



# URBANA PARK DISTRICT

## Eastern Illinois Pony League



### 2024 Baseball Rules

#### Responsibilities

1. *Each team will be responsible for preparing and keeping their own field in playing condition.*
2. *Home team will be responsible for providing 2 umpires per game or (minimum 1 patched/"quality experience" umpire to do the plate. Must be 17 years old*
3. *The home team is responsible for keeping the official scorebook. (e\*mail or call in results to Kyle Mills @ [kamills@urbanaparks.org](mailto:kamills@urbanaparks.org) or 255-8601*

IESA Baseball Rules will apply with the following exceptions:

#### Player Age

1. No player may turn 16 years old before **September 1, 2024.**

#### Distances

1. The distance between bases will be 80 feet, and the distance between the pitching rubber and home plate will be 54 feet.

#### Length/Time of Games

1. **Games will consist of seven (7) innings or two (2) hour, whichever comes first. A new inning will not begin after the 2hour limit has expired, even if the score is tied. The home plate umpire will be the official timekeeper. No new inning may start after 10:00 pm (pending field availability), regardless of score, inning, game/weather delay, etc. Most single games will begin between 5:30 and 6:00 pm.**

#### **\*\*Bat Standards**

**SEE ATTACHED IESA BASEBALL BAT STANDARDS**

#### **\*\*Pitching Rules**

**SEE ATTACHED IESA BASEBALL PITCHING LIMITATION RULES**

#### Run Rules

1. There will be a 10 run limit for each team in any inning, except the last. The home plate umpire will notify both teams that it is the final at bat.
2. A game will be considered complete if a team; is 10 or more runs ahead of another team after 5 innings

#### **Ejection and Unsportsmanlike Conduct Rules**

Any manager, coach, or player ejected from a game will receive an automatic 1 game suspension, in effect for the next scheduled game. Any manager, coach, or player ejected twice in the same season will be suspended for the remainder of the season. Managers, coaches, players, or fans will be ejected if:

1. They touch an umpire in a threatening manner, as determined by the umpire.
2. They physically assault another manager, coach, or player.
3. They intentionally collide with another player in order to injure that player.
4. They leave their designated area in a hostile manner.
5. They use foul language.
6. They verbally harass an umpire or display unsportsmanlike conduct.

## Reentry and Substitution Rules

1. A team may not start a game with less than 8 players. Any team unable to field 8 or more players must forfeit the game. Any team fielding only 8 players will not be assessed an out in the 9<sup>th</sup> batting spot.
2. Starting players who have been removed from the line-up may re-enter a game one (1) time. The re-entering player must return to the line-up at the same spot in the batting order from which they were removed.
3. If a player becomes injured or ill, and an eligible substitute is not available, the last player removed from the line-up may be used as a substitute and the team will not be assessed an out.
4. Whenever the number of players fielded by a team is reduced from 9 to 8 (or batted is reduced from 10 to 9) due to an ejection with no available substitutes, that team will be assessed an out when the ejected player is due to bat.

## Courtesy Runners

1. Courtesy runners may be used for the pitcher or catcher.
2. Courtesy runners must be inserted before the next pitch.
3. A courtesy runner may not be a player already in the lineup. If a team has no reserves the courtesy runner can be the last batted out.
4. A courtesy runner is not considered a substitute, and is not listed as being in the lineup.

## Uniforms/Dress

1. Steel spikes are permitted.
2. Shirts must be tucked into pants.
3. Baseball hats must be worn, facing forward.
4. Jewelry and watches may not be worn during a game.
5. Pitchers may not wear a batting glove while pitching.
6. Pitchers may not have anything attached to their glove.
7. Pitchers may not have anything hanging out any pockets.
8. A lighter color shirt may not be worn under a jersey.
9. Shorts will not be allowed.

## Safety

1. **Slide rule:** A runner must slide or may step aside to avoid contact on a tag. The runner can NOT dive or jump over the defensive player.
2. Offensive players must wear helmets anytime they are in the field of play.
3. Any observed lightning will result in an immediate suspension of play. Teams may be asked to wait 20 minutes if the umpire believes the threatening weather conditions may dissipate.
4. The home team has the authority to decide if a field is playable before any game has started. The home team should notify the Urbana Park District by 4:30 pm of condition of field.
5. Once a game has started, the home plate umpire has the authority to decide if a field remains playable.

## Incomplete Games

1. Any games halted after the 4<sup>th</sup> inning (or 3½ innings if the home team is leading) will be considered a complete game. The score at the end of the last complete inning will determine the winning team.
2. Any game halted after the 1<sup>st</sup> complete inning, but before the 4<sup>th</sup> inning (or 3½ innings if the home team is leading) will be resumed from the point in which it was stopped.
3. Any game halted before the 1<sup>st</sup> inning is complete will be replayed in its entirety.
4. Home teams should try and reschedule all rainouts. If both teams make an attempt to reschedule and are not able to find a date the game will not count in your win/loss record and your standing in the league will be reflected by your winning percentage on the number of games you played.

Teams are allowed to bat up to 10 players

15's – Any player who is considered 15

1. Cannot Pitch
2. Cannot Catch

Batting Order based on # of players considered 15. Can't bat back to back unless more than 5.  
May vary on # of batters (9 or 10)

Examples:

Batting 10

If 1 player of age 15 – bat 4 or lower.

If 2 players of age 15 – bat 4,6

If 3 players of age 15 – bat 4,6,8

If 4 players of age 15 – bat 4,6,8,10

If 5 players of age 15 – bat 2,4,6,8,10

Batting 9

No lower than 3

3,5

3,5,7

3,5,7,9

Any player who turns 16 before Sept 1<sup>st</sup> cannot play.

Any player who turns 15 before May 1<sup>st</sup> cannot pitch or catch.

League Commissioner should have all team rosters and birthdates prior to the season, and will send a list of all players for each team who will have restrictions.