

Mudville League Rules (10U)

Safety

A player registered in BYBA's Mudville Division may not play in another baseball league or on another organized baseball team during the BYBA regular season which runs from approximately mid-February through the end of May. A player registered in BYBA may play on their regular season team at the same time as a BYBA tournament team, which may hold practices but not play games during the last month of the BYBA regular season. Additionally, a BYBA player who is playing on a BYBA tournament team may not play on another organized baseball team during the summer season. Penalty is ejection or suspension from the league, subject to discretion of the Board of BYBA.

Baserunners must slide or avoid contact. If umpires determine the contact was intentional, the runner is out and all other runners return to the base they last occupied. No penalty for incidental contact.

No metal spikes.

Baserunners may not jump or dive over the catcher.

No head-first slides allowed at any base. No warnings. Penalty, runner is out. All runners retain the base they last occupied. Head-first slides back to a base are allowed.

If a player is removed for injury, the player may not re-enter the game if doing so puts the player in immediate danger of further injury. The player's coach will make the decision.

If a batter throws a bat, the first offense results in a warning. In the event of a second offense, the batter is out. One warning per team.

Suicide squeeze plays are not allowed. No warnings will be issued. Penalty: The runner on 3rd base is out, all other runners return to their base, and there is no pitch.

No straight steal of home. No warnings. Penalty, runner from 3rd base is out. No pitch. Following runners maintain the base they last occupied. Steals of home are allowed on passed balls and wild pitches.

Catchers are required to wear a catcher's mitt that is consistent with protecting the hand. They are not permitted to wear any other kind of glove such as a first baseman's mitt or a regular fielding glove.

All male players must wear cups during baseball activities.

Game Time

The first four (4) games of the season will be considered pre-season games and the results will not count towards the standings used for playoff seedings. In the event that there are an odd number of teams in the league, and byes are necessary, some teams

may have a “pre- season” game after the start of the regular season, with results not counting towards standings.

Games are 6 innings or 2 hours long. No new inning begins after 2 hours from the start of the game (new inning begins when last out is made in previous inning). The home plate umpire will keep official game time. Coaches from both teams should make note of official game start time during pre-game meeting with umpires at home plate.

Game Rules

Mercy rule: A half-inning will end when the offensive team scores 5 runs or the defensive team records 3 outs. This rule does not apply to the final inning* of the game. During the final inning of the game, there is no limit to the number of runs that an offensive team can score. After 4 complete innings, a 15-run mercy rule will be in effect. The 15-run mercy rule does not apply in the championship game.

* Depending on the pace of the game, the “final inning” may not be the 6th inning. If the 5th (or earlier) inning is set to start with less than ~20 mins left, coaches should meet with the home- plate umpire and determine if that will be the “final inning” of the game and if a run limit is in effect. Once it is established that it is the “final inning,” additional innings may not be played even if the inning is complete before the 2hr mark.

Extra Innings: No extra innings will be played during the regular season regardless of time. If a game is tied after the final inning, the game ends in a tie. During the playoffs, if a game is tied when time has expired, then the next inning will be started with runners on first and second base. The runners will be the last two outs in the previous inning. If after two additional innings in this format there is no winner then the game will stop and the game will be decided by a tie breaker of head-to-head competition during the regular season and then, if necessary, by run differential during the regular season (the tie breaker does not apply in the championship game).

Courtesy runners are allowed for the catcher with two (2) outs. The courtesy runner will be the player who made the last out.

Defensive Lineups: The standard defensive lineup will consist of 10 players with 4 outfielders on the grass portion of the field. However, if only 9 players are available, the team will play with only 9 in the field (three outfielders).

No dropped third strike.

No infield fly rule.

No intentional walks.

Hidden ball tricks are not allowed.

When a team is on defense, their coaches must stay on their own side.

Winning team is responsible for reporting final score and pitch counts for all pitchers to the

appropriate league director.

The home team is responsible for keeping the official score book.

A ball hit over the cones in the air is a home run. A ground ball or line drive through the cones on a bounce or roll, regardless if it touches a player or not, is a ground rule double.

Pitching

The pitcher must be changed on the second visit to the mound by a coach in an inning. An official visit occurs when a coach calls time-out to talk with the pitcher or otherwise stops the pace of play by going onto the field (or approaching the foul line) to talk with the pitcher without calling time-out. If the manager calls time-out and meets with any defensive player, it is a charged visit. If the defense meets when the offense calls time-out, it is not a visit if they break up immediately after offense breaks up.

Pitchers are allowed a maximum of 7 warm-up pitches to start the game and 6 pitches between innings. A maximum of 6 warm-up pitches are allowed for relief pitchers.

Once a pitcher has been removed from pitching, they cannot re-enter the game as a pitcher. Penalty, loss of game but game will be played out.

Each team shall designate a representative to count each pitcher's number of pitches thrown in a game and both coaches shall confirm the number of pitches after each inning. BYBA umpires will not be responsible for tracking pitches thrown by the pitchers. In the event of a disputed pitch count, the home team's count shall apply.

After a ball has been put in play, play will stop when the ball has been returned to the pitcher or pitcher's helper in the chalked circle around the mound.

There will be a chalk line halfway between first and second base, halfway between second base and third base, and halfway between third base and home plate. If the runner is beyond the respective chalk line when the pitcher returns the ball to the mound, the runner gets the next base. If not, the runner retreats to the prior base that he came from.

Pitching Rules:

No breaking balls allowed. Coaches must report offenses to the league director.

Pitchers are allowed to pitch a maximum of (i) 3 innings (regular season only) or (ii) 75 pitches per game, whichever comes first. One pitch constitutes one inning. **Pitchers are allowed to pitch a maximum of 4 innings per week (subject to rest periods set forth below), with weeks starting on Monday morning and ending on Sunday evening.** Penalty for violation of inning & pitch maximums, rest periods or pitching/catching combinations is a loss of game but game will be played out.

The minimum amount of rest required before a pitcher may pitch again in another game are as set forth below (subject to applicable inning per week maximums):

Pitches Thrown	Required Days Rest
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1-20	0
21-35	1
36-50	2
51-65	3
66-75	4

Players are limited to a combined innings of pitching/catching per game as follows:

Innings Pitched	Innings Caught
3	1
2	2
1	3
0	4

Sequence of pitching and catching is irrelevant.

If a pitcher reaches a day(s) of rest threshold while facing a batter, the pitcher may continue to pitch until one of the following conditions occurs: 1) the batter involved reaches base; 2) the batter is put out; 3) the out is made to end the involved players at bat. If an out is made to end the inning and the batter will return as the first batter for the next inning (e.g., a pickoff out that ends the inning), the pitcher shall not return to face that same batter. For example, if a pitcher was at 19 pitches at the start of the at-bat, and finished the at-bat with 23 pitches, the pitcher would not be required to observe any days' rest, because the pitcher only reached the first (1-20 pitch) threshold.

The rest period starts the day after a player pitches his last pitch. For example, if a player pitches 25 pitches in his 9-11am Saturday game, he must rest the entire day on Sunday and is not eligible to pitch again until Monday. It would not matter if the player had a game after 11am on Sunday.

Kid/Coach Pitch

A "Coach Pitch on Walks" rule will be in play to varying degrees during the regular season. If a Pitcher "walks" a batter, the batter's coach will come into the game and pitch to the batter. The number of strikes the batter has will remain when the coach comes in to pitch (i.e., if the batter walks on a full count, the batter will have 2 strikes on him/her when the coach comes in to pitch). The plate umpire will continue to call balls and strikes. If the

batter swings and misses for the 3rd strike, the batter is out. If the batter fouls off a pitch with 2 strikes, he/she continues to bat (baseball rules). If a “ball” is called, that pitch does not count toward the number of pitches remaining for a batter (it does not count as a strike).

After the coach comes in to pitch, the kid “Pitcher” must remain on the field as a fielder and must stay in the vicinity of the pitching mound (approximately 5 feet from mound). The coach pitcher must make an attempt to get out of the way of a batted ball. If a batted ball hits a coach pitcher, it is considered a dead ball, but the batter reaches base and all base runners advance 1 base.

There is no stealing allowed during “Coach Pitch on Walks” innings when the Coach is pitching. However, players may practice taking leads during this time.

During “Coach Pitch on Walks” in the **preseason only**, a “Catch Up” rule will be in effect. The “Catch Up” rule allows a trailing team to score enough runs that inning to tie the leading team, even if this is more than the 5 run “Mercy Rule”. If the trailing team ties the leading team during that inning, the inning ends.

Roster

Continuous batting order with no changes allowed during the game.

If a roster player leaves the game early, the player’s spot is skipped and no out is recorded. This also applies to call-up players.

Defensive substitutions are allowed at any time. Players may not sit out more than 6 defensive outs per game, unless due to injury. Penalty is loss of game but game will be played out.

Call-ups should be used if fewer than 10 players are going to be available for a game. Call ups may play any outfield position and must bat at the bottom of the order. If an unexpected roster player(s) makes the game, let the call-up player(s) play but follow the batting and defensive requirements. Call-ups may be allowed during playoffs, subject to league director approval.

If a roster player arrives late to the game, they must enter at the bottom of the order. If the player arrives before their spot in the lineup has come up, they resume their place in the order. If call-ups are in the batting order, the late arriving player bats after the call-ups if they have already batted. If the call-ups have not yet batted, the late arriving player bats after the last rostered player in the batting order if the late arriving player’s spot has been passed, followed by the call-ups.

Playoffs

All teams will qualify for league playoffs. The playoff schedule will be determined by each team’s regular season win-loss record. Tiebreakers will be decided by head-to-head record, then fewest runs allowed, then a coin flip (in that order).

Bat Rules

The bat must be a baseball bat which meets the USA Baseball Bat standard (USABat) as adopted by Little League. Non-wood bats must bear the USA Baseball logo signifying that the bat meets the USABat – USA Baseball's Youth Bat Performance Standard. All BPF –1.15 bats will be prohibited beginning with the 2018 season. Additionally, the bat diameter shall not exceed $2\frac{5}{8}$ inches for these divisions of play.

Wood bats, except Bamboo, allowed in any league. Wood bats shall not be less than fifteen sixteenths (15/16) inches in diameter (7/8 inch for bats less than 30") at its smallest part.

Wood bats taped or fitted with a sleeve may not exceed sixteen (16) inches from the small end. Solid one-piece wood barrel bats do not require a USA Baseball logo.

Penalty for use of an illegal bat is that the batter is out (dead ball, no play)

Ball Rules

Diamond DOL A Baseball or equivalent

Stealing

A runner may not lead off any base until the pitched ball crosses home plate. One warning will be issued per team. If the runner leads off before the ball crosses home plate, a warning is issued, no pitch is counted, and the runner returns to first base. After the warning, if the runner leads off before the ball crosses home plate, the ball is dead, no pitch is counted, and the runner is out.

Runners may steal any base once the pitched ball crosses home plate, including a steal of home on a wild pitch / passed ball. Catchers and pitchers may attempt to throw runners out at any base while runners are returning to a base after a pitch. Any over-throws during the pick-off will result in a "live ball" situation and runners may advance at their own risk. No stealing on a throwback from the catcher to the pitcher, commonly known as a delayed steal, will be allowed. However, any return throw to the pitcher which is dropped by the pitcher and is loose on the ground will be considered a live ball situation and runners may advance at their own peril.

NO STEALING allowed with a 10-run lead. Penalty is a warning and the runner must return to previous base. On a second offense, the runner is out, and the inning ends regardless of how many outs in an inning.

Double First Base Rule

Structure: The base features a 15-inch white section in fair territory and a 15-inch contrasting colored section in foul territory, with no gap between them.

Batter-Runner: Must use the colored portion in foul territory on a force play at first base.

Fielder: Must use the white portion in fair territory.

Exceptions: The runner may use the white base if they are rounding first for extra bases, or if no play is being made. A batter-runner may use either side of first base on a base-on-balls or on an extra-base hit to the outfield when there is no chance of a play to be made at first base.

Once the batter-runner reaches first base, the batter-runner must always return to the white base, including when leading off, returning on a pick-off attempt or tagging up on a fly ball.

Interference is to be called on batter-runners if they only touch the white portion on a force play at first and collide with the fielder. Similarly, it is obstruction if a defensive player only touches the colored portion of the base and collides with the batter-runner.

It is a fair ball if a batted ball hits or bounds over any part of the white portion of the double first base. Alternately, it is a foul ball if a batted ball hits or bounds over any part of the colored portion of the base

Field Dimensions, Setup, and Rules

60-foot distance between bases. Bases are fixed.

Pitching distance is 46 feet, measured from the back point of home plate to the front of the pitching rubber.

Home run cones are set at approximately 150 feet from home plate.

Home team is responsible for dragging the field and chalking the lines for the next game. Visiting team should help the home team to speed the pace of play.

Home team will set outfield cones at approximately 150 feet.

The visiting team will be responsible for scoreboard operation.

No taking "infield" practice before games.

Home team gets the third base dugout.

Dugouts should be left broom clean by both teams.

All other rules will be governed by the "Official Baseball Rules".