

2019 Hamel Baseball **Minors A Rules**

Little league rules apply except as specifically modified below—learn the rulebook! It is our duty as coaches at this level to teach, adhere to, and respect the rules of play.

1. 5 runs per inning maximum, or 3 outs. However, last inning (both top and bottom) there will be no limit on runs.
2. 6 inning games (maximum, as time allows). If game is tied after 6 innings and you have not reached the 90 minute mark, you can start a 7th inning. However, if time is running short, a complete game can be 4 or 5 innings. Please see Rule 3 below for time-shortened games.
3. Cannot start a new top half of an inning after 90 minutes so long as the last inning is called before the start of the top half of the inning—otherwise, the game goes on to another inning of unlimited runs. Both teams must get at least one offensive half inning of unlimited runs.
4. Stealing is OK after the ball crosses plate (consistent with Little League Rules).
5. Runners can advance on an errant throw from catcher to the pitcher (or any other position) while the ball is live, including from 3rd base to home plate.
6. Little league pitch count rules apply each week. Coaches are expected to log pitch counts, share with opposing coaches, and be prepared to submit them each week to the league coordinator.
7. Runners can advance on passed ball or wild pitch, including from 3rd base to home plate.
8. Continuous “snake” batting order throughout the season with no “reset” midway through. In other words, the player on deck in the prior game will lead off the next game, and the last batter up in a particular game will bat last in the lineup in the next game.
9. No requirement that all players pitch in games. Emphasize practice outside of regular Hamel practices if players want to pitch who cannot demonstrate sufficient control.
10. Little league rules with regard to infield/outfield rotation apply. However, players do not have to rotate through specific infield and outfield positions (i.e. one player can rotate between SS and CF exclusively in the coach's discretion). All players should be given the opportunity to try new positions during practice. Players are not limited to one infield or one outfield position—it is coach's discretion. Players develop better skills when focusing on fewer positions, rather than learning the nuances of all 10 positions.
11. 10 players in the field (4 outfielders).
12. Strong suggestion that after 4 walks in a row, pitcher is pulled.
13. Bunting is allowed, but only in true “bunting” situations.
14. Home team is responsible for pre-game preparation and post-game clean up. Pre-game activities include removal of tarps and setting up the scoreboard. Post-game activities include picking up trash, raking the field, and replacing the tarps.
15. Games at other parks/leagues may have variations to these rules. It should be standard protocol to discuss the rules /variations with the other head coach and umpire before EVERY game.