

LCYBA-2022 GENERAL STANDING RULES

The Las Cruces Youth Baseball Association (LCYBA) program is operated for the benefit of the youth in Dona Ana County. The Program's objectives are to stress sportsmanship and teach skills of the game of baseball. The managers and coaches for the teams will be selected from adults interested in youth development, and who are in agreement with the objectives of the program, and cleared thru mandated back ground checks.

1. The local standing rules will govern all divisions of LCYBA. Board members, officers, managers, coaches, players and parents agree to abide by the spirit and intent of these rules and objectives of this baseball program.

2. PITCHING RULES: Limitations of pitching for all divisions will be based off an innings count. 8U will follow an amended pitch count for player safety if kid pitch.

2.1-A pitcher will be charged one-third ($1/3$) inning for each out made by the defensive team while the pitcher is in the line-up as a pitcher. 8/6 runs constitute a complete inning for the pitcher.

2.2- Pitchers in the 8U thru 14U divisions will be restricted for all regular or rescheduled games according to the following:

8U PINTO RULE:

(a) For the safety and well-being of the players, a player must follow the following pitch count and days' rest schedule:

- a. 3 DAY REST = 41-50 PITCHES
- b. 2 DAY REST = 31-40 PITCHES
- c. 1 DAY REST = 26-30 PITCHES
- d. 0 DAY REST = 25 OR LESS

(b) If a pitcher reaches the 50 one day max pitch count, he must be pulled unless he/she is mid batter, then they will be allowed to finish the batter, but must be pulled immediately once that batters has struck out, walked, or put the ball in play.

(c) Violation of the pitching rule will result in forfeit that can be called by the pitch count official. Coaches must sign the pitch count sheet after eachgame.

9U & 10U MUSTANG RULE:

(a) For the safety and well-being of the players, no player may pitch more than a total of six (6) innings within a period of two (2) consecutive days.

(b) If a pitcher's allowance expires under this rule, or he pitches any number of innings in two (2) consecutive days, he may not pitch at all the next day. Please note the throwing of one pitch constitutes an appearance.

(c) PLAYER CANNOT THROW MORE THAN 3 INNINGS IN A DAY THROW THE NEXT?

(d) IF A PLAYER EXPIRES UNDER THIS RULE, FORFEIT IF PROTESTED AND 1 GAME SUSPENSION FOR THE MANAGER OR PLAYER IS REMOVED FROM PLAYER AND COACH SERVES 1 GAME SUSPENSION?

11U & 12U BRONCO RULE:

(a) For the safety and well-being of the players, no player may pitch more than a total of seven (7) innings within a period of two (2) consecutive days.

(b) If a pitcher's allowance expires under Rule (a), or he pitches any number of innings in two (2) consecutive days, he may not pitch at all the next day. Please note the throwing of one pitch constitutes an appearance.

(c) IF A PLAYER EXPIRES UNDER THIS RULE, FORFEIT IF PROTESTED AND 1 GAME SUSPENSION FOR THE MANAGER OR PLAYER IS REMOVED FROM PLAYER AND COACH SERVES 1 GAME SUSPENSION

13U & 14U PONY RULE:

(a) For the safety and well-being of the players, no player may pitch more than a total of ten (10) innings within a period of two (2) consecutive days, UNLESS he is pitching at a time when the game goes into extra innings; in which case he may continue to pitch until the conclusion of the game or until relieved. Players have a 1 day MAX of 7 innings.

(b) When a pitcher "appears" on two (2) consecutive days as a pitcher, he may not pitch on the third consecutive day. Please note the throwing of one pitch constitutes an appearance.

(c) IF A PLAYER EXPIRES UNDER THIS RULE, FORFEIT IF PROTESTED AND 1 GAME SUSPENSION FOR THE MANAGER OR PLAYER IS REMOVED FROM PLAYER AND COACH SERVES 1 GAME SUSPENSION

2.2.2-In a protested game or rain out, the game will be played continuously and charged to the day it started.

2.3-In 8U-13U only, if a pitcher hits two (3) players in an inning or three (4) players in a game, he/she must be removed as pitcher for the duration of that game. A pitcher removed to this reason may not re-enter to pitch in that same game.

2.4-A manager or coach will be allowed one (1) visit to the pitcher's mound to the same pitcher per inning. A second visit in an inning will result in the pitcher being removed from his pitching position. If a visit is injury related, it shall not be charged.

3. SUBSTITUTION RULES:

3.1-Substitutions are to be made to the batting order. Managers must report ALL changes to the plate umpire, who will in turn report changes to official scorekeeper. This needs to be done between innings. It is a suggestion, to also report changes to the opposing team as a courtesy to save any confusion in the game.

3.2-Any player in the starting line-up may re-enter the game, and must return to the same position in the batting order. A player may re-enter once, except when illness, injury or player disqualification by umpire ejection occurs.

3.3-A starting player who has been removed for a substitute may re-enter the game, only if the player being substituted for has met the minimum playing time requirements of 4.1 through 4.4 herein below, unless the re-entry is due to illness or injury.

3.4-Only a starting pitcher may re-enter into the pitching position only as long as he has not left the starting line-up. If a pitcher is removed from the line-up to the bench, he may not pitch again in that game.

3.5-A team shall provide nine rostered players to start a game and at least eight players to finish. An out shall be declared each time a vacant position in the batting order is due to bat. If no substitute is available for an ill or injured player, who was not called out, and is a base runner, then the last batter not on base shall run for him.

3.5.1-A team may start with eight players and the missing player is recorded as an out in the line-up and scorebook.

3.6-If a player is ejected from the game, and no legal substitute is available on the bench, then the team must play with eight players. (A player who has been disqualified by umpire ejection may not re-enter). The ejected player may go in front of the board to receive further sanctions due to the severity of the player's action.

3.7-If a player is removed from the game due to illness or injury and no legal substitute is available on the bench then:

- a. If the removed player is a re-entered starter, then his substitute shall re-enter unless he was removed by ejection.

- b. Otherwise any substitute on the bench who has been in the game, qualified, and been removed may reenter, even if at a different place in the batting order.
- c. Otherwise any starter on the bench who has not re-entered may be re-entered and his substitute moved to the removed players' place in the batting order.

4. PLAYING TIME: (for each player shall be as follows)

4.1-Batting Requirements:

- a) If batting only 9 players, every rostered player must play at least two (2) consecutive complete innings on the field, with at least one (1) at bat per schedule game.
- b) The use of the EH or the 10 batter is another option. If you start the game with an EH you must finish the game with an EH.
- c) If a team elects to bat their entire roster they will be allowed free defensive substitutions, each player must still play at least two innings on the field.
Batting the full roster does not apply to 5U Division TeeBall.

4.2-A player may be excused from playing due to illness, injury or family emergency or as set out in 4.3. Players who abuse team practice rules may also be excused from playing provided it is documented in writing on the game roster, and outlined in the team rules. A league official may verify any and all such excuses. Coaches MUST submit a copy of team rules to VP's.

4.3-The minimum playing time rule will not apply, if the game is called because of the run rules set out in 5.8, or if the game is called on the one (1) hour Thirty (30) minute time limit and less than five and one-half (5 ½) innings have been played. All players that did not qualify in such game must start in the next game and meet the minimum playing time requirements or the game will be forfeit. (Exception to this rule will apply to 12U-14U who will play (1)hour Forty-Five (45) min and 15U and up who will play with two (2) hour time limits).

4.4-Failure to play all players in strict accordance with 4.1 through 4.3 will result in the forfeit of the game in which the violation occurs. It is the intent of this rule to see that all players either participate, or are accounted for, in each game.

4.5-It is the responsibility of the team manager to play every player in accordance with 4.1 through 4.3 and failure to do so may subject the team manager to disciplinary action. 15U-18U: players must qualify every other game.

4.6-Practice will have a two (2) hour time limit during the school year and two and one half (2 ½) hour time limit during the summer. These rules apply to 14U and below.

4.7-Teams forfeiting three (3) games will be terminated from the league. All forfeited games shall be scored 7-0.

4.8-Rescheduling of games will be at the discretion of the VP of that Division.

4-9. If a team fails to appear to a scheduled game without a 24 hour cancellation notice, the team will receive a forfeit. The forfeiting team can pay a fee of \$50 to reschedule the game upon the opposing team Coach's approval. Payment will need to be made to the Treasurer prior to game rescheduling.

4-10. Teams are allowed to have no more than 2 scheduling conflicts. Preferred days of play are not considered scheduling conflicts and will be considered on a first come first serve basis.

4-11. Teams at the beginning of the season will register for their desired or appropriate age group. If a team wishes to play up a division, they will be locked in that division for the Pre-Season Tournament, regular season play and the Post Season Tournament. Teams will NOT be allowed to move back down to their appropriate age group for Post Season play. No Exceptions!

4-12. A player will be allowed to register and play in multiple divisions within LCYBA as long as they are age eligible and pay registration fees for each age division they are participating in. However, Managers understand that having players dual registered is not an acceptable excuse to reschedule games due to lack of players. Note: Pitching Rules are in effect even if player is playing in multiple divisions.

5. GENERAL GAME RULES:

5.1-Games shall start promptly at the scheduled time. In case of more than one (1) game being played on the same field on the same day, each succeeding game shall begin (15) minutes after the completion of the prior game or scheduled game time, if later. Line-up sheets are due to scorekeeper 15 minutes before game time. Each player on your official team should appear on your line-up sheet either as a starter, substitute, sick, discipline or no show. It is a courtesy to inform the other team.

a. Game time is forfeit time.

b. Line up sheets must be filled out completely with first, last names and uniform numbers.

c. If a home team fails to turn in their lineup sheet at game time, they will be designated as visitors, and umpire will begin to call strikes every 12 seconds until said lineup sheet is turned in.

d. Game start time will be given by the plate umpire at the conclusion of the "plate meeting.". Official scorekeeper will log down the time in scorebook. It's the coaches/team scorekeeper's responsibility to check start time from official scorekeeper.

e.Each Manager must provide one new baseball to the plate meeting with Umpire and have one on-hand. The only balls allowed in play will be PONY

stamped baseballs. The Umpire has the discretion to not approve balls for play that are not in new condition.

f. Each Manager (9U and Up) will be provided new game balls prior to the start of the season and additional balls are available for purchase through the league.

g. Coach pitch- Umpires will provide a new game ball for each game

h. TBALL- Umpires will provide game use Jugs Tees and Baseballs for each game. Managers/Coaches will not be allowed to use their own tee for game play, a universal tee has been purchased by the league for uniformity and safety.

5.1.1-Extra Hitter. The use of the EH or 10th batter is optional. If you start the game with an EH you must finish the game with an EH. If you have no substitutes and a player comes out of the game, that player's batting spot will result in an out each time it comes up. The EH can bat anywhere in the line-up. The EH can be free substituted in any defensive position on the field, and the batting order remains the same. In the event of an injury to the starting EH a substitute (player not in the game) may come into the EH position. If no substitutes are available, that batting spot will result in an out. Once a player has been an EH, that player must start in a defensive position and receive at least the minimum playing time requirements the very next game. NO EXCEPTIONS!

5.2-The use of the infield or pitcher's mound for pregame warmups is prohibited.

5.3-A maximum of 90 seconds (1) one minute (30) seconds will be allowed between innings.

5.4-A courtesy runner may be used for the catcher and pitcher at any time. The courtesy runner cannot be a player currently in the line-up. The courtesy runner will not be entered in the line-up. Use of courtesy runner does not constitute a substitute.

5.5-All players must execute a slide (except at first base) when a play is imminent at the base. Umpire judgment call... if there is an execution of a double play, and the base runner does not attempt to slide, he and the runner in which the throw was made to may be called out, even if that runner is clearly safe. In cases where a fielder is attempting to field a batted ball, the runner must give way to the fielder.

5.5.1-Base runners have a right to a clear base path. A defensive player interfering with the base runner can be called for obstruction by the umpire. If obstruction is called, the umpire will award the next base to the runner.

5.6-Flagrant Play: Any flagrant play (taking out the catcher/infielder) by the judgment of the umpire will constitute an out and an automatic ejection of the player and manager.

5.7-There is a six (6) run rule per inning in 10U division and down, 11U and up will have a (8) run rule per inning. Additional runs scored on the same play as the sixth run shall count, for a possible maximum of nine (9) runs in the event of a continuous play.

5.8- A game will be called if a team is leading by:

Run Rule Limits:

15 runs after 3 innings; or
10 runs after 4 innings; or
8 runs after 5 innings

Pinto, Mustang, Bronco and Pony Divisions: Shall be legally completed after five (5) innings if the visiting team is ahead by at least eight (8) runs and after four and one-half (4 1/2) innings if the home team is ahead by at least eight (8) runs.

5.8.-A Time Limits

- a. There is a one (1) hour (45) thirty minute time limit for 13/14u, except in situations where a game is tied.

Exceptions:

9U-12U Division- Time Limit is one (1) hour thirty (30) minutes
Pinto, Mustang, Bronco and Pony Divisions shall be legally completed after four (4) innings if the visiting team is ahead by at least ten (10) runs and after five (5) innings if the home team is ahead by at least eight (8) runs.

5.9-Fake tags are not allowed. If a tag is faked, in the umpire's judgment, the runner will advance one (1) base.

5.10-Team talk and "chatter" may not be directed against the opposing team players, coaches or spectators.

5.11- Team Manager and Coaches

5.11.A Each team will be limited to one (1) Manager and said person cannot be assigned in such role to multiple teams across multiple divisions. The Manager will be the main point of contact with league representatives and umpires and be liable for any team sanctions created by players, parents and coaches. As stated in Rule 4-12, Managers understand that having players dual registered is not an acceptable excuse to reschedule games due to lack of players.

5.11.B three (3) rostered Coaches, one (1) bat person and rostered players will be allowed in the dugout. No defensive coaches are allowed on the field, they must stay behind the foul fence. Teams on offense are limited to two base coaches to be positioned in coaching boxes only.

Divisions 8U and up: (1) One pitching coach will be allowed in the designated spot. He may not sit on any objects, including buckets or chairs and must be at a safe distance from the batter box against the fence.

5.12- Each team is responsible for keeping their own scorebook. The home team will keep the official book unless the Umpire has determined discrepancies, in which case, it is the responsibility of each team's scorekeepers to meet in between innings with the Umpire to verify score. Managers are required to sign the Umpire Score Cards at the end of each game to verify the final score.

5.13-Absolutely no coaching will be allowed from behind the backstop, outfield fence or spectator areas. It is umpire discretion to issue warnings to any parents or fans.

6. EQUIPMENT RULES: 6.1-All players must wear a protective supporter (male) or a pelvic shield (female). All catchers while playing must wear protective head gear and throat gear. (Double flap catcher's helmet required in 12U and below) Only a manager or coach may warm up the pitcher without protective headgear.

6.2-Metal cleats are allowed only in 13U and above.

6.3-Equipment, which does not meet specification, must be removed from the game, but shall not be the basis for protest. No altering of equipment that would cause safety concerns.

6.4-Umpires shall monitor all equipment for safety violations.

6.5- Bat Rules and Allowances:

5U-12U: USA Stamped Bat

13U-14U: Metal BBCOR or Wood and Wood Composite

6.6- It is the Manager's responsibility to check and approve all bats used by players prior to the start of any game. If a team is found using a non-USABat or BBCOR by the umpire, opposing team or league official the game will be forfeited, the Manager will serve a 2 game suspension and the Manager will have to pay the \$50 reinstatement fee.

6.7- If a team is found to have violated the USABat BBCOR rule twice in one season (by the umpire, opposing team or league official), the team will be disqualified from playoffs.

6.8-Pine tar (Manny Mota Stick, Gorilla Gold) is allowed, and only should be applied no more than 16" from the handle knob or the manufactured indication on the bat. Applying grips and athletic tape is also acceptable on the handle no more than 14" from the handle knob.

6.9-Any altering of bats (i.e. corking, hollowing, filling or any other type of enhancement) will result in team forfeit of any games in bat violation, and the suspension of team manager for remainder of the season. It is the manager's responsibility to check and approve all bats used by players.

7. CONDUCT RULES:

7.1-Managers are responsible for the conduct of their players, coaches and fans. Games can be forfeited if manager cannot control their fans and they disrupt the game. It is the responsibility of the managers and coaches to familiarize their teams with league and game rules. Managers and coaches are required to stress good sportsmanship and fair play at all times. If a Manager, assistant coach, fan, parent or volunteer for said team is ejected, they are subject to a two (2) game suspension and a \$50 reinstatement fee. Any ejected person must leave the ballpark completely and are not allowed back into the field even after the game(s) have concluded. Team associated with the ejected person, is also subject to forfeit.

7.2-Managers must let players go to the restroom when needed.

7.3-Managers shall not harass or discriminate against any player participating in another sport or school activity.

7.4-Smoking or the use of tobacco products by managers, coaches, players or umpires while in the dugout or on the playing field will not be allowed. Violation will result in one game suspension.

7.5-The consumption of alcoholic beverages by any team manager or coach immediately **prior to, during or after** practice, games and in the presence of players will not be permitted. Violation can result in suspension or termination. Alcohol is not permitted in any playing or spectator areas by players, fans, coaches, manager, parents, umpires or league officials.

7.6-Foul or abusive language or obscene gestures by managers, coaches, or players will result in ejection from the game and ballpark. Fans in violation of this rule can cause their team to forfeit the game and/or be required to leave the ball park.

7.6.1-First ejection from a game or the ballpark will result in the coach or manager to serve a two game suspension. Managers or coaches ejected from two (2) games will be suspended for the remainder of the season.

7.7-No Speakers (music), air horns, cowbells, or other disruptive noisemakers will be allowed during warm up or during the course of the game.

7.8- Rosters will freeze by April 1st with player additions available under special circumstances.

7.9-A manager may appeal a ruling, but no manager will be allowed on the playing field to argue a judgment call. The manager must be awarded timeout prior to any and all discussion. Person attending pregame meeting will be considered the manager for this purpose.

7.10-An umpire may, at his discretion, confine a manager or coach to the team bench instead of ejecting him, when the rules call for his ejection. A manager or coach, confined to the team bench, may re-enter the playing field only to tend to an ill or injured player.

8. PROTEST AND FORFEIT RULES:

8.1-Only the manager, or in his absence a rostered coach, shall have the right to protest a game. \$50.00 cash is immediately required to file protest.

8.2-All teams are entitled to protest a game if they believe there has been a violation of official league rules, player eligibility rules or a misrepresentation of team rules. No protest will be allowed on umpire judgment calls. All protest will be made immediately following the alleged infraction, and notice must have been given to the umpire and the opposing manager before the end of the game. The protesting manager must submit a written protest to a LCYBA officer or member of the designated Arbitration Board within twenty-four (24) hours after completion of the game. The protesting team must provide valid and sufficient proof that a player is ineligible.

8.3-The scorekeeper shall note the protest on the official score book to validate the protest. A decision shall be rendered by the LCYBA Board or designated Arbitration Board within forty-eight (48) hours of all protested games. During playoffs or tournament games, decision will be rendered immediately, since the outcome could affect bracket placement.

9. LEAGUE PLAYOFFS:

9.1-At least the **top six (6) teams**, regular season, will advance to the Post Season Tournament. Tournament format and team numbers are subject to change by board members, depending on time and field availability.

9.2-League playoffs will be determined at the managers meeting to be held at the end of the regular season. All pitching eligibility starts new for post season play. In post season playoffs, seeding will be based on the final regular season standings. Tiebreakers for seeding position will be:

a. (1st) Using the won-loss record in head to head competition.

b. (2nd) Comparing the win-loss records against the next place team. Common game 9.3-In T-Ball only the top (4) four teams in each division will play in City Playoffs. Tournament format and team numbers are subject to change by board members, depending on time and field availability.

10. COMPLAINTS:

10.1-All complaints must be filed in writing within forty-eight (48) hours of the alleged incident to the league board. A phone call and email must be followed by the submission of the complaint to the league secretary at lcibasecretary@gmail.com. The phone number to call and leave a message is 575-640-6051.

11. TEAM FEES AND REGISTRATION WITH LCYBA:

11.1- All team and/or player registration fees will be paid online, at the designated on-site locations or through the LCYBA Treasurer.

11.2- Teams who have registered with LCYBA for a specific season are only registered with LCYBA for that season. If your team registers for the Spring season (February of the current year through June of the current year) or the Fall league (August of the current year through October of the current year) the team is only under LCYBA rules for that specified time. LCYBA will not be responsible for teams once a season has completed.

12. KEEP IN MIND:

Umpires will generally be the youth of our city. Errors on their behalf may occur. However, LCYBA will absolutely not tolerate profane or abusive language directed toward them, by any parent/spectator/coach attending competition. Teach the players the fundamentals of the game of baseball, emphasize the importance of good character and good citizenship, and encourage conduct in which will develop an attitude of good sportsmanship among players in the interest of good sportsmanship, it is required that parents and/or/spectators abide by the following:

Do not harass coaches or players on any team.

Do not make vulgar or suggestive remarks to members of any team.

Cheers will be limited to encourage teams and not be directed against opposing teams.

Coaches are responsible for their respective crowd and fans.

Umpires have the right to eject any unruly parent, spectator or coach.

No Tolerance Policy-We will not tolerate any type of threats made to any player, coach, parent, or umpire. Any infraction to this policy by any party depending on the severity of the situation will have a minimum of a 2 game suspension and up to, but not limited to a suspension of the entire season. **Any Coach/Manager/Parent that is ejected from a game will not be allowed to participate in any future game until a \$50 Fee is paid to the League and successful completion of an Online Course.** If a parent or coach is ejected from a game for any infraction, the team manager will also be ejected. We all need to remember who we are here for and that is the youth of our city.

13.RULE INTERPRETATION:

Please note during league play general standing rules/tball standing rules will take precedence, anything that is not covered in the general standing rules will be covered in the selected affiliation rule book followed by the MLB rule book.

Tournament play will follow sanctioning tournament rules. The board may also supplement any rules as needed.

ANY VIOLATION OF STANDING RULES WILL BE SUBJECT TO DISCIPLINARY ACTION BY THE LCYBA BOARD.