

# 2023 FallBaseball.net League Rules



- Rules stated here are exceptions to the NFHS Rules Book. All other playing rules follow NFHS guidelines. Fall Baseball reserves the right to modify rules prior to the start of and during the season, if any item listed here is misinterpreted.
- Fall Baseball or any appointed representative (e.g.,umpires) shall be the sole judge as to the playing conditions of the fields and is responsible to make a decision for a called game and/or termination of play.  
**EASTSIDE WEATHER HOTLINE: (216) 289-8121      WESTSIDE WEATHER HOTLINE (216) 732-2966**
- All teams are permitted to have an open roster.  
**Players must have played in a game by the 4<sup>th</sup> week and played in 4 games to be playoff eligible.**
  - Players age as of April 30 .....Players may play same age as current summer division
  - Players may not play on multiple rosters in the same Saturday or Sunday League.
  - 17u HS players must be in high school or 17u age eligible.
  - Players are allowed to play on one Saturday and one Sunday roster.
- Awards will be presented to first and second place teams in each division. (13 per team)
- All games are 6 innings, 4 innings constitutes an official game (3 ½ if Home team winning)
- Umpire fees are paid at homeplate each game in CASH.  
\$70 13u and below (\$35 per team)    \$120 for all 60/90 league games (\$60 per team)
- If a team cannot field a team at the scheduled start time, a 15 minute grace period will be allowed.  
Teams can start with and play with 8 players.      All forfeits are scored 8 – 0.  
Any team forfeiting is responsible for both teams umpire fees.
- No protests are allowed.
- The infield fly rule shall be in effect for all age divisions.
- Speed-up rule : Teams may use a courtesy runner anytime for the pitcher and/or catcher.  
The runner must be a player from the bench, or if none available- use the last batted out.
- The “Designated Hitter” Rule **will be allowed for 14u/15u and 17u Divisions only**
- An “Additional Hitter” Rule **will be allowed. The “AH” Rule is optional in all age divisions.**  
The “AH” is a 10<sup>th</sup> hitter placed anywhere in the line-up. The “AH” can be substituted for and the re-entry rule will apply. The “AH” is considered a defensive position and can play in the field.
- Roster batting will be permitted in all age divisions.
  - a. Teams can bat a 9-player lineup, a 10-player lineup using an additional hitter (AH), or roster bat all present uniformed players. The lineup must be declared before the start of the game and used the entire game.
  - b. If a team uses a lineup that contains 10 players, the player in the AH position, while not actually playing a defensive position, is treated as such for substitution purposes.

c. If a team chooses to roster bat, then all players other than the nine defensive position players are additional hitters and can move freely in defensive positions.

d. If a team is batting all present, uniformed players, with no eligible substitutes listed on the lineup card, and the number of players is 11 or more, that team is considered to be roster batting for the purposes of defensive substitutions and courtesy runners, unless the coach has specifically declared otherwise at the pregame plate conference. If additional players arrive after the game has started, those players are placed at the end of the batting order. If the coach declares at the pregame plate conference that he is not roster batting, the late players are listed on the lineup as eligible substitutes.

- **Pitching Rules:** One pitch constitutes one inning pitched. ( Does not include warm-ups)  
8u/9u -- 9u/10u- ----- 3/game---6/weekend  
11u/12u --- 12/13u(54/80) -----4/game--- 6/weekend  
13/14u(60/90) – 14/15u(60/90) - 17u HS ----- 6/game---6/weekend  
\*\*A pitcher may not return to the mound once removed in that game.  
If a pitcher returns to the mound “illegally”--- Correct the wrong—NO PENALTY
- Metal cleats allowed in 54/80 and 60/90 leagues. NO metal cleats allowed on PORTABLE MOUNDS.
- Bat Restrictions : **None** 8u---8u/9u— 9u/10u---11u/12u---12/13u (54/80)  
Bat Restrictions: **(-5 bat restriction)** 13/14u (60/90) Saturday League  
Bat Restrictions: **(-3 bat restriction / BBCOR)** for 14/15u HS and 17u HS Sunday Leagues
- There is NO DROP 3<sup>rd</sup> Strike Rule in the 8u - 8u/9u divisions. Batter out and runners may advance.
- There is NO SLUG BUNTING allowed. Penalty: Batter Out – Dead Ball
- No malicious contact in effect on all close plays. Umpires discretion.
- All games have a **1 Hour 45 Minute Time Limit**. No inning shall start after unless the inning is needed to create an official game. Time Limit waived in Semi-Final and Championship Game.  
**Game clock starts at the conclusion of ground rules.**  
**New inning starts when the 3<sup>rd</sup> out is recorded from the previous inning**
- Profanity or misconduct by a player, coach, or manager will not be tolerated and may result in dismissal from the game, park and/or park.
- There can be Tie Games in Fall Baseball regular season games.
- Playoff Teams are decided by POINTS  
Teams will be awarded: 3 pts for a WIN --- 2 pts for a TIE --- 1 pt for a LOSS  
  
If there is an unequal number of games played then winning percentage may be used  
  
Tie Breakers : Two (2) Teams Tied  
1) Head to Head  
2) Fewest runs allowed vs. each other  
3) Fewest runs allowed for the season.  
4) Run Differential (+/- 8/game)

- Three (3) or More Teams Tied
- 1) Head to Head only if the tied teams played one another if equal amount of games for all
  - 2) Fewest runs allowed for season
  - 3) Run Differential (+/- 8/game)

### General Points of Reference

	Innings	Official Game	Mercy Rule	Stealing	Lead -offs	Base Distance	Pitching Distance	Pitching Innings/Game /Weekend Per Pitcher
8u/9u	6	4	12 / 4 10 / 5	Yes-after ball cross'plate	Yes-body length	65	46	3 / 6
9u/10u	6	4	12 / 4 10 / 5	Yes	Yes	65	46	3 / 6
11u/12u	6	4	12 / 4 10 / 5	Yes	Yes	70	50	4 / 6
12/13u (54/80)	6	4	12 / 4 10 / 5	Yes	Yes	80	54	4 / 6
13/14u (60/90) 14/15u 17u HS	6	4	12 / 4 10 / 5	Yes	Yes	90	60'6"	6 / 6

Revised 10/21/22