

# Rules for Minors Division

Agreed upon by Chili Youth Baseball and Scottsville Baseball

1. Each game will consist of 6 innings. In the event of rain or factors preventing the playing of 6 full innings, 4 complete innings (3½ if the home team is ahead) will constitute an official game.
2. No inning will start after 8:00 pm, except if it is a game being played under the lights. An inning starts the moment the third out is made, completing the preceding inning.
3. Batter **hit by a pitched ball** gets to take first base.
4. Bases will be 60' apart and the pitching rubber will be 46' from home plate.
5. 5 run limit per inning – no limit in the last inning played unless the score gap is 10 runs or more. Coaches can agree to end a game after 4 innings if it is a blowout. The focus should be on player safety and player morale.
6. 3 strikes = an out.
7. There are no BALKS at this level.
8. There are no walks in the Minors Division (regular or intentional). If a pitcher throws 4 balls the coach of the team batting will come in and pitch to their player. The batter will keep the present strike count and either hit the ball in play or strike out.
9. If a coach is pitching due to 4 balls thrown and hits his batter, the batter is NOT awarded first base.
10. Any pitcher who hits 2 batters in one inning must be removed as pitcher and cannot pitch again in that game.  
Note: the batter must make an attempt to get out of the way (at the umpire's discretion).
11. A pitcher removed from the pitching position may not pitch again in that game.
12. Infield fly will NOT be in use.
13. Bunting is NOT allowed. The focus should be on teaching players how to hit the baseball at this level.
14. There is no leading off in this division.
15. Stealing is NOT allowed.
16. There is no must slide rule, so a runner need not slide into a base where there is no play, but runners must try to avoid contact and will be called out if they do not slide or attempt to get around a fielder who has the ball and is waiting to make the tag. The runner will also be called out if they try to interfere with the defense in any way.

17. Each team will field 10 players (4 outfielders) if possible. It is ok to play short, but a team needs a minimum of 8 players for a legal lineup. If a team has less than 8 players on the day of the game, that team will lose the game by forfeit. Teams are still encouraged to play the game for the enjoyment of all players. If a coach knows that they will not be able to field 8 players for an upcoming game, then that coach should attempt to reschedule the game accordingly with the opposing coach and with the approval of the Division Director.
18. Dropped third strike – on a called or missed third strike, the **ball is dead and the batter is out.**
19. Overthrow Rule (Definition and Clarification for understanding)
- An overthrow can only occur at first base or third base.
  - The ball is considered a “live ball” if it is within arm’s reach of the fielder (Umpire discretion)
  - If the field has a fence that goes along the side of the playing field (example Memorial 3, Memorial 5, or Johnson Park), then if the ball hits the fence, it is considered a dead ball.
  - If the field does not have a fence that goes along the side of the playing field (example Davis 4 or Davis 8), then the “imaginary” fence line will be the same plane as the existing dugout fence. The Home Coach playing on this type field will mark the “imaginary” line with Orange Cones. Umpire will use his/her discretion in making live or dead ball calls.
  - ONLY 1 base will be awarded to the runner who is part of the overthrow play unless the awarding of the base causes a force situation for the other runners to move up as well.
  - On a play at Home Plate, should the ball get past the catcher, it will be considered a DEAD BALL. If a runner is on 3<sup>rd</sup> base, he/she will be awarded home and the run will score. No other runners will advance on the play.
20. Teams have one week to reschedule postponed games. If a date cannot be agreed upon, then the original team who postponed takes the loss. Any rescheduling of games needs to include the Division Director. Please be sure that you check with the Division Director for filed availability and coordination of getting an umpire assigned to the game.
21. All players must play both infield and outfield by the end of the 4th inning of every game.
- A coach will be issued a warning after the first complaint about not complying with the position rule.
  - If there is a second complaint, the coach will be suspended for the remainder of the season.
22. Each team is responsible for keeping an accurate score book of each game. This will include game scores, batting stats and pitching stats (including pitch count) for each player on their own team. The coach can assign a parent volunteer, or an assistant coach to keep the scorebook during the game.
23. At the conclusion of each game score keepers from each team must meet and compare scores to ensure proper reporting of each final score.
24. All game scores and player stats must be reported on Sports Engine within 24 hours of the completion of the game.
25. Standings will be kept for each team; they will be used for division seeding in playoffs.