

**HUDSON KIWANIS BASEBALL AA (7/8) LEAGUE RULES****A. FIELD DIMENSIONS**

- 1) Base path distance: 50 feet
- 2) Pitcher/Coach shall be 30-40 feet from home plate

**B. GENERAL GAME RULES**

- 1) A regulation game will consist of six (6) innings. No inning shall start more than one (1) hour and fifteen (15) minutes after the scheduled start time of the game.
- 2) A game that is stopped due to weather, darkness or time limit will be considered a completed game if one of the following is true:
  - a. Four (4) innings are complete, and the visiting team is leading, or the game is tied.
  - b. Three and one-half (3-1/2) innings are complete, and the home team is leading.
- 3) If a game is stopped due to weather, darkness or time limit and the requirements for a complete game have not been met, the game shall be suspended at the point at which it was stopped and is to be completed at a later date.
- 4) If a game is tied at the end of regulation or at the end of an extra inning and the one (1) hour, (15) minute time limit has not been reached, an extra inning (or innings) should be played. Any inning that ends after the time limit will be the final inning of the game.
- 5) All games shall be played to the end of regulation as allowed by the time limit, regardless of the score. All innings started before the time limit shall be completed regardless of the score. The following are the only exceptions:
  - a. The home half of the sixth inning shall not be played if the home team has the lead at the beginning of the inning.
  - b. The home half of the sixth inning or any extra innings shall end when and if the home team takes the lead.
- 6) An inning shall consist of three (3) player outs or a total of five (5) runs scored, whichever comes first.
- 7) No player, spectator, manager, coach, or other team designate is allowed behind the backstop at any time during the game. The spectator area shall not be closer than 25 feet from the backstop.
- 8) Each team will field ten (10) players of which four (4) shall play a defensive position in the outfield. The only exception will be if less than ten (10) players are available to start or continue the game. Outfielders must be off the dirt infield. The catcher position must be utilized at all times.
- 9) A minimum of six (6) players on each team is required to begin a game. If a team is unable to field six (6) players within fifteen (15) minutes of the scheduled start time, the other team will be declared the winner, but a game/scrimmage should still be played.

**HUDSON KIWANIS BASEBALL AA (7/8) LEAGUE RULES****C. DEFENSIVE PLAYER RULES**

- 1) The catcher will wear a protective helmet, face mask, throat shield, chest protector, shin protectors, and a catcher's mitt at all times while playing defense.
  - a. Teams must always maintain a player in the catcher position. The only exception is for teams with six or seven players available.
- 2) Each player must play a minimum of four (4) complete innings in the field within the first five innings. The only exceptions are as follows:
  - a. A player becomes injured and must leave the game.
  - b. A game is postponed or ends early due to inclement weather, darkness, or the time allotment expires.
- 3) Players may play the same position no more than two (2) innings in the same game. Each player must play one (1) inning in the outfield and one (1) inning in the infield during the first five (5) innings of each game. Violation of this rule may result in a forfeit. The only exceptions are for teams with six or seven players available:
  - a. Teams with (7) players must position a different player in the outfield each inning.
  - b. Teams with (6) players are not required to position any players in the outfield.
- 4) The player at the pitching position shall not play any closer to home plate than the location of the coach who is pitching.
- 5) Free substitution during a game is allowed, although players must be in a position for one (1) complete inning to comply with rules C2 and C3.

**D. BASE RUNNER RULES**

- 1) Base runners may not be substituted except in the case of an injury. The pinch runner shall be the last possible player that can bat that is not on base for that team.
- 2) If the next catcher is on base with 2 outs, they may be replaced by a pinch runner.
- 3) Runners do not have to slide into any base. Defensive catcher must have the ball in glove in order to block base line, otherwise, the base runner is safe. "bull dogging" is a judgment call by the umpire and the base runner can be ruled out if aggressive contact is made.
- 4) Head-first sliding will not be permitted into any base. A player will be called out if the player head-first slides into a base. However, a base runner is permitted to "dive" back to the base if only within a reasonable short distance.
- 5) A base runner cannot advance except on a hit ball.
- 6) On plays involving balls hit into the outfield, runners will not be permitted to advance beyond the base they are attempting to reach when the ball has been thrown back into the infield and is within the baselines. A ball hit to the outfield is defined as being past the bases and the infielders.
- 7) Base runner(s) will not be able to advance on overthrows at first and/or third base, when the ball goes into foul territory. If the ball remains in fair territory, base runner(s) may advance at their own risk for 1 base.
- 8) There will be no lead offs from any base. If a runner leaves the base before the ball is hit,

**HUDSON KIWANIS BASEBALL AA (7/8) LEAGUE RULES**

he/she will be called out. No intentional stealing is permitted.

- 9) The infield fly rule will not apply.

**E. BATTER RULES**

- 1) All players shall bat in a pre-determined order throughout the game regardless of which innings they play defensively. A player arriving late shall be placed at the bottom of the batting order.
- 2) All players must wear protective head gear while at bat and on the bases.
- 3) On deck batters will not be permitted. Bat boys and bat girls will not be permitted. Only the batter up to bat will be permitted to have a bat in his or her hands.
- 4) All bats and other equipment must be outside the fence surrounding the field of play.
- 5) Thrown bats are not permitted. The first instance in a game for each team is a warning. In all subsequent instances the batter will be ruled out and the ball is dead.
- 6) Each batter will be given a maximum of six (6) pitches.
- 7) The batter will be out if a fair ball has not been hit after the sixth pitch.
- 8) No intentional bunting will be allowed. Although "swung at" hits in fair territory just in front of home plate will be playable.
- 9) Bats will have a maximum length of 33 inches and a maximum barrel diameter of 2-5/8 inches.

**F. UMPIRES**

- 1) The pitcher (offensive coach) will serve as the umpire if no umpire assigned by the league is present.

**G. PITCHING**

- 1) The pitcher (coach) should throw overhand. The pitcher (coach) should call out the pitches, letting the batter and others know when the batter is approaching the sixth (last) pitch. Do not allow batters more than six (6) pitches. This will keep the games moving quickly.
- 2) If a batted ball touches the coach who is pitching (i.e. the coach is hit by the ball) it is a live ball.

**H. MANAGERIAL STAFF**

- 1) The manager is responsible for the conduct of his/her team and its staff. He/she shall also to the best of his/her ability control the conduct of the parents and the spectators on his/her side of the field. The manager shall make every reasonable effort to discourage harassment of the players by the spectators on his/her side of the field.
- 2) The manager must conduct himself/herself in a sportsmanlike manner at all times and should always be an example of good sportsmanship for players and the spectators. Any infraction of these rules of conduct may be reported in writing to the commissioner of the league. The commissioner, if deems necessary, may determine disciplinary measures.
- 3) No manager or any member of his/her staff will appear at any game or practice under the

**HUDSON KIWANIS BASEBALL AA (7/8) LEAGUE RULES**

influence of alcohol. Cigarette smoking is not permitted on the players bench or on the playing field.

- 4) There must be a coach in the bench area at all times. If a fan is used, they must be at least eighteen (18) years of age.
- 5) It is the responsibility of the manager or a coach of the winning team to input the score in the *Crossbar* app on the day that the game occurs. If a game ends in a tie, a coach or manager from each team should report the score the day of the game.
- 6) No coaches from the defensive team are permitted in the field during play. Coaches may help players position themselves prior to the start of the inning and then return to the bench.

**I. HOME TEAM**

- 1) The home team has the first base side dugout/bench.

**J. BASEBALLS**

- 1) Wilson A1228 baseballs only.
- 2) No loose baseballs on the field.
- 3) The pitcher will use only three baseballs as game baseballs to pitch with. Both teams will use the same three baseballs for the game. If there is an umpire at the game the game balls will be administered by the umpire.