

U10 and U12 Year Old MCBR USSSA League 2023 Rules and Administration

USSSA League rules are in effect, except where noted below:

1. Start of Game:

HOME TEAM WEARS WHITE... Colored uniforms are worn by the away team.

Each team is to provide 1 new game ball to the umpire prior to the start of the game. All balls are to be the ball supplied by the league.

Eight (8) players must be present by the time the visiting team takes the field. Penalty: Forfeit. Note: teams can play only by having at least 8 players available to play the field. Players can be added at the bottom of the line-up as they arrive.

Games are to start at the game time listed on the league schedule. Should field work be required, best effort should be made to have work completed before scheduled game time.

2. Playing Rules:

- The "stepping out of the batters box" rule between pitches will be enforced by the umpires. Review with the umpire prior to game.
- There are no appeal plays. The umpire will automatically make calls such as missing a base, leaving early on a tag, etc. Review this with umpire before the game.
- Metal spikes NOT allowed.
- Number of players in the field:
 - U10 League: 10 players (No Outfielders within 20 feet of base path)
 - U12 League: 9 Players
- Pitching:
 - Each pitcher can throw for 9 consecutive outs per game.
 - Pitchers must be removed on the second trip to the mound during an inning.

Once a pitcher is removed (from mound), he can not return to the mound.

3-4 warm-up pitches maximum between innings unless a new pitcher is inserted. New pitcher should take 7-8 pitches unless umpire determines more are required.

U10 only - NO BREAKING PITCHES ALLOWED: Penalty: Play is dead prior to pitch reaching the plate; 1 ball is added to the count, and the pitcher is issued a warning. Second occurrence by the same pitcher: 1 ball is added to count and removal of pitcher from the mound. NOTE: Knuckleballs are deemed breaking balls.

There are balks only in 12U leagues. Pitchers may be given one balk warning per pitcher per game. Following the warning, the umpire will explain the violation to the pitcher. All subsequent balks will be called for said pitcher regardless if the violation is different from the one previously enforced.

Coaches are encouraged to warm-up pitchers in between innings. Any player warming up a pitcher must wear protective catcher face mask.

There are no pick offs in U10 and U12 (International and National leagues).

U10 and U12 Year Old MCBR USSSA League 2023 Rules and Administration

BAT REGULATIONS:

Youth Big Barrel bats (2 3/4 and 2 5/8, ie; minus 8 to minus 13 range non-BBCOR) are approved for MCBR 12u, 10u, and 8u league teams, along with the traditional youth 2 1/4 barrel. Following the USSSA bat rules (including approved bats and bat manufacturers), MCBR will permit both bat standards; the old BPF and the new USABATs. Adult Big Barrel BBCOR -3 (2 5/8) are not permitted in MCBR 12u League and younger. For a list of illegal USSSA bats by manufacturer visit, <https://www.batdigest.com/blog/illegal-bats-list>. Coaches should check bats prior to game.

A batter is declared out if he ENTERS THE BATTERS BOX with an illegal bat or is discovered having used an illegal bat before the next pitch following the turn at bat of the player who used the illegal bat. If the infraction is discovered before the next pitch following the turn at bat of the player who used an illegal bat, the defense may take the penalty or the result of the play.

All Bats must not exceed 1.15 BPF standard. If a bat exceeds 1.15 BPF, bat is illegal.

Wood bats may be used at all levels provided they meet the aforementioned specifications.

Substitution/Line-ups:

- There are no playing minimums for players in turns of innings played.
- 15 players (maximum) can be in the batting order.
- No Designated Hitters. All players active in line-up card are in the lineup to hit.
- Free substitution in the field for players in the batting order.
- Re-entry is allowed at all levels games for starters only. Starters must return to their original spot in the batting order.
- Substitutes may not re-enter once removed from the game.
- Late player arrival... If team does not bat everyone, than late arrival must be a sub. If team bats everyone, late arrival can be either a sub or bottom of lineup entry.
- In the event of injury to a player (or a player has to leave early):
 - If the player can not continue (and a substitute is not available), the player spot in the lineup is deleted (without penalty). The player can not return to the game.
 - If the player will be able to return after treatment (i.e., hit by pitch, scrapped, etc). A runner may be used (last out) to keep game moving should an injury require treatment. If the player is substituted for, the player could return.
 - If the team does not have 8 players to finish, the game is forfeited. NOTE: If a team has played all substitutes, a substitute can "re-enter" to avoid forfeit.

Base running / Base coaching / Advancement:

- Must slide at all bases where there is a play (except 1st base). The penalty is an out.
- No fake tags allowed. Penalty-1 base, possible ejection depending upon severity.
- No head first sliding into home plate. Penalty-1 base, possible ejection depending upon severity.
- No Courtesy runners. Only exception is catcher with 2 outs only may have the last out run. This will allow equipment to be placed on while play continues.
- Base coaches can either be adults or players (with helmets). Only one coach per box.
- Dropped 3rd strike is live for 11/12; at U10 the batter is automatically out, ball live.

Stealing (U10) is allowed once the ball has crossed the plate.

- There are no delayed steals. Runners cannot advance on the throw back to the pitcher. Once the Catcher or Pitcher have secured the ball, runners cannot advance and the play is dead until the next pitch puts it into play.
- Base runners leaving or off base prior to the ball crossing the plate will be called out only after a team has been warned; ball is dead when the warning or out is called.

U10 and U12 Year Old MCBR USSSA League 2023 Rules and Administration

Stealing (U12 International, U12 National): once the pitcher has initiated move to plate

- Base runners – no lead off base. Base runners leaving prior to pitcher initiating move to plate will be called out only after a team has been warned; ball is dead when the warning or out is called.
- Following the pitch, once pitcher has secured control of the ball within 5 feet of pitching rubber, any runner that stops forward progress to next base cannot advance. Ball is dead and player(s) returned to their respective base(s).

Stealing (U12:American)

- USSSA rules are in effect including all aforementioned balk rules Only exception is that following the pitch, once pitcher has secured control of the ball within 5 feet of pitching rubber, any runner that stops forward progress to next base cannot advance. Ball is dead and player(s) returned to their respective base(s).

3. **Game Length:**

For Single games: 6 innings (with 4 innings considered a complete game*)

For Doubleheaders: 5 innings (with 4 innings considered a complete game*)

* - or home team ahead in bottom of 4th inning

Note: when tied, extra innings can be played if adequate conditions (daylight, weather).

If a game has reached complete game status as noted above, and a game is called due to darkness or weather prior to the completion of the inning being played, the score reverts back to the previous inning. If the score is tied, it will not be played off and should be reported as a tie.

If a game has not reached complete game status as noted above, and a game is called due to weather or darkness, the game is suspended and should be re-scheduled. The re-scheduled game is started from the point where the game was stopped. Send an email to the League President (damicolegion@aol.com) with the game number and the status of all suspended games (innings completed) prior to rescheduling the game.

It is the Umpires sole discretion in determining adequate field conditions (daylight and whether a field is playable).

4. **Mercy Run rule:**

If a team is trailing by more than 10 runs after 4 innings, the game is over and the score should be reported.

5. **Umpires:**

- Shall be instructed to move all games along.
- Are instructed to be at a game site 15 minutes prior to game time. **If an umpire is not at game site 10 minutes before game time, first call the umpire (from email received prior to game (if not available), call Ryan Raftery at 293-9306.**
- Will verify all coaches have completed certification and are using proper equipment.
- If any problem with umpire performance or opposing team sportsmanship issues, contact Don D'Amico (385-8611) immediately. You may be required to complete Game Report form. Document any problems in an e-mail (damicolegion@aol.com).

**U10 and U12 Year Old MCBR USSSA League
2023 Rules and Administration**

6. **Player / Coach / Spectator Conduct:**

Inappropriate spectator conduct, the umpire will advise the appropriate coach of the problem and how to correct the situation (may include advising the coach to advise the perpetrator to leave); if the situation is not corrected, the umpires will advise the coach they have 2 minutes to correct the situation or the team will forfeit the game.

Inappropriate player/coach conduct, the umpire should provide warning to player/coach exhibiting poor behavior. Umpire does not have to provide a warning based on the severity of the behavior.

Player/Coach Ejection: If a player/coach/spectator is ejected from a game, the opposition coach should contact the League President via email immediately after the game. The player/coach/spectator will be suspended from the next game (Note: For Player ejection: Player must attend the next game in order to comply; if the player does not attend the next game in a non-playing capacity, the suspension remains in effect. For Coach/spectator ejection: Coach/spectator is not to attend the next game). A second ejection of a player/coach/spectator or failure to comply with aforementioned ejection procedure will warrant review by the League President and Board of Directors and may result in multiple game(s) suspension up to expulsion from the league.

7. **Game Cancellation:**

If field is not playable due to weather, **it is the responsibility of the home team** to contact the visiting coach and umpire two hours before scheduled game time. The umpire will call the home coach also and the home coach should send an email to assignor@gvua.com. In the event the field is not available due to school games, field taken off line by school and/or town, **it is the responsibility of the home team** to notify the opposing coach, Ryan Raftery (293-9306 and email - assignor@gvua.com) and Don D'Amico in an email note (damicolegion@aol.com).

Day of game cancellation will result in a forfeit unless approved by the league President. If approved by the league President, the offending team will be responsible for \$65 payment prior to the game reschedule date.

8. **Game Rescheduling:**

All games changes must be submitted to Ryan Raftery (assignor@gvua.com) via email to ensure adequate umpire coverage. When submitting a game change request, in the subject line of the email, write "Game #XXXX Change" from the original game date TO - add new game date and time. (Example: **Game A1 Change from 4/17 TO 5/1 2 PM at Victor #4**). Ryan will review change submitted and coordinate the umpire assignments. If a game change is not approved, Ryan will contact the coach and/or League President as required. Once a game has been approved, and umpire has been assigned, Ryan will send reply to the coach requesting the change with an email, and that coach is responsible for updating the game on the MCBR website. NOTE - Use the game numbers on the website – if game number not provided, change will not be completed.

U10 and U12 Year Old MCBR USSSA League 2023 Rules and Administration

Postponed games (weather, field unavailability) need to be rescheduled as soon as possible. If the game can not be played, both teams must agree upon a time within 3 days. If an agreement cannot be reached, contact the League President (damicolegion@aol.com) and advise why the game has not been rescheduled. The League President can set a game date/time. **Games may be forfeited if not scheduled within 3 days.**

All scheduled league games are fixed for a rolling 10 days. This means games will not be changed within this time. If a game date needs to be changed during this "fixed" period and the opposing coach agrees with the change, a \$50 change fee will be assessed to the team requesting the change. The fee must be paid by the coach requesting the change (payable to Game Changer Solutions; delivered to 2437 Griffin Road Churchville, NY 14428) prior to the game being rescheduled and the umpire assigned.

DO NOT USE NON-USSSA UMPIRES WITHOUT APPROVAL FROM THE LEAGUE PRESIDENT/VICE PRESIDENT. Should this occur, your team maybe removed from further league play.

9. Protests

All protests regarding rule infractions must be written up in the scorebook and signed by the umpire prior to play resumption. Each protest should be communicated to Don D'Amico (damicolegion@aol.com) within 24 hours. The formal (i.e., written) protest must be received at 326 Thornell Road Pittsford, NY 14534) within 3 days from the game date. The protest charge is \$50 payable to MCBR; if protest upheld, \$50 will be returned.

10. Score reporting / League standings:

League standings will be kept on-line on the MCBR website. Winning team reports the scores. All scores should be reported directly via website or phone application.

The winning team coach may enter scores either via:

- 1) Laptop/desktop: Go to www.mcbaseballregion.com and enter you user Id and password, then select "Enter Score", and enter the score in the respective game and click save.
- 2) Mobile phone: In browser type www.mcbaseballregion.com (bookmark this), click log in and complete, select your team, and enter the score in the respective game and click save.

Reminder - change the played games from "in Progress" to "Final" after entering scores. The games will not show up in the standings unless "Final". This applies to website or App entry.

Games should be reported within 24 hours of completion. If scores are not reported after 72 hours, they will be updated as a tie game.

11. Team Awards:

Individual trophies will be awarded to each team that finishes in first place (and second place if more than 6 teams) in their respective division. Tie-Breakers: For position ties where trophies are at stake (3 teams tied for first, or two teams tied for second) playoff games may be played, or teams will remain tied and trophies awarded appropriately. Awards are also provided for playoffs.

If you have any questions or comments on the rules, contact Don D'Amico (Home 385-8611, email-damicolegion@aol.com).