

UMPIRES STAN-CO RULES

UMPIRES: Before the game begins, the Umpire-in-Chief shall:

- A. Require strict observance of the rules governing team personnel, implements of play and equipment of players.
- B. Require all playing lines to be properly marked with chalk.
- C. At the request of the Coaches; Inspect field for safety, including bases are secured, field is clear of debris or any sharp objects, fence line is secured, weather conditions are safe to play.
- D. Inspect equipment for league compliance; Pony league.
- E. Receive from the home team a sufficient supply of regulation baseballs 1 new 1 used.
- F. Five minutes before game time, the Umpire or Umpires shall proceed to home plate where they shall be met by the managers of the opposing teams, or their representatives, to discuss the ground rules. The umpires are in charge of the playing field and they shall have sole authority to determine when a game shall be called, suspended or resumed on account of weather or the condition of the field. Coaches are in charge of their players, assistants and fans.

If the lineups are not exchanged or announced, a player shall be considered as having entered the game. Whether in the starting lineup or as a substitute:

- A. If a pitcher, when he takes his position on the pitcher's plate.
- B. If a batter, when he takes his place in the batter's box.
- C. If a fielder, when he takes his position usually occupied by a fielder.
- D. If a runner, when he takes the place of a previous runner.

The umpire shall preserve order and prevent spectators from entering the field. Either team may refuse to play until the field is cleared.

The managers of both teams shall agree on the fitness of the field before the game starts. In the event that the managers cannot agree, the Umpire-in-Chief shall make the determination.

The Umpire-in-Chief may declare a game forfeited in favor of the opposing team before play begins if:

- A. The team fails to appear upon the field within 15 minutes of the time the Umpire-in-Chief calls "play," at the time appointed for the game to begin, unless, in the umpire's decision, the delay was unavoidable.
- B. The team fails to field 7 eligible players.

At the time appointed for the game to begin, the Umpire-in-Chief shall order the home team to take the field and the first batter to take his position in the batter's box as soon as the players are in their positions, the Umpire-in-Chief calls "play" and the game begins. The batter must take his position within 30 seconds or the pitcher may deliver a pitch and the umpire shall call that pitch a strike, and every other pitch thrown after that until the batter takes his legal position in the batter's box.

When team players who are on the bench show adverse reaction to an umpire's decision, the umpire shall first give a warning for this action to stop. If the action continues, the umpire may order the offending player off the field. If the umpire cannot detect the offender he may order the bench cleared of all substitutes. Substitute players may be recalled by the manager in order to make substitutions.

If a player who is actively engaged in the game, a manager or a coach is removed from the game by disciplinary action of the umpire, he must leave the field. He may not sit on the bench or in the stands and may not be recalled.

No player shall discolor or damage the ball intentionally by rubbing it with soil, rosin or any foreign substance. The umpire shall first warn the offender. If this practice is not discontinued after a warning, the umpire should order the player to leave the field.

If a pitched or thrown ball strikes an umpire, the ball is alive and in play.

Each umpire is the accredited representative of the league, and as such is entitled to, and shall have the authority to require the full and complete cooperation of all persons directly or indirectly responsible for the preparation for and playing of a game.

The umpire shall have the authority to rule on any situation not covered specifically in the OFFICIAL PLAYING RULES.

Decisions involving an umpire's judgment may not be appealed by a manager or coach.

The manager shall have the right to protest an umpire's decision and seek its reversal on the claim that such decision is in conflict with these rules. No other person has this right. If upon such appeal, and after consultation with an associate umpire, if any, an umpire is convinced that his decision was in conflict with these rules, he shall reverse his decision.

No umpire shall interfere with, criticize or seek to reverse another umpire's decision unless he is called into consultation by the umpire whose decision is being questioned.

There should be at least two umpires at each game, one of whom should be staff umpire. If there is only one umpire at a game, his duties and jurisdiction shall extend to all points of the playing field and to all matters covered by this code, and shall occupy any part of the playing field which, in his opinion, will enable him to discharge his duties.

If there is more than one umpire at a game, one umpire shall be designated the "Umpire-in-Chief" and the others "Field Umpires." The Umpire-in-Chief must be at least 14 years old and Field Umpires must be at least 13 years old.

The duties of the Umpire-in-Chief shall be to:

- A.** Take full charge of and be responsible for the proper conduct of the game.
- B.** Take his position behind the catcher and call and count the balls and strikes.
- C.** Call and declare fair balls and fouls except those commonly called by field umpires.
- D.** Make all decisions on the batter.
- E.** Make all decisions except those commonly reserved for field umpires.
- F.** Decide when a game shall be forfeited.
- G.** Have alternate balls in his possession. Such balls shall be put into play when:
 - 1) A ball has been batted or thrown out of the playing area.
 - 2) A ball has become discolored or unfit for further use.
 - 3) The pitcher requests a different ball.

The duties of the Field Umpire shall be to:

- A.** Take such a position on the field as, in his judgment, is best suited for making possible decisions on the bases.
- B.** Making all decisions on the bases except those specifically reserved to the " Umpire-in-Chief.
- C.** Take equal authority with the Umpire-in-Chief in calling "time," balks, defacement or discoloration of the ball by the pitcher, or use of an illegal pitch.
- D.** Aid the Umpire-in-Chief in every manner in enforcing these rules and in this respect, he is equal in authority to the Umpire-in-Chief in removing from the game a manager, coach or player who violates any of these rules.
 - When the President of the leagues has been informed that a manager or coach was removed from a game, he shall require such a manager or coach to appear before the Rules and Regulations Committee to explain his conduct. The members of the Rules and Regulations Committee shall impose such penalty as they feel is justified.
 - Umpires shall not be changed during a game without the consent of both managers first.
 - Umpires are not allowed to teach or advise players during the game.