

# Rules HYAA 2026 In-House Majors

These rules will govern play in 2026.

## HYAA - Majors

### RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR Majors

The following basic rules and regulations will govern play in the HYAA for 2025. The list of rules and regulations is **NOT** intended to cover all of the playing rules but rather highlight those areas that are referenced most often by the coaches and participants.

#### I. FIELD DIMENSIONS

##### A. The following base lengths shall apply:

Majors – 60.0 feet

##### B. The following pitching distances shall apply:

Majors -46 feet

#### V. EQUIPMENT

**A. Shoes Majors** will use molded cleats or tennis shoes. **NO METAL SPIKES ALLOWED!**

**B. Bats** – The following pertains to the legality of bats in the HYAA

**Majors – Bats must be 2 ¼”, 2 ½”, 2 5/8”, or 2 ¾” barrel diameter with unlimited weight differential and the USA or USSSA stamp.**

**Majors** - Maximum diameter at the thickest part: 2 5/8" or less with a minus 3 weight differential and be BBCOR approved.

**Majors - Wood bats are allowed**

#### II. COACH/PLAYER CONDUCT

**A.** All players, coaches and spectators are to behave in a manner that reflects the positive fun associated with the game of baseball. Unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated including:

- Verbal abuse - Arguing judgment call
- Physical aggression – Profanity
- Tantrum-like acts

**B.** Any player, coach or spectator ejected from a game will also be suspended from their team's next game. Further sanctions may be warranted depending upon the behavior. A

second game disqualification will result in suspension from the remainder of the team's regular season and playoff games.

**C.** Anyone elected for the season is entitled to an appeal. They should submit their appeal in writing to the HYAA Board of Directors. A hearing will be scheduled to include the party involved, their coach, the umpire, the In-House director, and the HYAA Board of Directors.

### **III. UMPIRES**

**A. Majors Teams** It will be the responsibility of HYAA to supply and pay for an umpire for each game. It is also the responsibility of HYAA to determine how much each umpire will be paid.

**B. No judgment call may be protested.** Only rule interpretations are allowed. Protested games will be completed only when the outcome has significant bearing on the final standings.

**C.** While the HYAA hopes to eliminate all "no-shows", we must also have a policy if you do have a "no-show".

If an umpire is not at the field at game time, both managers must agree to one of the following options:

1) Wait for the umpire to show.

2) Start the game with an agreed upon substitute umpire. To avoid conflict between both teams, have one person from each team umpire the game.

### **IV. GENERAL RULES**

**A.** Each team must supply 1 new game ball for each game.

**B.** Home team shall keep the official scorebook.

**C.** Bookkeepers from both the Home Team and Visiting will conference after each ½ inning to compare and books. **This includes Batting order, Score, and Pitch Count.**

**D.** Line markings and bases are the responsibility of the HYAA.

**E.** All players must be in matching uniforms.

**F. Courtesy runners Majors:** The last player to be put out will be allowed to run for the current catcher any time. The player that is running for MUST HAVE CAUGHT THE PREVIOUS INNING AND ALSO CATCH THE NEXT INNING. Exception: A courtesy runner (the last player to be put out) will be allowed for an injured player.

**G. Majors:** A runner occupying 3rd base at the start of a play may only advance to home on a batted ball or an attempted play on the runner on 3rd base. Otherwise, the runner on 3rd may only advance on a batted ball, a bases loaded walk or hit by pitch.

**SLIDING: Players** are never required to slide. If a runner elects to slide, the slide must be legal. A runner is out if he/she does not legally attempt to avoid a fielder in the immediate act of making a play on her/him. Jumping, hurdling, or leaping to avoid a fielder are illegal - unless the fielder is lying on the ground.

**G. There can be a maximum of 4 adults in the dugout during the game.**

## **V. CONTINUOUS BATTING**

**A. Majors** Continuous batting is used in **All** HYAA Majors games.

## **VI. PITCHING RESTRICTIONS**

**A. Majors** A pitcher may pitch a maximum of **50 Pitches per game** and a maximum of **75 Pitches per week.**

**B. PENALTY: The game in which the pitcher went over the pitch count - either per game total or weekly total - is forfeited.**

**C. Definition** - A week consists of Sunday through Saturday.

**D.** Curve balls will **NOT** be allowed.

a. 1<sup>st</sup> offense - Dead ball

b. 2<sup>nd</sup> offense - Dead ball and pitch is called a ball.

c. 3<sup>rd</sup> offense - Pitcher may not pitch for remainder of game.

**E. D. Balks** - No balks can be called, but a fake pitch will be considered a balk resulting in a dead ball and all runners advancing one base.

## **VII. RUNNERS LEAVING A BASE**

**A.** The following rules shall apply:

a. A player may not leave a base until the ball crosses the plate.

b. The batter may **NOT** advance to first base on a dropped third strike. Batter is out

c. **Runners can NOT advance to home from 3rd base on a passed ball or over throwback to the pitcher. They can only advance home on a batted ball, a walk or if directly played upon after a pitch (catcher attempting to pickoff runner at 3<sup>rd</sup> base)**

i. **Scenario – A runner is on 2<sup>nd</sup> base and the batter is walked. The ball gets past the catcher. The runner may attempt to steal 3<sup>rd</sup>. If the catcher makes a play on the runner going to 3<sup>rd</sup>, and overthrows the 3<sup>rd</sup> baseman, the ball is live and in play. The runner may attempt to steal home**

ii. **If the catcher overthrows the pitcher, and the runner is in the process of stealing 3<sup>rd</sup>, the runner **MAY NOT** attempt to steal home. The runner must stay at 3<sup>rd</sup> base.**

## VIII. GAME LENGTH

- A.** Regulation 6-innings. No new inning may begin after **90 Minutes** elapsed from time of first pitch. In certain field situations, a time limit of less than **90 Minute** may be in place due to city ordinance or other special rules. Extra innings will be played when inside the time limit.
- B.** Ties will stand after curfew or darkness. **Do not risk injury due to darkness.** To ensure the playing of the full six innings, hustle between half innings and retrieve all foul balls in a timely manner.
- C.** The 10-run rule will take effect after 3 1/2 innings or 4 complete innings.
- D.** Games called for any reason in mid-inning will revert to the score at the end of the last completed inning.

## IX. STANDINGS

- A.** The HYAA shall keep current standings, and they will be available to the respective coaches on: HYAA website.
- B. Home** coach must report their completed game score. **The Home Team will report the score after confirming with the Visitor Bookkeeper following the game and update score on Sportsengine.**

Bookkeepers will confirm score after each ½ inning and confirm final score.

- C.** The HYAA Baseball League standings are computed by a point system. Each team will receive 3 points for a win, 2 points for a tie and 1 point for a loss. Ties will be broken down by the following procedure:

- 1) Head-to-Head competition
- 2) Best winning percentage (games won divided by games played)
- 3) Runs allowed in games between the tied teams
- 4) Runs Allowed in all games played
- 5) If still tied, a one game playoff will determine the winner

## X. RAIN-OUT PROCEDURES

- A.** HYAA In-House Director will notify coaches as soon as possible when fields are unplayable.
- B.** Games started but stopped due to weather conditions are official after 3 1/2 or 4 innings.