

# U12 BASEBALL RULES (Little League)

## 1. GENERAL

- A) **MAXIMUM RUNS THAT CAN BE SCORED** - 6 per inning. If a batter causes the team to score more than six runs from a single hit than those extra runs will count.
- B) Team Rosters shall play with a minimum of 8 players. There is NO maximum. Coaches are encouraged to select sufficient players to fulfill these roster requirements for regular season play.
- C) A Regulation Game will be 6 Innings or 1.5 hours whichever comes first.
- All innings started must be completed (weather permitting)
  - In the event that the game shall be called early (does not constitute a regulation game) due to weather, the game will be declared a draw.
  - In all Finals, the game will be as per a regular season game with the inclusion of extra innings to play for a result.
- D) **Ten Run Rule** - If after four (4) innings, that's three and a half innings if the home team is ahead, one team as a lead of ten (10) runs or more, the team with the least amount of runs scored shall concede the victory to the opponent. If the away team has a lead of ten (10) runs or more then home team must bat to complete the inning.
- E) The on-deck batting position is not permitted in U12 Little League Division.

## 2. PLAYING RULES

### BASE RUNNING

- A) Baserunners may not leave their base until the pitch crosses the front of home plate.
- Penalty:** Should the umpire observe such an infringement, the runner is sent back to the base last legally occupied. If the pitch is hit into fair territory, the infringing runner is ruled out. **All** other plays resulting from that hit shall stand.
- B) Coaches **must not** encourage their players to take extra bases in a "suicide" manner with the intention of enticing an overthrow. This is a breach of the Coaches Code of Conduct and could result in the runner(s) involved being called out, the coach being ejected, or both.
- Penalty:** Should the umpire observe such infringements, on the first infringement the runner(s) shall be called out. On the second and subsequent infringements, the runner(s) shall be called out, the Coach ejected and face tribunal disciplinary actions.
- C) There is no advancing home on a pass ball or wild pitch. Runners are encouraged to score on hit balls.

### PITCHING & CATCHING

- A) There are no balks at the U12 Little League Division.
- B) **For all other Pitching and Catching limits and rules please refer to 'Pitching and Catching' on page 10 & 11.**
- C) There is no dropped third strike in the U12 Little League Division. (i.e. if the catcher drops the third strike the hitter is automatically out)
- D) Pitchers and Catchers may only play those positions for a maximum of nine (9) defensive outs in any game. However, should six (6) or more runs be scored in any one innings, this shall be considered as three (3) defensive outs for that inning.

# U12 BASEBALL RULES (Little League) (Con't)

## **BATTING**

In the event that the count upon a batter in the Under 12's competition reaches ball four, the Soft Pitch/Toss rule will come into effect.

The following shall apply:

- i) The batter begins with one strike.
- ii) The batter cannot bunt.
- iii) The catcher must take up a position in the catcher's box.
- iv) The pitcher must stand at the designated point behind the pitchers plate.
- v) The coach shall deliver a Soft Pitch from the pitching plate (or near).
- vi) If ball four is reached again, the Coach must deliver the Soft Toss from the foul line.

**Note:** The ball must travel at least 15 feet from the home plate. If the ball fails to travel this distance, it shall be called a foul ball.

**Note:** Please see Playing Equipment Rules on page seven (7) for U12 Little League Bat Restrictions.

## **3. COACHING**

- A) In club competition coaches are permitted to wear the **full** team or club uniform including cap, pants and playing top. Minimum dress standard – Team Cap, Team shirt, appropriate shorts and closed shoes.
- B) Open faced shoes of any type, are prohibited.

## **4. SCORERS**

Scorers are responsible for tendering result sheets to the BNR Registrar by Sunday evening. They need to be either scanned or emailed or a photo taken and text message sent. The original copies need to be handed in at the next BNR meeting.

Before the winner is declared, scorebooks may be vetted for any rule anomalies.