

Where Kids Play Ball



FYBA

Fairfield Youth Baseball Association

Instructional League (6-7 year-old) Rules

BEGINNING OF YEAR GAME RULES

- There shall be no score kept
- No League Standings
- No hit sticks are allowed to be used once your game starts, this includes inside and outside the fence. If you use a hit stick before the game, use it away from other people and players
- All players must wear FYBA issued shirts and hat to play
- No shorts are allowed
- Shirts must be tucked in
- No jewelry
- No rain outs shall be rescheduled unless teams play less than 14 games
- Games shall be 6 innings max with no new inning starting after 1 hour and 15 minutes and a "drop dead" time limit of 1 hour and 30 minutes
- Home team will be listed 1st on the schedule, shall provide game ball, bat 2nd, and use the 1st base dugout
- Visiting team will use 3rd base dugout and bat 1st
- There will be no league umpires
- 1st base coach shall umpire 1st base
- 3rd base coach shall umpire 3rd base
- Pitching coach shall umpire 2nd base and home plate
- Umpires may confer with each other and other teams
- NO ARGUING – teach the players good sportsmanship
- The sling machine will be used and be loaded by a coach. If for some reason the sling machine malfunctions during a game then both teams shall continue the game with a coach pitching. Inform me at once if this happens
- Pitching coach shall load the sling machine and make every attempt not interfere with play.
- If the batted ball hits the sling machine, this will be a dead ball single The coach loading the sling machine will determine this
- Bats shall be 2 ¼ inch barrel, no big barrel bats, no composite bats
- Have the catcher ready to go to speed up game. Assign a coach to help the catcher get ready
- Catcher MUST wear a catcher's mask, chest protector, shin guards and protective cup is highly recommended, he/she may use a catcher's mitt OR fielder's glove
- The fielding positions shall be 4 outfielders and the infield shall consist of a pitcher, catcher, 1st baseman, 2nd baseman, short stop, and 3rd baseman
- Must have 9 players to start a game
- Each player is entitled to be scheduled to play in the infield. All players must play 2 innings of the game in the infield. All players shall have played the infield by the 2nd inning. If the number of players on the team prohibits this, then no later than the 3rd inning. There shall be no exceptions to this rule during the regular season. The line up and defensive positioning is up to the coaching staff
- Follow all regular baseball rules as covered in the Cal Ripken rule book unless otherwise stated in this memo
- NO digging, this will create holes in the field. Players are highly encouraged to pay attention.

- No on deck batter
- 9 batters per inning or 3 out, whichever comes first
- No Walks
- No Bunting
- ALL COACHES must have a background check completed (not paid for by FYBA) and take the concussion awareness course (free online). NO EXCEPTIONS – if the coach is going to be on the field for games and/or practices, he/she MUST have the background check and concussion course completed.
- Fielding team shall provide a coach to back up the catcher and to retrieve passed balls to speed up the game; once ball is in play, he/she must not interfere with play
- Defensive coaches: there shall be a coach backing up the catcher and up to two coaches may be used in the outfield. Once we reach the midseason rule changes, only one may be used and teams MUST be down to no defensive coaches by their last regular season game. The end of year tournament will not allow defensive coaches (other than to back up the catcher)
- No head first slides; this shall be an out, NO exceptions
- Player at pitchers position must be within 5 feet of the rubber before and during the delivery of the pitch and must wear a helmet

BATTERS

- Every batter shall wear a helmet from the time they leave the dugout until they return to the dugout. Any player removing their helmet while on the field (unless inning is over) shall receive 1 warning, if same player does it again, his/her next at bat shall be an out, and every at bat after during that same game (this is for safety)
- Batter shall receive no more than 5 pitches-4swings are an out, even if 4th swing is fouled off. If ball is not put into play on 5th pitch, it is an out, even if fouled off.
- Ball hit over the fence is a home run. A ball that gets stuck or goes through the fence is a ground rule double. If any coach is hit by a thrown ball from an infielder, it is a “dead ball” and runners are entitled to the base they are on or if more than half way, the base they are going to (if open)
- Batting team shall notify fielding team when 9th batter comes to the plate. There shall automatically be 2 outs. Any routine out, such as a caught fly ball or force out at any base shall be the third out. OR, fielding team may make the final out at home plate, ONLY THE CATCHER while in possession of the ball can touch home plate for the 3rd out.

RUNNERS

- May not lead off or steal. One warning shall be given per team, after that, it shall be an out.
- Ball hit into the infield shall be a single if stopped OR touched by an infielder
- Any ball hit into the outfield is a live ball until returned to the infield. An infielder, while in possession of the ball, may then call time out. When time has been called, all runners may advance to the next base if more than ½ way to that base (if it is open). If less than ½ way they must return to the previous base.
- No outfielder may call time out or make a play in the infield. Infielder must be in the infield when asking for time out.
- Any batter or runner may be tagged or forced out while the ball is “live”. All outs shall result in a “dead ball” time out after play is made-same rules apply as infielder calling time out.
- Any over thrown ball at 1st base or 3rd base shall allow all runners to advance 1 base. Even if there are 2 overthrows on the same play, runners may still only advance 1 base. Any ball that goes out of play allows runners to advance to the base they are going to plus one additional base.
- A batter throwing a bat shall result in a warning. If he/she throws that bat again in the same game, it is an out. If the player throws it a 3rd time, he/she shall be removed from the game for safety reasons, and his/her at bat shall be skipped with no out issued for him/her not batting.

RULE CHANGES BEGINNING MID SEASON

Changes shall go into effect – Saturday, May 14^h

- Score will be kept
- Batters will go from 5 pitches to 4; 3 swings is a strike out, even if the 3rd swing is fouled off; no walks; if 4th pitch is fouled off, batter is out; if batter is hit by 4th pitch, he/she is allowed another pitch
- There is no infield fly rule. Infielder must catch ball or stop ball and call time out or make a play on a runner and record an out to stop play
- Teams must be down to one outfield coach. By your last regular season game, no defensive coaches will be permitted, other than to back up the catcher.
- During innings 1-5, you will bat until you get 3 outs or 7 runs, whichever comes first. If a home run is hit that results in more than 7 runs, you still only get credit for 7 runs.
- During the 6th inning, there will be no mercy rule, 3 outs must be recorded.
- Run Rules; 15 runs after 4 innings, 12 runs after 5 innings
- 2 or more outs are able to be made at this point in the season

TOURNAMENTS

- There will be a season ending tournament.
- Seedings are done by me via a blind draw
- It will be a single-elimination format
- Umpires will be provided via volunteers, coaches and/or parents
All players must play but there will be no requirements on defensive positioning

ALL-STARS

- There is no guarantee that there will be all star teams or a tournament at FYBA. We will likely have a four team, round robin format tournament after the conclusion of our season ending league tournament. Managers may be asked at a later date as to who is interested in coaching an all-star team. Details and rules will be available at a later date.

If a player is hurt and can't continue, remove the player from the game, this will not be an out

Rules are subject to change without prior notice. All rule changes will be e-mailed to managers within 24 hours of adoption and implemented immediately.