



Valley Baseball League Rules – Spring

- Divisions are based upon players ages as of year 2020 league age (As of April 30th, 2020)
Players may play up in age but may not play down.

Length of games: 6 innings, OR, No new inning after 1 hour and 40 minutes.

EXCEPTION: 7U & 8U is 6 innings, OR, No new after 1 hour and 30 minutes

- Mercy Rule in all divisions – 15 runs after 3 innings, 10 runs after 4, 8 runs after 5
- Pitching restrictions are as follows:
 - 7u & 8u – 3 innings per game per pitcher, 4 innings per day per pitcher
 - 9u- 12u – 4 innings per game per pitcher
 - 13u & 14u – Manager’s discretion
- Once a player is removed from the mound, he may not pitch again in that game.
Violations of pitching rules will result in automatic ejection of offending manager and Player.
- In all divisions teams may elect to bat 9 players and/or bat 10 players, with the defensive player being an EH.
 - The EH is considered a defensive player and may switch in and out defensively.
 - Starters may re-enter one time in their original batting spot when batting nine.

Teams may also bat their entire roster.

- Free Substitution applies when the entire roster bats.
- If the team bats its entire roster and has no subs when a starter is injured, then an out is recorded the first time the injured player’s spot comes up.

Teams must have 8 players to start the game.

- Courtesy Runners - Teams may run for their pitcher and catcher at **anytime**.
 - The runner has to be someone not currently in the game, unless
 - If batting entire line up, runner must be last out.
 - Second Courtesy Runner – if no add’l out has been recorded, must use batter prior to last out, except in following:
 - If lineup has turned over, and last out (or batter prior to last out) are on base, at bat, on deck, or in the hole, umpire has discretion.
 - A courtesy runner can only run once per inning.
- No metal cleats in 8u and under. NO METAL CLEATS on PORTABLE MOUNDS.
- All protest will be ruled upon immediately and all decisions are final.

- All managers are responsible for their fans.
- Fake to 3rd and throw to 1st will be called a balk.

BAT RESTRICTIONS - Wood Bats ok for all divisions

8U THROUGH 12U – No size restrictions must have USSSA Stamp, or wood

13u -5, or -3 BBCOR, or wood

14u -3 BBCOR, or wood

7U & 8U DIVISION

Length of games: 6 innings, OR, No new after 1 hour and 30 minutes

- Bunting is NOT allowed
- The infield fly rule is NOT in effect.
- Runs restrictions – 5 Runs for first 4 innings & unlimited in 5th and 6th innings.
- Pitching restrictions are 3 innings per game. 1 pitch is considered an inning. Once a pitcher is removed from mound, he may not return to pitch in that game.
- Balk rules do not apply in 7U OR 8U.
- Batters may not advance to first on dropped third strikes.
- No lead-offs. Players cannot leave base until ball is released from pitchers hand.
- Stealing is allowed. Runners may advance once the ball is released from the pitchers hand, at their own risk. If a player leaves early he is OUT, no warning will be given.
- Stealing home IS allowed.
- To intentionally walk a batter, no pitches are thrown. Coach just needs to inform umpire and point to first base.
- Courtesy runners are allowed for pitcher or catcher at any time.
- It is the base runner's responsibility to avoid contact with fielder in possession of the ball.