drahos	812-336-8467
Umpire In Chief:	Scott Burton	812-822-1491
Travel Baseball Director:	Jared Thompson	812-219-2705
Technologist:	Dan Kroeger	812-320-4429
Board Members at Large:	Steve Villardo	812-361-3520
	Mark Cady	812-322-1287
	Sara Conrad	348-348-5011
	Roric Fisher	812-391-7818
	Andy Hamilton	812-876-3328
	Jason Eakin	812-822-0098
League Representatives:	Eric Armstrong (Majors)	812-825-6301
	Rob Mason (Majors)	317-600-9340
	Ethan Smith (Minors)	812-650-2518
	Phil Smith (Minors)	812-381-2572
	Abe Carney (Juniors)	317-509-5310
	Tyler McCoy (Juniors)	812-322-9733
	TBD (2 Novices)	

BJLBA Mission Statement

Novice Division (5-6 year olds)

The Purpose of the Bloomington Junior League 5 & 6 year old Novice Division is to provide a non-competitive introduction to the game of baseball. The objective is to develop a basic understanding of the simple fundamentals such as hitting, throwing, catching, and base running. It is the intent of our program to provide a positive and enjoyable environment where every child has the opportunity to develop their skills and enjoy the game of baseball regardless of ability.

Junior Division (7-8 year olds)

The Purpose of the Bloomington Junior League 7 & 8 year old Junior Division is to introduce baseball as a game of athletic competition. The objective is to expand on the development of basic fundamentals. Games will be played according to League regulations with BJLBA modifications. Primary goals will include: understanding of rules and introducing strategies, developing teamwork and unity, encouraging proper execution, promoting fair play, and positive character development

Minor Division (9-10 year olds)

The Purpose of the Bloomington Junior League 9 & 10 year old Minor Division is to provide a competitive environment for the game of youth baseball. The objective is to expand on the development of basic baseball skills through advanced techniques and initiation of proper execution. Games will be played according to League regulations with minor BJLBA modifications. Primary goals will include: understanding of rules and strategies, teamwork and unity, encouraging a competitive spirit, promoting fair play, and positive character development in winning and losing.

Major Division (11-12 year olds)

The Purpose of the Bloomington Junior League 11 & 12 year old Major Division is to provide a competitive environment for the game of youth baseball. The objective is to expand on the development of advanced baseball skills and proper execution of play. A greater focus on individual position development will be stressed. Games will be played according to League regulations with minor BJLBA modifications. Primary goals will include: a complete understanding of rules and strategies, teamwork and unity, encouraging a competitive spirit, promoting fair play, and positive character development in winning and losing.



Rules

2021 Constitution By-Laws and Special Rule Changes/Additions:

- Please review BJLBA.org website

Approved BJLBA/USSSA Bat Standard

- <http://web.usssa.com/usssa/usssa-general/BBBatStandards817.pdf>
- <http://web.usssa.com/usssa/usssa-general/licbbbatmfg.htm>.

Forfeits:

If your team is going to be short players for a given game, don't try to get around the forfeit by telling your team not to show up. The officers WILL find out

10-Run Rule:

Novice-Junior: No 10-Run rule in place

Minor-Majors: The 10-Run rule shall apply. Once becoming a regulation game, if one team is ahead by 10 or more runs and has equal times at bat or the home team is leading. The game shall be called by the UMPIRE.

Infield Fly:

Novice-Junior: No infield fly rule in place.

Minor-Majors: The ten run rule shall apply. It is a fair fly ball (not including a line drive nor an attempted bunt) which can be caught by an infielder with ordinary effort, when first and second, or first, second, and third bases are occupied, before 2 outs. The pitcher, catcher, and any opportunity who stations himself in the infield on the play shall be considered infielders for the purpose of this rule.

Time Limit

Game Time Limits and Ties are final: No inning shall commence after 2 hours (One hour and forty-five minutes for scheduled activity) has elapsed from the start of the game. A new inning begins immediately after the last out of the proceeding inning. Extra-inning games i.e. more than six innings will be allowed subject to the 2-hour 1 hour and 45 minutes time limitation. Games which are tied after the two-hour (1 hour and 45 minutes) time restriction has expired shall remain tied. Each Team will be credited with 1-half game won and lost. There are exceptions for the Bloomington City Tournament

Rules (Continued)

Important rules to remember:

Novice/Juniors:

Minors:

- 10 Players play the field (4 Outfielders)
- 7 Players required to start a game

Batting:

- No Drop 3rd (On the third strike and the catcher drops the ball, the batter cannot attempt to advance to 1st base)

Pitching:

- No Balks

Baserunning:

- No Lead offs, but runners can steal once the ball crosses the plate
- Players do not have to slide but should be encouraged to do so

Run Rules:

- 7 Runs Max Per Inning
- 15 Runs After 3 Innings; 8 Runs after 4

Pitch Count:

- **Max:** 75 per game (Follow Pitch Count Guidelines stated in Coaching Guidebook on website)

Majors:

General Information for Coaching

Coaching for Health and Safety

Part of your responsibility as a coach is to erase an unacceptable dialogue that is disparaging and harmful to youth. The goal should always be to provide a safe, respectful, positive, and competitive environment for all athletes.

Coaches can help create an environment of inclusion by:

- Always giving the same level of respect to everyone.
- Never tolerating derogatory or belittling language between athletes.
- Recognizing and mentoring each athlete.
- Listening and displaying empathy to all athletes.
- Respecting any assistive devices, such as canes or wheelchairs, and always asking before moving assistive devices.
- Remembering that some disabilities may not be easily noticeable and can be hidden, such as dyslexia and Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder.
- Having open communication from the start about abilities and limitations.
- Being considerate of the modifications to the game or the extra time athletes may need.

BJLBA will not tolerate

- Bullying
- Harassment
- Sexual Misconduct
- Hazing
- Emotional or Physical Misconduct

Benefit in Participating in more than 1 sport:

- Avoid Burnout
- Reducing the Risk of overuse related injuries
- Developing Skills as an all-around athlete
- Enhancing the development of mental and life skills
- Building Confidence

Creating a Safe and Respectful Environment

- Model appropriate behavior.
- Set rules before the season starts, and communicate them clearly with parents, players, and other coaches.
- Take the necessary actions if problems arise.
- Avoid using explicit language in the presence of players.
- Avoid excessively personal conversations with players.
- Ensure players are wearing proper safety equipment, such as batting helmets, catcher's gear, and protective cups.

Coach Certification

Instructions for Certification (Free Certification)

- 1) Go to usabdevelops.com
- 2) Sign up and create account
- 3) Go to My Profile
- 4) Select a Course (each course takes about 10 minutes)
- 5) Complete the Courses Below (**Novices-Majors**)
 - Building a Baseball Experience
 - Coaching Philosophy and Approach
 - Managing Players
 - Confident Baseball Coach
 - Coaching the Fundamentals of Infield
 - Coaching the Fundamentals of Outfield
 - Coaching the Basics of Hitting
 - Base running Fundamentals
 - Catching StancesAdditional Courses (**Minors and Majors**)
 - Catching Development
 - Baserunning Development
 - Infield Development
 - Outfield Development
 - Offensive Development
 - Coaching the Pitching Delivery
 - Managing a Pitching Staff
 - Intro to Pitchsmart
- 6) Download the Certificate for each course
- 7) Create a Folder on your Desktop, Documents, or Downloads
- 8) Send Folder to jcgoode@iu.edu

*Coaching certification process for 2021 is not required but strongly recommended. *

Reading the Coaching Guidelines is highly encouraged from BJLBA to create a coaching community that is has similar baseball knowledge and coaching approach for youth baseball

Gameday General Info

- **Play Ball!**

- Start your games on time which means allow time for warmups. If you are the first game on the field, then get there early. If you are following a game, then warmups should be no longer than 7 minutes. Either way, **Start your games on time.**

- **Chatter**

- If your team chatters, they are not allowed to say the batters name or anything personal. Also, they are not allowed to say the six words an umpire uses which are fair, foul, safe, ball, strike, and out.

- **Stay Clear (Minor and Majors)**

- When you are on defense, coaches need to be in or near the dugout. You should be able to touch the dugout fence

- **Get off the Field**

- Once your game has concluded, please exit the field. Do not have an after game meeting on the side line.

Umpire Information



SCORECARD

GAME TIME: _____ AGE GROUP: _____ FIELD #: _____ UMPIRE _____

Player #	Pitcher (First Initial, Last Name)	# Pitches

SCORE	SCORE

FINAL SCORE

Player #	Pitcher (First Initial, Last Name)	# Pitches

COACH SIGN: _____

TEAM NAME: _____

COACH SIGN: _____

TEAM NAME: _____



SCORECARD

GAME TIME: _____ AGE GROUP: _____ FIELD #: _____ UMPIRE _____

Player #	Pitcher (First Initial, Last Name)	# Pitches

SCORE	SCORE

FINAL SCORE

Player #	Pitcher (First Initial, Last Name)	# Pitches

COACH SIGN: _____

TEAM NAME: _____

COACH SIGN: _____

TEAM NAME: _____

Any Questions regards to Umpiring: Contact Scott Burton

Schedule of Events

2021 PROJECTED GAME AND PRACTICE SCHEDULE

2021	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
MARCH		1	2	3	4	5	6
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	28	29	30	31			

2021	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2	3
	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	25	26	27	28	29	30	

2021	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
MAY							1
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	30	31					

2021	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
JUNE			1	2	3	4	5
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	27	28	29	30			

2021	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
J JULY					1	2	3
	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

	Team Draft
	Possible Practice Dates
	Bud Damon Night
	Jamboree / Picture Day
	Make Up Jamboree
	Junior / Majors Games
	Novice / Minors Games
	Make Up Game Dates
	Practice or Make Up Games
	City Tournament

April 02 Good Friday
 April 04 Easter Sunday
 May 09 Mothers Day
 May 24 Memorial Day

Make Up dates are subject to change and availability

Special Dates:

Please Attend Bud Damon Night and the Day of the Jamboree/Picture Day

A ton of fun for players, coaches, and families!

Equipment and Uniform Pickup

Equipment Pickup Location

- All American Storage: 2600 South Henderson St.

Equipment Pickup Date and Times

Contact Ron Drahos with any questions

Pickup Date: 4/17/2021

Pickup Times:

- Novice:(12:00PM)
- Junior (12:00PM)
- Minors (11:00AM)
- Majors (10:00AM)

Uniform Pickup Time and Location

Contact Jared Thompson for any information regarding jerseys

Field Locations

Winslow Sports Complex:

- Located at 2301 South Highland Avenue

Bryan Park

- Located at 1001 South Henderson Street

Cascades

- Located at 2851 Old State Road 37

Practice/Game Schedule/ and Event Requirements

General Notes

- Dave Huss is the Scheduler (commissioner at bjlba.org)
- The batting cages are open during practices and games (if Winslow is rained out, so are the cages)
- Practices and games are distributed through your league representative
- Tell your league rep if you will be unavailable and who is filling in for you so that we will have this information in case we need to notify you in regards to schedule changes, rainouts, etc.

Practice and Game Schedule

- Practice Slots are usually 1 hour and 30 minutes for Juniors-Majors.
- Practice Slots are usually 1 hour for Novices
- DO NOT run over on time; leave the field completely to give respect to the next team that practices/plays
- Makeup games can change multiple times in case of multiple rain delays

Event Requirements

- 3 events per week max (plus 1 practice (if 3 games are played) for Major Division ONLY)

Officer on Duty/League Rep System

Novice Reps:

Junior Reps:

Abe Carney

Tyler Mccoy

Minor Reps:

Ethan Smith

Phil Smith

Major Reps:

Eric Armstrong

Rob Mason

League Reps Defined

Must be an active manager, in good standing, in the league being represented.

- o Shall represent the opinions of the managers in their respective league.
- o Shall be responsible for maintaining communications and dissemination of information within their league and between the league and their respective program.
- o Shall be responsible for establishing practice schedules for the league prior to and during the regular season.
- o Relays any concerns or complaints their league managers may voice to the OFFICERS.
- o Will assist the OFFICERS to find managers to fill vacancies within the league.

All coaches should be aware of League Rep Duties on next page
to address questions or concerns throughout the season

League Rep Duties

- Introduce yourself to the managers in your league. This is a necessity event that is not always done. Let them know who you are how to contact you and what information they can come to you with such as:
 - **1)** Problems with umpires that require more than filling out a pink card—you will pass this info on to the UIC and any other officers as needed.
 - **2)** Problems that occur during games with other managers of other teams---you will address these as needed. Pass along to other officers as need be or address other coach on your own. You should always pass the info along to the program president and what you did to address the problem.
 - **3)** If they have any general concerns or comments about the Program as a whole they need to know that they can come to you and you will be sure that they get addressed.
 - **4)** If they have any questions regarding rules, concession duty, score keeping etc...you need to help them with the proper information.
- You will schedule your leagues practices; this is done by getting a list of available practice times from the league scheduler and then distributing them
- In addition you will most definitely get at least one coach who asks how to add practices. You should let them know that it is ok for them to schedule practices on their own at park or school independent of BJLBA as long as they are abiding by the rules governing number of activities in a week.
- Be sure to get the BJLBA scheduler your leagues practice assignments at Winslow and Bryan Park. This information is needed in case their becomes a conflict the scheduler will know who to contact.
- Let the managers in your division, the new ones especially, know that if they are having trouble with practice ideas/drills etc... you can help them with ideas. If you yourself are unsure ask more veteran managers for tips and pass them along as needed. Use each other as resources if you need to.
- You will make sure that all the managers in your league are made aware of all rescheduled games and events. This normally consists of forwarding an email from the league scheduler to your managers.
- Also you need to make sure your managers are aware of dates/times/locations of any other league events or clinics.
- Make sure that your managers are made aware of any special rules that may be placed in effect for additional games during a weekend or during the city tournament. For example special pitching rules for the tournament.
- After the season ends you should probably send a general email to your managers seeing if they have any issues or concerns that you need to bring up to the board during the off season as well as thanking them for their time and effort.
- As a league rep you will have about 3-4 shifts as the Officer on Duty and the league will have 12 officer meetings throughout the year normally on one Sunday evening a month which you are expected to attend and represent the managers in your league.
- Most importantly keep an open dialogue with your managers and make sure that they are aware that they should bring any issues or concerns they have to you.
- If you are a league rep and acting as an officer on duty, you will have the honor of grilling food at the concessions. Contact Dave Huss for details and to offer training if needed.

Buddy Ball

Coordinator: Steve Rice

Assistant: Patrick Dove and Pip Chamberlain

Buddy Ball Dates:

5/14

5/28

6/4

6/18

6/25

Scorekeeping



- Using the Gamechanger app is a necessary and helpful tool to track game stats, pitch counts, and more.
- Getting a parent to help keep track of Gamechanger during a game can be helpful to head/assistant coaches
- Gamechanger is an easy app to use and with a little practice, anyone can learn how to use it quickly.

Contacts for how to use Gamechanger

Majors: Brian Dean

Minors: Derek Robertson

Juniors:

Coaching Evaluations

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	DOB	AGE	TEAM	COACHABILITY	HITTING	FIELDING	THROWING	SPEED	TTL	PITCHER	CATCHER	PC TTL	REMARKS
PLAYER	PLAYER	DOB		RIBBITOZ	6	6	6.5	6.5	7	32	6.5	6	12.5	
PLAYER	PLAYER	DOB		RIBBITOZ	6	6	6	6	7	31	6	6	12	
PLAYER	PLAYER	DOB		RIBBITOZ	7	5.5	6	6	7	31.5	6	6	12	
PLAYER	PLAYER	DOB		RIBBITOZ	6	5.5	5.5	6	4	27	4	4	8	
PLAYER	PLAYER	DOB		RIBBITOZ	6	5	4.5	5	4	24.5	3	3	6	
PLAYER	PLAYER	DOB		RIBBITOZ	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	7	33	6.5	6.5	13	
PLAYER	PLAYER	DOB		RIBBITOZ	5.5	2	4	4	3.5	19	1	1	2	
PLAYER	PLAYER	DOB		RIBBITOZ	6	5.5	6.5	6.5	7	31.5	6	1	7	
PLAYER	PLAYER	DOB		RIBBITOZ	5	5.5	4	4	5.5	24	1	1	2	
PLAYER	PLAYER	DOB		RIBBITOZ	5	2	4	4	4	19	1	1	2	
PLAYER	PLAYER	DOB		RIBBITOZ	5.5	3	4	4	4.5	21	1	1	2	
PLAYER	PLAYER	DOB		RIBBITOZ	5.5	3	5	5	3.5	22	1	1	2	

COACH NAME COACH COACH EMAIL
ASST NAME ASSISTANT ASST EMAIL
ASST NAME ASSISTANT ASST EMAIL

Players are scored in 7 general categories: Coachability, Hitting, Fielding, Throwing, Speed, Pitcher & Catcher. Each category will be scored on a scale of 1-7 (7 being the BEST).
Ratings are in comparison to peers in your division not just your own team.

COACHABILITY: (1) - Doesn't accept critique, negative attitude. (4) - Average, does not adversely affect play. (7) - Extreme pleasure to coach.

HITTING: (1) - Struggles with basic skills of hitting. (4) - Average hitter (7) - Universally viewed as one of the best hitters in the division.

HITTING: (1) - Struggles with basic skills of hitting. (4) - Average hitter (7) - Universally viewed as one of the best hitters in the division.

FIELDING: (1) - Struggles to make basic plays at all positions assigned. (4) - Average player in field. (7) - Exceptional defensive talents at all positions.

THROWING: (1) - Struggles to make a throw. (4) - Average arm strength and accuracy. (7) - Outstanding arm strength and accuracy.

SPEED: (1) - Generally a station-to-station player. (4) - Average speed in field and on bases. (7) - Steals bases at will with excellent defensive agility.

PITCHER: (1) - No pitching experience. (4) - Average pitching experience. (7) - Viewed as on of the best pitchers for age group.

CATCHER: (1) - No catcher experience. (4) - Average catcher experience. (7) - Viewed as on of the best catchers for age group.

Frogz Baseball



- What is Frogz Baseball?
 - A more competitive team than recreational ball for players who want to advance their baseball game
 - Frogz Baseball is available at 8U, 9U, 10U, 11U, and 12U

- Requirements:

- Family commitment
- Traveling out of town for tournaments
- Team Fees for about \$350/player (Fees change from year to year)
- Fundraising for their local organization to reduce team costs.
- Frogz players are required to be registered for Rec Ball

- Other Information:

- Limited openings per team for each age group
- Tryouts will be held for each age group for current and newly interested players



Weather Hotline

812-349-3610

Thank You!!!

BJLBA thanks you for your voluntary service and commitment to youth baseball to the community of Bloomington, IN

Coaching for BJLBA will impact youth baseball players to increase their knowledge about the game of baseball and form a deeper love for America's past time.

Coaching youth baseball for BJLBA will also help provide the tools for the kids of the future, to be better members of the community.