

MINOR LEAGUE FALL BALL

Rules – 2025 Fall Season

GENERAL

- Pony Baseball and OBR (Official Baseball Rules) apply unless otherwise specified.
- Time limits are no new inn. after 1 hr and 45 mins. Both teams' managers and the umpire will review time limit restrictions prior to the start of the game AND before the start of each inn.
- In the event time limit is reached, finish the inning currently being played (unless the home team is at bat and winning). If the inning cannot be completed by 1 hr and 55 mins (drop dead), the score reverts back to what it was after the last full inning of play. Umpire has discretion to penalize a team for abusing this rule (i.e. making several needless pitching changes, etc.).
- An official game is 4 innings (or 3 ½ if the home team is ahead and batting).
- Mercy rule applies when a team is winning by 10 runs or more after 5 innings of play (or 4 ½ innings if the home team is ahead). No stealing with a team leads by 10 or more runs.
- Each team is responsible for providing one game ball.
- Field dimensions are 46/65. No dropped 3rd strike, no balks and no infield fly rule. 6 run cap per inn. (except the last inning which should be determined by both managers with the ump). No stealing home (brick wall at 3B - can only score on a ball in play, walk or HBP).

ELIGIBILITY

- A minimum of 8 players required to play. Teams must leave a position open if only 8 players are present (i.e., a team is not permitted to borrow a player from the opposing team, but if they do so, the game is a forfeit (can still be played if both teams want to)).
- Courtesy runner for catcher with two outs; no courtesy runner for pitcher. Catcher must then catch the entire following inning unless injured.
- If a player arrives late, he bats last.
- If a player leaves early, his spot in the order is skipped. No out is assessed.
- If a team is unable to field 8 players within 10 minutes of the scheduled starting time, the game is a forfeit except that you can borrow OYA registered players from other OYA Minor div teams. The “borrowed” player cannot pitch and will bat last. Every effort should be made to avoid having the “borrowed” player be an “impact” player (i.e., one of the top players from another team). Again, if you borrow a player from the team you are playing, you forfeit that game (which can still be played if both teams want).

PITCHING

- 2 innings max per game. 6 innings max per week. 1 pitch in an innings counts as a full inning.
- If a pitcher throws 2 innings in a game, he is required to rest at least 1 day (i.e. if you pitch 2 innings on Monday, you are not eligible to pitch again until Wed.. Penalty for violating the pitching limitation rules above is a forfeit. Try not to exceed 65 pitches in an outing.
- No balks but please try to explain what the pitcher is doing wrong so they learn.

OTHER

- Slashing (faking bunt and then swinging away) is not permitted. Penalty is an out.
- No lead offs. You can steal when the ball crosses the plate.
- When the ball is possessed by any infielder within 20' of the pitcher's mound, the play is dead. Any runner not half way to the next base, must return to the previous base (umpire's discretion).
- Scores are due within 24 hours of the completion of each game. The winning managers must post the scores on the OYA website.
- Players must wear a helmet with a full face cage at this level UNLESS they are a travel player and only have a helmet with a C flap, BUT at a minimum, they must have a helmet with a C flap.
- Major league bat restrictions - USA Bat, USSSA, BPF 1.15 or wood. 2 3/4" diameter max.
- The League will not tolerate unsportsmanlike behavior (e.g, coaches yelling or trying to embarrass umpires). When such behavior is sited, an appropriate penalty will be assessed by the Commissioners or the umpire.