

## Senior Baseball Division

Rules in this section apply to the senior division (5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grades)

### **Rosters**

- A team will be permitted to play with eight (8) players. If/when a ninth player shows up, they must be placed into the ninth spot in the batting order.
- All players present for the game must play a minimum of three (3) innings in the field all regular season and playoff games
- Teams must bat a lineup of a minimum of 12 batters (or the number of players present if less than 12). When more than 12 players are present for a game, every player must have at least 1 at bat per game.
- Field and batting substitutions can be made freely throughout the game.

### **Length of Play**

- All games will consist of 6 innings of play, unless a run rule is implemented.
- There will be a 5-run limit per inning with the exception of the 6<sup>th</sup> inning, in which a no run limit will be in place.
- When a team is ahead by 12 or more runs after 4 complete innings (3 ½ if home team is winning) the game is considered complete.
- Games are limited to a length of 2 hours with no new inning starting after 1 hour and 45 minutes.

### **Pitching**

- A pitch count will be instituted according to Pitch Smart recommendations and regulations. There will be no inning limit. There will only be a pitch count. Pitch counts will be submitted after each game.
- There will be an 8 warm up pitch count for a new pitcher and a 5 warm up pitch count in between each inning following.
- A player who is removed from pitching to play another position cannot return to pitching in the same game.
- Any pitcher who hits three (3) batters in any inning must be removed from the pitching position
- Unlimited balk warnings. There will be no consequences issued.

### **Batting**

- All players in attendance at a game must bat.
- All players are required to use USA stamped/approved bats or wooden bats only.
- No slap bunts/slashing/fake bunts permitted. 1st offense a warning will be issued, second offense the batter will be out.
- Batters are permitted to run on a dropped third strike when first base is not occupied or there are two outs.
- Infield fly rule will be in effect. The infield fly rule is applicable when there are runners on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> base and there are less than 2 outs.
- If a batter is hit by a pitch the play is called dead and the batter takes first base. If the home plate umpire rules that the batter made no attempt to get out of the way of the ball, the player will not be awarded first base. A ball will be called.

### **Base Running**

- Base stealing is permitted. Stealing is limited to 4 steals per inning only if the base is open. Double/triple steals count as one steal.

- Leading is allowed at any point once the pitcher is on the mound. Players are permitted to dive back into the base headfirst if the pitcher attempts to pick the runner off the base.
- Players are permitted to run on an overthrown ball from a pickoff attempt.
- Advancing on a pass ball or pickoff attempt counts as a steal.
- Any runner failing to return to his base within a reasonable amount of time before the next pitch is made can be called out. There will be one warning given to the manager and the team before a player is called out.
- No headfirst slides permitted. Should a player slide headfirst the baserunner will be called out.
- Players must slide to avoid contact.
- Courtesy runners are permitted for the pitcher or catcher at any time. Courtesy runners can also be used in the case of an injured player.

### **Equipment/Safety**

- All games will be played on 50/70 field (Wag 3)
- All players must wear uniform jersey and hat provided and baseball pants in the color associated with the team which they are on.
- All players are required to wear a batting helmet while batting and on the bases. Helmets are not required to have a face guard.
- All players are required to wear a protective cup and heart guard.
- Any player who is catching must wear a catcher's helmet, chest protector and shin guards in order to catch in a game and in warm-ups.
- All players are required to wear cleats. (No metal cleats)