



## W-SR YOUTH BASEBALL RULES 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> Division

### Participation Rules

1. All players present during the games must be in the batting order throughout the game unless their removal is due to illness or injury. No automatic out will need to be taken by the offensive team should a player leave the game due to illness or injury.
2. 9 players play the field with 3 equally spaced outfielders maintaining a half circle defensive position. (NO ROVERS)
3. Players may move in and out defensively with exception of the pitcher.
4. If a team can only field 8 players, a 9<sup>th</sup> player may be picked up off of another team.
5. No player should sit more than 1 inning.
6. No metal cleats allowed.
7. Pitching mound 50', Bases set at 70'

### Game Information

1. All games start at 5:15pm and/or 7:00pm.
2. Games will be 1 hour and 25 minutes long or 6 innings, whichever comes first. Drop dead time of 6:40 and 8:25 for each game, no matter what the score is. Games can end in a tie.
3. No ON-FIELD pitching, infield or batting practice will be allowed before the start of the game. This does not include ground balls hit in foul territory.
4. Home Team:  
Occupies the 3<sup>rd</sup> base dugout.  
Home Team Field Maintenance responsibilities:
  - 5:15pm game – rake the field after the game and clear dugout trash
  - 7pm game – rake field and clear trash from dugout.
5. Visiting Team:  
Occupies the 1<sup>st</sup> base dugout.  
Visiting Team Field Maintenance responsibilities:
  - 7pm game – pick up garbage out side of fence and empty cans into dumpster
6. Inclement Weather:  
If a game is cancelled due to weather, it may be made up at the coach's digression in an open time slot on the diamond use calendar. Lightning during 5:15 game does not automatically cancel 7:00 game. If the game is in progress, it will be picked up where it left off.

## **League Rules**

1. All players must wear uniforms including jersey, cap and gray pants. Catchers must wear a protective helmet/facemask whenever catching a pitch, including warmup pitches. The batter at the plate and all base runners must wear a batting helmet.
2. Only 3 coaches in a dugout per game.
3. All youth bats must be USSSA or USABat certified.
4. Bunting is allowed. If batter squares to bunt, the batter cannot swing away. The batter will be out if he swings.
5. Infield fly rule is in place.
6. Dropped 3<sup>rd</sup> Strike Rule is not in effect.
7. Leading off and base stealing is open. That includes HOME BASE. The ball is live when thrown back to the pitcher. The batter being walked may attempt second base on a passed ball.
8. Base runner must slide to avoid contact with opposing players when played on; otherwise he may be called out. This is the umpire's decision. Absolutely no arguing with the umpires on their call of this rule. This is a judgment call for player's safety.
9. Throwing the bat – first time team issued a warning – the second time the batter is out and runners can't advance.
10. Safety Base Rule: Batter/runner can use the orange part only on their first pass over first base. The fielder uses the white part of the base only. The batter/runner after passing or rounding first base shall return to the white part of the base only. After crossing the orange part of the base the batter/runner can turn right or left as long as they are not making a motion to run to second.
11. Runner advances at own risk and can only advance one base per overthrow. Home is open on an overthrow as well. If a defensive player throws the ball into play the runner is free to advance one base.
12. Innings are limited to 5 runs per inning, or 3 outs.
13. Catchers on base with two outs may be substituted to speed up the game. The courtesy runner must be the last person to be called out.

## **Pitching Rules**

1. Pitchers may only throw 2 innings per game and a maximum of 50 pitches.
2. Only straight pitches (fastballs and change-ups) are allowed. No breaking pitches or knuckleballs.
3. Foul tips on strike three caught by the catcher is a strike out.
4. If the pitcher hits 3 players in any game, player needs to be moved to a different position.

## **Sportsmanship**

All coaches, players, and spectators are expected to display good sportsmanship. Umpire's decisions are final. Unsportsmanlike conduct should be reported to a board member. Situations should be defused and the board should determine consequences after the fact.