



AYBA RULES

9/10U REC

AYBA MISSION:

To provide families with the best baseball experience possible. To accomplish this we focus on skills development, sportsmanship, teamwork, and fun!

AYBA RULES – 9/10U REC (AMERICAN LEAGUE)



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All AYBA recreation league play shall be governed by the current NFHS high school rules, modified by the Alpharetta Youth Baseball Association rules.

CONDUCT & SPORTSMANSHIP

1. It is the Head Coach's responsibility to manage and control their teams and to lead by example. Please look over our **Code of Conduct on our website:**
<https://dt5602vnjxv0c.cloudfront.net/portals/80606/docs/rules/ayba%20code%20of%20conduct.pdf>
2. Inappropriate, obscene, or abusive language or behavior may result in a player, coach, parent, or spectator being ejected from the game/park. This includes arguing with umpires and unsportsmanlike conduct.
3. All umpires and AYBA Board Members have the authority to eject anyone violating the conduct rules.
4. Any player, coach, parent, and/or spectator ejected from a game must leave the field immediately and are not allowed to stay near the field or sit in the stands, but are allowed to wait in the parking lot **out of sight and out of sound.**
 - 4.1 First ejection – Leave game immediately, suspended from participating in the next scheduled game. **If a Player, he/she can stay in dugout for liability reasons. If continues disruption, coach will be ejected.**
 - 4.2 Second ejection – Same as above, but with next 2 scheduled game suspension.
 - 4.3 Third ejection – Suspended for the rest of the season including the tournament.
5. Physical conduct or violence involving a player, coach, parent, and/or spectator before, during or after a scheduled game will result in an automatic ejection from the game if during or before, a one game automatic suspension, and possible suspension from the league.
6. If a player demonstrates actions which are detrimental and or abusive to the team, the player will be suspended from the team immediately and will not participate in any games or practices until the suspension is reviewed by the AYBA Commissioner and AYBA Board.

PLAYING FIELD

1. The pitching distance is 46', measured from the front of the pitching rubber to the back apex of home plate.
2. The base paths are 65' between bases.

EQUIPMENT

1. **For this 9/10u age group, legal bats include all USSSA BPF 1.15 certified bats, USABAT certified bats, and BBCOR certified bats. Metal bats must meet defined standards. Wood bats are allowed. There are no restrictions on bat length, weight, or barrel size on wood bats only.**
2. Male catchers only must be properly equipped with a protective cup.
3. Any player warming up a pitcher in the bullpen in the squatting catcher position must wear a helmet/mask, chest protector, and a protective cup.

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PLAYER SUBSTITUTION

1. You are allowed no more than 1 substitute if you have 8 players and no more than 2 substitutes if you have 7 players to make 9 total players in a regular season or a tournament game. You must have 7 players from your own team to make it an official game. Less than 7 players of your team is a forfeit.
 - 1.1 Substitute players for regular season and tournament games must be registered recreational players from the current season and the same age group.
 - 1.2 Substitute players must play outfield and bat last.
2. No player shall be omitted from the defensive lineup in two (2) innings until everyone on the team has been omitted from the defensive lineup in one inning. No player shall be omitted from the defensive lineup for two (2) consecutive innings. This includes substitute players as well.
3. A player who starts an inning in the defensive lineup shall complete the inning in the defensive lineup, unless prevented from continuing due to illness or injury. Exception: A pitcher may be removed from the game after completing pitching to one batter. A player must remain in the defensive lineup for one full inning to meet conditions of section 2, above.
4. Teams must bat all players in a continuous order. Defensive substitutions are unlimited.
5. A player on the batting lineup that has to leave or is injured or is late to the game and not able to bat in his/her spot is not an automatic out. A player arriving late does not constitute "sitting out" for innings missed.

GAME PLAY

1. The head coach must attend the plate meeting before the game begins. The official start time of the game will be declared at the end of the plate meeting. If an assistant coach attends the plate meeting in place of the head coach, the assistant will become the head coach for the game. Only exception for this rule is if the head coach is attending to an injured player or late due to traffic and the assistant coach must declare this at the plate meeting. Once the head coach arrives, he/she may immediately resume their head coaching duties. Warming up his/her team at the batting cages or in the outfield is not a valid reason.
2. One (1) Head coach is allowed at arms distance outside the dugout. Buckets are not allowed outside the dugout. Any violation of this rule will lead to a possible ejection to any coaches in violation of this rule. Maximum of Two (2) coaches on field for offense as 1st and 3rd base coaches only.
3. The home team is responsible for keeping the official scorebook for the game along with all pitch counts. The visiting team is responsible for keeping the scoreboard.
4. The head coach for the home team must email the official game score to the league representative.
5. Games are 6 innings.
 - 5.1 An official game is defined as 4 complete innings (or 3 ½ innings if home team is ahead) only for weather delays.
 - 5.2 Regular season games may end in a tie.
 - 5.3 Game time limit is one hour forty-five minutes (1:45). Time limit supersedes all others. Note: A new inning begins at the instant that the last out is made in the previous inning.
 - 5.4 Mathematical Elimination – A game shall be called when, a team has been mathematically eliminated from the possibility of at least tying the game in the last regulation inning.
6. Run Limit – An inning is over after the following (3) outs or (6) runs.
7. During tournament play, ties will be broken with each team starting their half of the inning with their last batter from the previous inning on second base and one (1) out.

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OFFENSE

1. Stealing home on the pitch is not allowed. Stealing home on a pitch that passes the catcher or on the catcher's throw back to the pitcher or any other player is allowed.
2. Suicide squeezes are not allowed. Safety squeezes are allowed. A suicide squeeze is defined by the runner breaking hard towards home plate during the pitch. A safety squeeze is defined by a runner being stopped or getting his/her secondary lead and not breaking hard towards home plate until after the ball is bunted. If it determined by an umpire that the runner broke for home plate before the ball was bunted and the intent was a suicide squeeze, the runner will be called out.
3. Slash bunts are not allowed. A batter may not show bunt and then pull the bat back and take a swing. If the umpire determines that the batter did this, the batter will be called out. The batter may show bunt and then pull back to take the pitch, but he/she may not swing.
4. No headfirst slides. A headfirst slide into any base is an illegal slide and the base runner is called out. A runner may dive headfirst if returning to a base.
5. A runner must slide at home if there is a play at the plate. If there is a "play at the plate" it is at the discretion of the home plate umpire. If a runner does not slide or avoid contact and interferes or creates unnecessary contact at home plate, the runner shall be declared out.
6. Going over the top of a fielder (In possession of the ball) who is not lying on the ground, such as hurdling, jumping feet first, and diving is dangerous and therefore, is illegal. The act of obstruction does not negate the runner's responsibility to avoid a fielder legally. The runner will be called out and the team receives a team warning. On the second team violation, the player is ejected.
7. Any runner is out when he/she does not slide or attempt to avoid the fielder who has the ball in the proximity of the base and is waiting to make the tag, or if he/she maliciously runs into a fielder.
8. When there are two (2) outs and the catcher of record is on base, a team may pinch run for the catcher with the player who recorded the last batted out. Catcher of record means they played catcher in the prior inning. If pinched run for, the catcher must be putting equipment on immediately.

DEFENSE

1. Drop third (3rd) strike is not in play.
2. Intentional walks are allowed. The pitcher does not have to throw the pitches. Batter can just take the base.
3. The infield fly rule does apply.

PITCHING

1. When a pitcher is turned in on a lineup card he is the pitcher of record and must face a batter to completion before he can be substituted. Any player who toes the rubber, with ball in hand, with batter in the box and home plate umpire yelling "play ball" will be the pitcher of record for that inning and must face a batter to completion before he can be substituted. If a team player picks up the game ball and stands on the mound without batter in the box or without umpire yelling "play ball" or without having a toe on the rubber that player is not the pitcher of record. All these items have to be in effect for a player to be pitcher of record.

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2. Pitch Counts:

2.1 Pitch count is based on Calendar Day, from Midnight (12:00 AM) to 11:59 PM.

2.2 Pitch count Limits:

- 0 – 29 pitches – no rest, pitcher eligible to pitch next day
 - 30-44 pitches – 1 day rest, Pitches Monday, eligible to pitch Wednesday
 - 45-54 pitches – 2 days rest, Pitches on Monday, eligible to pitch Thursday
 - 55-65 pitches – 3 days rest, Pitches on Monday, eligible to pitch Friday
 - **One day max 65 pitches.** A pitcher that reaches his/her max pitches allowed for the day may continue to pitch to the current batter until the batter is put out or reaches base. A pitcher shall not be permitted to pitch to a new batter once their max pitches per day have been met.
 - All suspended/ makeup games will adhere to the pitch count rules. A pitcher pitching in a suspended/makeup game must follow pitch count rules and status at the time when the game is made up.
 - Pitching rules related to days rest are contiguous from the end of the regular season into the tournament.
3. Any pitcher playing in the same game may return to the mound one time.
 4. A pitcher that hits a second batter in the same inning, an official visit to the mound by the head coach is required. If the pitcher hits a third batter in the same inning a second visit from the head coach is required and the removal of the pitcher from the mound is mandatory.
 5. No balks in 9/10u age group since we have closed bases.
 6. On the 2nd coach mound visit per pitcher in the same inning, the pitcher must be substituted for. There is no limit of mound visit totals per game.
 7. Violating the pitching rules may lead to suspension of head coach.