2015 WBF Fall Baseball

### 51or 54 / 80 Wood Bat Division

### Fall Baseball LEAGUE RULES

* **CONDUCT RULES**

1. The manager/coach must control the behavior of their players and the parents of the players on their team.
2. There will be a zero tolerance policy for players\parents behaving in an inappropriate manner. This includes any foul language, bully behavior, insulting other players, or negative comments. A discussion will happen after the first offense followed by being asked to leave the league if the inappropriate behavior continues.
3. If a player throws a bat after hitting a ball, he/she will receive a warning.

4. The field and the dugout area are to be cleaned after every game, the coaches\players\parents will be held responsible for cleanliness of the area.

5. No alcohol beverages or smoking will be permitted within the playing field or dugout areas.

6. The home team will occupy the first base dugout. Spectators are not permitted in the dugout or around the backstop.

* **PLAYING RULES**

1. Nine players will play in the field. A rotating system will be used for substitutions. There should be equal playing time for all fielders. With up to 13 players on your roster, every inning up to 4 different players may be on the bench. Make sure that all players get their required time playing the field.
2. A universal batting order will be used. All players present at the game will bat regardless of whether or not they are playing the field. The batting order cannot change once managers have exchanged their lineups. Late arriving players are to be added to the bottom of the lineup. Players who leave before the end of the game are just crossed out and their position in the batting order is skipped.
3. For the safety of the team, only one player is permitted to be on deck and swinging a bat with a batting helmet on. All other players should be in the dugout.
4. The distance of the baselines is 80 feet.
5. The infield fly rule will be used in the games.
6. Tagging up is permitted in the games.
7. Bunting is permitted.
8. Leading and base stealing is permitted. Pitchers will be responsible for holding on the base runners and we will use an extremely lenient balk rule. Only the most obvious balks will be called and it is encouraged to work with your pitchers during the games to master this skill.
9. The manager or coach is permitted to warm up the pitcher. However, any player who warms up the pitcher **must wear equipment**.
10. A runner must slide to avoid contact with a fielder, if a play is in the vicinity of the base, the runner **must slide.** Failure to slide will result in the runner being issued a warning. Malicious contact under any circumstance will result in an automatic ejection from the game. Head first sliding is ONLY permitted going back to a base.
11. The batter will be called out on the third strike, but if the catcher drops the 3rd strike, a play must be made to retire the batter\runner.
12. Teams will only be allowed to score a maximum of 6 runs per inning, in an attempt to keep the games as close as possible. In the last inning, unlimited runs will be permitted. Possibly may remove this rule

* **PITCHING RULES**

1. All pitchers will have a 50 pitch count limit per game regardless of age.
2. If a pitcher reached the limit of pitches for the day while facing a batter, the pitcher may continue to pitch until that batter reaches base or is put out. The pitcher must be removed after that batter.
3. Once a pitcher has walked 4 consecutive batters, the pitcher must be removed from the game, but can pitch again in the following innings if the pitch count has not yet be reached.
4. A pitcher will automatically be removed from pitching when he hits two batters in an inning or three batters in a game. Once a pitcher has been removed for hit-by-pitches (2 in an inning, 3 in a game), the pitcher cannot pitch for the rest of the game.
5. The pitching mound is 54 feet for 12u or older and 51 feet for 11u and younger from the back of home plate.
6. The strike zone is letters to knees.

* **OFFICIAL GAMES**

Regulation games are six innings, but may be stopped by the coaches because of darkness, rain, time or score. The game is considered official after four innings, three and one-half innings if the home team is ahead. If, after a game is official, either team is ahead by 15 runs, the game will be stopped. The umpire starts the game and only the umpire can end the game.

* **SUSPENDED GAMES**

A game is considered suspended when (1) it is stopped by the coaches after one or more innings are played and has not reached official status, or (2) it is an official game which is tied when stopped due to darkness and time limitations. A suspended game will be resumed at a later date from the exact point at which it was stopped.

* **NO FORFEITS**
* **BORROWED PLAYERS**

A team may borrow as many players from the other teams in the league to get to the nine player minimum. The league president and the opposing manager must be informed of borrowed players prior to the game. The borrowed players must be active, registered and every attempt will be made to make sure no team has an unfair advantage.

1. may not pitch,
2. must be up last in the batting order

* **WEATHER POSTPONEMENTS**

All coaches and players are required to report to the field at the scheduled time unless notified by a league official. Games will be rescheduled as soon as possible, preferably same weekend depending on the availability of fields.

* **UMPIRES**
* **SCORES \ WEBSITE \ NEWSPAPER ARTICLES**

At the end of each game the managers of both teams must do the following in a timely (Wednesday morning of the following week) fashion:

1. Must submit a scoresheet (or scoringbook) so the games boxscore and stats can be calculated. The league will use the [www.wbfbaseball.com](http://www.wbfbaseball.com) website to post the league’s standings, game results and box scores and team stats.