

## **2024 MINORS RULES**

- 1- Minor ages: 9 and 10 years of age. (Boys who are in 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> Grade)
- 2- "League Age" shall be the current grade of each boy for the 2023-2024 school year.

## 3- Basic Rules:

- A. Minor's games will consist of 5 innings or 1 hour and 10 minutes. No new inning after an hour. All innings started will be finished.
- B. All players will bat; therefore, the batting line-up will not change during the game.
- C. Each player will play at least 2 innings per game (includes offense and defense).
- D. Free substitution on defense.
- E. Please have rosters turned into the score booths ten minutes before game time.
- F. Batters **cannot** run on a dropped third strike.
- G. No leading off.
- H. You may steal after the ball passes home plate.
- I. Minors cannot steal home unless played upon. If the catcher throws down to second this does not count as being played upon.
- J. The offensive team will have three outs, or 8 runs, per half inning, whichever comes first. NOTE: any run that crosses home plate before the out is recorded will count. The umpire and the scorekeeper shall be the only ones who will make that designation.
- K. 10-run rule is used after 3 innings. A complete game canceled because of inclement weather will be ruled after 3 innings.
- L. The bat shall be a smooth, rounded article not more than 2 ¼ inches in diameter at the thickest part and not more than 33 inches in length. Batters caught using a bigger bat will be automatically out if they get on base regardless of a hit or a walk. \*\* EXCEPTION Players will be allowed to use big barrel bats only if they have the USA Stamp on them!!
- M. No metal spikes or metal cleats are allowed on the playing field. Maximum length = ½ inch.
- N. The catcher in regular games and at practices must wear cup-type supporters. Catchers will not be allowed behind the plate without a cup. No exceptions will be made!
- O. The third consecutive batter walked, must come back and hit off the tee. The batter will finish his pitch count. This will also reset the walk count and the next batter will hit off the pitcher. If a pitch hits a batter, it will count toward the three consecutive batters walked count. If the hit batter is the third consecutive walk, he will need to come back and hit off the tee.
- P. Home team will take the third base dugout.

4- Pitching Regulations:

Pitchers are limited to 3 innings per game, with one-day rest between games. After throwing one pitch to a batter, the pitcher shall be considered as having pitched in one inning. Either a starting pitcher withdrawn from the lineup or a pitcher who is withdrawn from the mound but who stays in the game at another position shall be permitted to return to the mound as a pitcher in the same game, unless removed from the mound under penalty.

Notes:

- The withdrawal of an ineligible pitcher after that pitcher is announced, but before a ball is pitched, shall not be considered a violation. Officials are urged to take precautions to prevent protests. When a protest situation is imminent, the potential offender should be notified immediately. Protests need to be made known to a field supervisor within twenty minutes after game time. Anything after the twenty minutes will be disregarded.
- 2. Tournament time; due to the chances of double headers, pitchers are allowed to throw a max of 3 innings in one game or a max of 4 innings in one day if they have two games.
- 3. If a coach goes onto the playing field to talk to any player or players more than once in a half inning, while the same player is pitching, a pitching change shall be made. Exceptions to this rule are in the case of injury, or if time is called by the opposing team or by an umpire.
- 4. Players, managers and coaches shall remain in the dugouts, on the benches or in the prescribed areas throughout the game.
- 5. Umpires shall not permit more than one offensive time out in each inning to allow a manager or coach to talk with a batter.
- 5- Each umpire has the authority to disqualify any player or coach for objecting to decisions or for unsportsmanlike conduct or language, and to remove such disqualified persons from the playing field. Any umpire's decision which involves judgment is final. If there is only one umpire, he shall have complete jurisdiction in administering the rules. If a player or coach is ejected from the game, they will have an automatic one game suspension. The player or coach will not be allowed to be at the ballpark during this suspension or their team will be forced to take a forfeit.
- 6- Sportsmanship is very important! Please inform the parents and players about this before your first game. There will be NO post-season play for this age group. Please encourage parents and players to be good sports. We are all here for the kids and want them have a positive experience. Thank you for volunteering your time and helping us to have such a great league.
  - 7- Any team who has members playing from a city that is involved in this league without that city's permission will automatically be disqualified for league play. Players need to register in the city that they currently live in or get special permission from their director to play with another city. All players must participate in a draft to be eligible for the season. Teams may not sign up as a team and play in our league! Any team who is caught doing this will automatically be disqualified from season play.
- 7- Players may not be added to rosters after the 4<sup>th</sup> regular season game without a director's permission.
- 8- Make-up games will be played for rainouts or other weather-related issues only!