

# **LEAGUE DIVISION RULES**

## **MAJOR LEAGUE AGES 11-12**

**(Updated May 1, 2019)**

Listed below are some of the rules and information for the Major League Division. These rules take precedence over those in the AABC Rule Book, otherwise AABC rules will apply.

1. Each game is 6 innings. In case of rain, darkness, etc., a complete game is declared at the completion of 4 completed innings or 3 1/2 innings if the home team is ahead. If a game ends in a tie, at the completion of six innings, the game will continue if time allows. If due to time, darkness, or weather, a tie game will be continued at a later date to be scheduled by the division Vice President. If the Umpire must call a game in the middle of an inning, the score reverts back to the end of the previous full inning. Umpires will be encouraged to speed up play as deemed necessary and will report any abuse to the Major League Vice President.

Mercy Rule:

15 Runs after 3 innings (2 ½ if Home team is winning)

12 Runs after 4 innings (3 ½ if Home team is winning)

10 Runs after 5 innings (4 ½ if Home team is winning)

2. All game times will be specified on the division schedule. A 1:45 time limit applies to all games. No new inning may begin after the 1:45 time limit. If darkness sets in after an inning, then the score will revert back to the previous inning.

Any team with only eight players at game time may begin play and be allowed fifteen minutes for the ninth player to arrive. If after fifteen minutes a ninth player is not present, the game is continued with eight players and the 9th position in the batting order being an automatic out. Any team with less than eight players after the 15 minutes will automatically forfeit the game. Official time is determined by the Umpire.

3. Rainouts will be played on any day of the week, including Sunday. The 1:45 rule and the 15 minute rule in #2 above will also apply to Sunday games.

4. Before each game, the coach of each team should supply the opposing coach a list of his eligible players for that game and a starting batting line-up. If a player is being disciplined by the manager and will not appear in the game, the opposing coach must be notified prior to the start of the game.

5. Each player must be allowed 2 innings in the field. Each team is able to bat the entire lineup. This allows all available players on a team to bat in an assigned order. Coaches are able to alternate players into the field as they choose as long as each player plays in the field 2 innings. No player, unless due to injury, may leave a game before satisfying this rule.

6. Major league uses 70 feet between the bases, with the pitching distance being 50 feet 6 inches (front of rubber to back of home plate). (As recommended by AABC).

7. The home team will occupy the 3rd base dugout and will keep the official score. The home team is the second team listed on your game schedule and is responsible for lining the field and setting the bases each game.

8. Once a pitcher is removed from the game he cannot return to pitch.

9. After his initial appearance, in the game, a pitcher is allowed a maximum of 5 warm-up pitches between innings. (Initial appearance warm-up time as indicated by the Umpire).

10. No pitcher may throw more than 3 Innings in 1 day. If a pitcher pitches 3 innings they must have 1 day of rest. No pitcher can pitch more than 8 innings in week. A week is defined as Sunday through Saturday). The throwing of 1 pitch in an inning constitutes an inning for tracking purposes.

#### 11. Protective Gear

The following rules and recommendations apply to both official games and practices.

A) All male players must wear an athletic supporter.

B) Cup recommended for all male players.

C) Cup mandatory for all male catchers.

D) Batting helmets are mandatory at bat, running the bases, in the on-deck circle, and for the catcher.

E) Metal spikes will not be allowed.

#### 12. Bunting is allowed.

13. The Umpire may eject a player, manager, or coach from the game for bad conduct (language, temper, etc.). Should a player, manager, or coach be ejected from a scheduled league game, there shall be a one game suspension imposed on him/her. During the one game suspension, said player, manager, or coach may not attend the next game. If a player, manager, or coach is ejected twice during the regular baseball season, a more severe action may be imposed by the Board of Directors.

19. No managers, coaches, or spectators are permitted to stand directly behind the backstop home plate area. The Umpire may order anyone to leave said area.

20. Any violations of the rules should be documented and reported immediately to the Minor League Vice President or President of the Association. Violations may result in penalties including, but not limited to: forfeiture of game in which the violation occurred, suspension for one or more future games, exclusion from post season/tournament play, expulsion from the league. All violations will be documented by the Minor League Vice President and submitted to the Board of Directors for review.

21. A few other comments follow:

-Make sure the dirt is cleaned out of the base supports at the ball diamonds. Use a spoon (in equipment box) to clean them out. DO NOT JUMP UP AND DOWN ON THE BASES TO FORCE THE BASES DOWN!!!!

-Runners should be instructed to slide into the bases (except 1st base) on close plays. Runners may be called out at the Umpire's discretion when the failure to do so causes an unnecessary collision.

-In case of rain, the manager may call the SSBA Weather Hotline number between 3:30pm and 4:30pm. A decision will be made at this time and cannot be reversed. If it rains after that time, the decision will be made by the Umpire at the field.

-Equipment Bags to include helmets, bats and catching gear are available at the start of the season. A \$75 deposit must be made for the bags. The bags should be turned in upon the finish of the season and the deposit check will be returned.

-Courtesy Runners are allowed (and encouraged) for pitcher and catcher. The last batted out is the courtesy runner.

-BAT RULES-Effective January 1, 2014 T-Ball, Coach Pitch, Minors, and Majors (12 and Under) Bat Restrictions are as follows: Wood or non-wood bats may be used and must not be larger than 2 3/4 inches. There is no restriction with regard to the differential between length and weight, however, ALL bats with a larger barrel than 2 1/4 (i.e. 2 5/8 and 2 3/4), must have the certification of BPF of 1.15 or less. As of 9/10/13, this bat restriction rule also complies with the AABC and USSSA standards. Penalty if brought to an umpire's attention (while the batter is hitting or immediately after the batter hits):

1st Offense: Batter is Out, Head Coach is issued a Warning

2nd Offense: Batter is Out, Head Coach is ejected