

2021 7/8 year old Fall League Rules

Batting/Scoring

- Every player dressed to play must be in the batting order.
- Continuous batting order/free substitution in the field is used. Book should be kept and batting order should be consistent during a given game.
- Five run maximum per inning rule. Team bats until there are 3 outs or the team at bat has scored five runs. This rule is waived for the last inning.
- Maximum eight pitches per batter limit. The last pitch is repeated as many times as necessary if the batter hits a foul ball.
- A batter still up after the maximum number of pitches has been reached will be considered a strike out.
- Balls/Strikes/Outs/Runs count. When Coach pitch no walks will be issued. Batter can strike out on three swings during coach pitch.
- No bat throwing – 1 team warning; next incident counts as an out.

BATS

- Bats cannot be more than 33" in length and no more than 2 5/8" in diameter. In addition, if the bat is made of wood, it cannot be less than 15/16" in diameter at its smallest point.
- Composite bats are prohibited unless approved by Little League International (please check Little League International's website for approved listing of composite bats). Coaches have the discretion of inspecting bats prior to the start of each game.
- The use of illegal bats will result in a forfeit. The Tournament Directors must approve bats in question.
- Bats must have a USA Bat approved sticker

Pitching

- Games will be player pitch.
- When player pitch, pitching team's coach to call balls/strikes behind the mound for safety purposes.
- Pitcher must be removed upon third hit batter within an inning.
- Balks will not be enforced.

Base Running

- There is a one base limit on balls that stay in the infield.
- On a ground ball through infield or fly ball or line drive to outfield with player error runners may advance up to a 2 base limit.
- Fly ball or line drive to outfield with no player error – no base limit (all you can get).
- Over fence is homerun.
- No base advancement on overthrows.
- No base advancement beyond the next base once the ball is in the possession of a fielder in the infield.
- No infield fly rule

- Except for force plays at first base, runners must slide into bases on all contested force and tag plays.
- If a player does not slide when required, there shall be one warning to the offending team, thereafter upon each subsequent violation, the baserunner shall be called out.
- Fielding
- Every player must play in field a minimum of four innings per game unless prevented by injury.
- A player can play the same position for a max of 3 innings each game.
- Play is dead once the ball is at the pitcher's mound.

Miscellaneous

- Catchers will be used. Boys playing the position of catcher are required to wear a protective cup. It is recommended that all infielders use a protective cup.
- Cleats and baseball pants are recommended.
- No bunting, stealing or leading.
- Batting team coach pitches to own team and acts as umpire while on the field.
- Batting team coaches at 1st and 3rd.
- Score is kept for all games.
- A non-hard baseball graded RIF-5 (as opposed to cushioned tee balls) will be used in games. Under no circumstance shall a hardball be used in games.

Behavior/Conduct

- Sportsmanship among players and coaches must be prevalent at all times. No arguments between adults will be tolerated. It is understood that all coaches will understand these rules.
- Only the head coach is allowed to discuss rules interpretations during the game.
- Head coaches and assistants are responsible for behavior of their players and parents during the game.
- Head coaches manage kids on bench. Cheering only, No Jeering
- Head coaches from home/away teams will agree to ground rules and any other field issues before start of game.
- Coaches, parents and players are expected to abide by the conduct codes outlined by their respective league and posted on the leagues web site (www.Hopedalebaseball.com and www.nipmucyouthbaseball.com).
- If you are witness to any behavior that you feel is inappropriate, please do not hesitate to report the matter to your coach, league coordinator or contact one of your league's board members.
- Except as outlined above in this document all other playing rules will be consistent with Cal Ripken approved rules.