

BPRBA and LBA MINOR LEAGUE RULES

This is an instructional league, and coaches should ensure all players get equal playing time during each game and at multiple positions.

Pitching Rules:

- A. We follow Pitch Smart. See chart below
 - B. In the Minor League, there are no restrictions on the amount of innings or order in which a player can assume the catcher's position.
 - C. No pitcher can pitch more than 3 innings. Only one pitcher per game can pitch 3 innings. Other pitchers are limited to 2 innings per game. Throwing a single pitch in an inning counts as pitching an inning.
2. Lineup – The batting lineup shall include all available players at the start of the game. All players must play at least half the game in the field.
 3. Teams can field up to 10 players (four outfielders) as long as both teams can field 10 players.
 4. The 10-run rule **shall not apply**. Instead, we have a 6-run limit in each inning, except the last in which there is no limit.
 5. The game must start on time. No inning may start after one hour and forty five minutes
 6. Stealing is permitted. Teams cannot steal third base or home. Players can only steal second base. Players cannot advance on an overthrow on a steal to 2nd base. If a catcher or pitcher attempting to pick off a runner taking a secondary lead overthrows, all runners can only advance one base.
If the pitcher a) has the ball and b) is within the “circle” defined by the mound area, runners may not advance past the base to which they were headed when the pitcher gained control of the ball within the circle. If the pitcher decides to make a play on the runner, the ball is again live - the runner may be tagged out and may continue to proceed at this own risk. Coaches on Offense should consider the score of the game and show good sportsmanship.
 7. Each team shall supply two game balls, unless during interleague play the home team should all 4 game balls
 8. The infield fly rule shall not apply.

9. No automatic out for teams that have less than 9 players.
10. A catcher is not required to wear a catcher's mitt. It is optional to pinch run for the catcher any time he is a baserunner, irrespective of the number of outs. The last out made in that inning will be the pinch runner.
11. On a tag play the runner must slide or avoid contact. Head first slides are not permitted (except when returning to a base which he or she had already occupied). A runner who slides headfirst into a base is automatically out.
12. The visiting team gets the field 30 minutes prior to the game. The home team shall get the field 15 minutes prior to the game, regardless of how long the visiting team has been on the field (in other words, if the visiting team gets to the field late, they must still vacate the field 15 minutes prior to game time.)
13. A coach may visit a pitcher 2 times in an inning or a total of 3 times in a game, before having to remove that pitcher (on the 3rd visit in an inning or 4th visit in the game, that pitcher must be removed.) Any player coaching 1st or 3rd base must wear a batting helmet.
14. Bunting is allowed; however, slash bunting is not. Slash bunting is when a batter shows intent to bunt, then draws his bat back and takes a swing at the pitch. This has the potential to be a very dangerous play. If in the umpire's judgment, a batter tries to slash bunt (whether there is contact or not), the ball will be declared dead, and the batter will be called out. There is no warning for this rule. A batter who shows bunt must either bunt the ball or take the pitch.
15. A 2nd offense by a team in the same game will result in that player, as well as the team manager, being ejected.
16. Intentional walks are not allowed and there is no dropped third strike rule.
17. Calling up players. If you are short players for a game, you may pick up players who are registered and playing in the BPRBA Rookies league.
 - You cannot use these players as pitchers.
 - A "call up" player must bat last in your batting order.
 - You may only pick up players from a lower league in order to get to NINE players (so you can have two (2) rookie players if you only have seven of your own players show up). You may not use these players as a 10th player. You may start a game with 8 players, but 7 of those players must be from your team roster. If you have less than 8 players, the game is

a forfeit, but you may proceed as a practice game. Also, if you have less than 7 of your own team players, that is also considered a forfeit.

- You may not use a specific “call up” player more than twice in the regular season.
- A called-up player may not be removed from the batting order and must play at least half the game in the field, even if a roster player arrives in the middle of the game.
- For playoff games, you will need the prior approval of the BPR Commissioner and the Minor League Director if you need to use a player who is not on your roster.

GENERAL RULES OF DISCIPLINE AND CONDUCT

The following General rules are excerpts from the Little League:

Rule Book Rule Number

3:14 No equipment shall be left on the field either in fair or foul territory.

4:05 The offensive team shall station two coaches on the field during its time at bat, one near first base and one near third base. Coaches' shall-

- (1) be eligible players in the uniform of their team; or adult manager or coach;
- (2) remain within the coaches' boxes at all times;
- (3) talk to members of their own team only.

An offending coach shall be removed from the coaches' box.

4:06 No manager, coach, or player, shall at any time, whether from the bench or the playing field or elsewhere –

- (2) use language which will in any manner refer to or reflect upon opposing players, managers, coaches, an umpire, or spectators. The offender shall be removed from the game.

4:07 When a manager, coach or player is ejected from a game, they shall leave the field immediately and take no further part in that game. They may not sit in the stands and may not be recalled.

4:08 When the occupants of a player's bench show violent disapproval of the umpire's decision, the umpire shall first give warning that such disapproval shall cease. If such action continues – the umpire shall order the offender out of the game and away from the spectator's area. If the umpire is unable to detect the offender or offenders, the

bench may be cleared of all players. The manager of the offending team shall have the privilege of recalling to the playing field only those players needed for substitution in the game.

6:02 Stepping out of the batter's box after each pitch is discouraged and could be called by the umpire as a delay of the game.

9:01 No Player/Manager/Coach shall object to any judgment decision made by the umpire – Ball/Strike/Fair/Foul/Safe/Out etc. However, if there is a rule conflict, the appeal should be made to the umpire who made the call

BPRBA LOCAL RULES

- Any Player/Manager/Coach/Parent who, in the opinion of the Board of Directors, flagrantly violates the above rules (especially 4:06 and 4:08) will be reviewed by a committee appointed by the Board of Directors and issued a Warning. If the same person commits violations subsequent to the Warning, that individual, upon a decision by the Board of Directors, will be banned from participating in all Little League activities.
- ~~Appropriate viewing locations would be in the stands provided or behind fences that run from the dugouts down the right or left field foul line.~~
- Clean dugouts after each game.
- Home team responsible for field readiness and putting away equipment (rakes etc.).
- Players and coaches are the only people allowed in the dugout. 2 adults and 1 designated scorekeeper. No siblings, parents or friends allowed.
- Each team should have a team meeting with the parents before the 1st game to discuss discipline and conduct, including spectators.
- No smoking allowed in dugout/field areas.

SAFETY

USA stamped bats are only bats allowed for practices and games.

Link: <https://www.usabaseball.com/bats/>

Be prepared for any emergency in advance of all games and practices.

Emergency medical services are available in the Village of Bedford and the Town of Pound Ridge.

Safety is a matter of ongoing concern for all Volunteers. This requires vigilance and firm discipline applied through positive reinforcement.

At the team level it starts with the manager and includes the coaches and parents. It may require a meeting with parents if there is a discipline problem. Certainly, the manager should stress with the players and parents what he expects when it comes to safety. This should include ongoing meetings and discussions with the team.

All accidents should be reported to the Division Director and the family should be supplied with a medical claim form. All league members are covered by medical insurance which is excess to the family's personal policy.

The rules of Safety which follow are for the benefit of the entire league. They should be enforced as they are in place for the protection of everyone.

- 1. As per Little League Rules, the swinging of bats in on-deck area (or any area around the dugout) is prohibited in all divisions. Bats should be kept out of the hands of all players except for the hitter. Exception may be made during practice or instruction if there is direct supervision of each hitter such as in drills involving soft toss or a batting tee. For practice drills involving a bat (soft toss, tee, heavy ball), the hitter and the hitting partner must wear a helmet.**
2. No manager, coach, or spectator may stand within the field of play, except if occupying a coach's box for the hitting team. The on-deck batter is **not** permitted. (Rule 1.08)
3. All players, coaches, and spectators should be alert for batted and thrown balls and be faced toward the area of play.
4. All equipment must be off the field while a team is at bat. Any area within the fence line is considered the field of play whether fair or foul. (Rule 3.14)
5. Helmets with face masks are **STRONGLY RECOMMENDED** at practice and games.
6. Periodical inspection should be made of the medical supplies located in the storage boxes at the end of the field. A medical kit and ice packs should be available there.
7. Each field will have rakes available to smooth surfaces and fill holes during the season. Regular inspections and repairs should be given by managers and coaches.

8. Managers are responsible for taking precautions to avoid injury to batters being hit by pitch. Managers should remove pitchers who are excessively wild or who present a danger to the batter. Ultimately it is the umpire's discretion when to mandate that a pitcher be removed for wild pitches / hitting batters. There is no set number.
9. Injuries during games and practices from thrown and batted balls will be minimized if each player learns that there is "always something to do" during games and practices. Coaches should be sure the rule is followed.
10. Equipment inspection is essential. Broken equipment may be replaced by contacting the league equipment manager. All male players must wear athletic supporters. Metal cleats are not permitted.
11. Periodic inspection of dugouts, fences and bleachers should be done to repair hazards that may develop.
12. Umpires will call games due to inclement weather. Managers should confer with the umpire and no practice or game should take place in a field that may be considered unsafe. Certainly, at the first sign of lightning the field should be cleared and appropriate decisions made.
13. Players pre-game throwing warmup must be done on the outfield grass, not infield.
14. Catchers must wear helmets, and face masks,s, during warm-ups. Catchers should be instructed to wear protective cups and strongly encouraged to wear a throat guard.
15. All runners should have an unobstructed path to a base (including home plate). Defensive players are not allowed to block a base. However, an umpire can determine that a defensive player could not have fielded the ball without blocking the pathway of the runner and that contact was unavoidable

EQUIPMENT BOXES

Each field has an equipment box that contains first aid kits, ice packs, batting helmets, and umpire equipment. The home team manager is responsible for making sure that the field equipment is put away and the equipment box is locked at the end of the game. Each team has the responsibility to get the teams batting helmets from the equipment box and return them to the box after the game. Please make sure that the equipment boxes/storage closets are locked before leaving the field.

