

Belvidere Youth Baseball – 2009 Fall Baseball Rules

Updated August 17, 2009

1. BYB Ground Rules adopted herewith shall override any rules and regulations stated by the current National Federation of State High School Association publication in which all play shall be governed.
2. No player will be allowed to “play down” (player in a lower age level league) for any reason. All team rosters will be limited to 12 players.
3. Teams may begin practices as soon as they are notified of their rosters. With exceptions of practice games, no practices shall exceed 2 hours in length. Teams may practice two times per week through August. Teams are limited to one practice per week starting September 1st.
4. Times of games :
 - a. First weekday game is to start at 5:30 PM.
 - b. Second weekday game is to start at 7:30 PM.
 - c. Saturday games can begin as early as 8:00 AM.
 - d. There will be a ten-minute grace period for a team to field the minimum number of players.
 - e. There is to be no infield practice allowed in between scheduled games.
 - f. Most games will be on Saturdays with a few weekday games throughout the season for each team.
5. All games have a 110-minute time limit:
 - a. When 110 minutes hits, the batter up to bat will finish his at bat and the game will end immediately thereafter.
 - b. If 110 minutes hits between batters, the next batter will be allowed to hit and the game will end upon the conclusion of his at bat.
 - c. The designated chief umpire will make decisions as the official timekeeper. His decision is final.
6. 10-RUN RULE: Shall apply only after five innings have been completed, or if the home team is ahead at the end of 4 ½ innings. The official scorekeeper, (home team) shall notify the chief umpire when 10-run rule applies to end game.
7. No forfeits will be taken for teams lacking the proper number of players to start or play a game. A team is allowed to borrow players from any other team in the league in order to obtain the minimum number of players. The following exceptions apply:
 - a. No Bronco team shall borrow players from the Pony league (although the reverse is legal).
 - b. Under no circumstances will a borrowed player pitch while playing for another team.
 - c. Teams may not borrow players unless at the start of the game they have LESS THAN NINE (9) players. In the case where a team borrows a player to make nine, and during the game another player arrives, the borrowed player will be allowed to play for the remainder of the game.
 - d. Teams may choose not to borrow any players.
 - e. NO OUTS WILL BE TAKEN FOR PLAYERS HAVING TO LEAVE A GAME EARLY, LEAVING DUE TO INJURY, ETC. (This is due to the continuous batting order)
8. There are no practices held during the season on Diamond #1 (Jr. Girls) or Diamond #2 (Bronco/Pony) but the batting cages and warm up pitching mounds may be used. Groundskeeper has the authority to take possession of any field for the purpose of maintenance. Conditions of the grounds between games will be decided by the groundkeeper or by an Executive Committee member or the Chief Umpire.
9. If lightning is in the area or adverse weather exists, (i.e. HAIL, HEAT INDEX) and has the potential to jeopardize the welfare of the ball players, the chief umpire or Executive Committee member or Commissioner on duty, shall rule to suspend play on all diamonds until the threat has passed.
10. **HEAT STRESS:** Games shall be suspended if temperature at Belvidere Bank (544-2424) reaches or exceeds 96°F.
11. In the event of rain-outs:
 - a. If a league has one day rained out, no makeup will be scheduled.
 - b. If during the season two game days are rained out, league officials will reschedule the 2nd rainout day.
 - c. Basically, the first rain out will not be rescheduled, but all others thereafter will be rescheduled, assuming the schedule and weather permit it.
12. Home team shall occupy the third base dugout.
13. Home team shall furnish the following:
 - a. An official scorekeeper.
 - b. A person in the home dugout will be required to update the scoreboard.
14. Home team manager shall be responsible for returning the scoreboard equipment to the concession stand after completion of the last game. Both teams shall tarp the field if needed.
15. Adults coaching the bases cannot have a player in the coach's box. Adult coaches do not have to wear uniforms.
16. Each team may have no more than one manager, two coaches, one score keeper in the dugout.
17. Any unethical conduct by a coach or manager towards any player or other bench personnel shall result in immediate ejection (no warning) and review by BYB Executive Committee as to his/her future coaching capacity prior to the team's next game.
18. Coach or manager may:
 - a. Be allowed one offensive conference per inning.
 - b. Make one trip to the mound per inning, per pitcher. If a second trip is made in that inning, the pitcher must be removed from the pitching position. Any egress onto fair territory of the playing field constitutes a trip to

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- the mound.
- c. Coaches are allowed to talk to pitchers between innings (without being charged a trip) provided:
 - i. The coach does not delay the start of an inning.
 - ii. This practice does not become a travesty to the game.
 19. **SUBSTITUTE RULE:** Fall baseball encompasses free substitution and a continuous batting order. Any player may enter and exit the game and move to any position at any time with the exception of:
 - a. A pitcher who has been removed may not reenter the same game as pitcher, even if he has not used up his two innings.
 20. **PLAYING TIME RULE:** Each player must play in half of the game defensively. The batting order is continuous. **This rule applies to all games including the games shortened by slaughter rule.**
 21. **PITCHING RULES:** A pitcher may pitch two innings per game. In the case of a double header, a pitcher may pitch two innings in each game. One pitch will constitute an entire inning. A pitcher who is removed may not be reentered as a pitcher in the same game, even if he has not thrown his full two innings.
 - a. Pitching distance will be 54 feet from the front edge of the pitching rubber to the back point of home plate for Pony and 48 feet for Bronco.
 - b. Distance between bases will be 80 ft. for Pony and 70 ft. for Bronco.
 - c. The bat doesn't have to meet the -3 rule but the 2 5/8" maximum barrel diameter rule is in effect.
 22. **BALKS:** One (1) balk warning per pitcher per game will be issued in the 10-11 year old league. Runners will not advance on a balk warning. After a pitcher receives a warning, runners will be given one base on a balk. There are **NO BALK WARNINGS** in the 12-14 year old league.
 23. Failure to comply with the player participation or pitching rules will result in the following:
 - a. First Offense: Forfeiture of game.
 - b. Second Offense: Forfeiture of game and 2-game suspension of manager.
 - c. Third Offense: Forfeiture of game and banishment of manager for the remainder of the year
 24. No courtesy runners or designated hitters may be used in any league.
 25. Complete uniforms for each player shall be worn properly at all times, shirt tucked in and caps worn unless not furnished, etc. Exceptions:
 - a. Catcher may remove his cap when wearing the catchers mask and helmet
 26. Steel spikes are permitted. They are permissible in the 12-14 year old boys' league, but NOT the 10-11 year old league.
 27. A batted ball leaving the playing field through the fence or leaving the outfield after touching the ground if there is no fence shall be declared a ground rule double.
 28. No batting balls other than tennis balls against any BYB fence at any time.
 29. **TIE GAMES:** Ties games will NOT be broken. They will be recorded in the standings as a tie for both teams. Standings can be found at www.bybonline.org.
 30. Standings will be determined as follows:
 - a. Best record in the regular season
 - b. Head to Head
 - c. Runs Allowed
 - d. Runs Scored
 - e. Coin toss.
 31. There will be no awards for fall baseball; the object is to have the players further develop their individual skills.