



## Plover Whiting Youth Athletics 8U Baseball League Rules

1. 8U league players will be evaluated and teams will be drafted.
2. Good sportsmanship is expected at all times. Participation and fun are to be stressed and encouraged.
2. No throwing of the bat. A thrown bat results in an immediate out. A reasonable radius will be used to determine this. One team warning will be issued to each team. The batting team's coach is responsible for enforcement of this rule.
3. Base path length will be 60 feet for the 8U league.
4. Scoring

Score will be kept for standing purposes and it will be kept to determine when one-half inning should be considered complete by the batting team.
5. A maximum of 10 team players will play the field on defense, with a pitcher, catcher, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> baseman and shortstop stationed in their regular positions. The remaining defensive players will be positioned evenly in the outfield but no extra infielders may be used.
6. The fielding positions must rotate (at least) every two innings - all the players from the five infield positions moving to the outfield and five players from the outfield assuming infield positions. The only possible exception to this rule would be if the defensive team was playing with less than 10 players. Fielders playing more than 2 innings at infield positions must rotate within the infield. No player may play more than 2 innings at any infield position during the course of a game. During the course of the regular season, every player must be provided a chance to play at every position on defense. If playing with less than 10 players the recommendation is to remove the catcher and fill other positions, but this is up to the coaches discretion.
7. For the 8U league, one-half inning will consist of 3 outs *or* 6 runs scored, whichever occurs first. An out will be determined in the usual manner, including strikeouts after 6 pitchers to the hitter if no contact is made with the ball.
  - a. Hitters get 6 pitches max per at bat. No, excuses for bad pitches or let's give the player one more. We're trying to keep the game moving so please adhere to this rule. Hitters may swing and miss all 6 times. If no contact is made, an out is recorded. Batters will get additional swing if they continue to foul the ball off.
8. On a batted ball, players may advance as many bases as possible until an opposing defensive player controls the ball in the infield dirt.
  - a. Ex: A ball hit to the outfield fence, may result in a triple or homerun
  - b. The runner is allowed one base on an overthrow.

- i. On a play at a base where an out can be made, any overthrow allows the runner to advance up to ONE base (no more)
    1. Ex: There's a play at first base and an overthrow happens, the runner can attempt to go to second. The defensive players may try to get an out at second, but if an additional throw heads to the outfield (i.e. another overthrow is made), the runner is not allowed to advance.
9. The 8U league will use a coach-pitcher the entire season. The coach should be pitching overhand from a distance of 35-42 ft. This covers from the mound at 46' to three steps in front of the mound.
  - a. The batting team's coach or designated adult assistant will pitch to their own team.
10. The coach (or adults) of the team in the field will umpire the bases.
11. Base runners will not be allowed to lead off and there will be no stealing bases.
12. Any runner is out when they do not slide or attempt to avoid contact with a fielder who is attempting to field a batted ball or who has the ball and is waiting to make a tag, or if he maliciously runs into a fielder.
13. The time of the game is one hour. No new inning will start after one hour.
14. 8U league will use hardballs.
15. It is mandatory that each player be accompanied by a parent or adult guardian for the entire game or practice session.
16. Active participation by parents during practice and games is highly encouraged.
17. Players are required to wear their team shirt and hat to each game. Shirts are to be tucked in at all times. A travel hat (Plover or otherwise) is not an approved part of a player's league uniform.
18. Both teams are responsible for putting out and picking up equipment involved in the game. Both teams are responsible to rake and tamp fields and batter boxes.
19. Coaches are responsible for the attitudes and sportsmanship displayed by their teams and should lead by example. No alcohol or tobacco products shall be used on the field or sidelines by the coaches during play.
20. No set of rules can completely cover each or every situation that may occur in a game or during the course of a season. Coaches are expected to meet any unexpected situation that may arise with common sense and mutual cooperation for the good of the players and the program in mind T-ball league is for the players, not the coaches. Please remember this at all times.
21. There will be no metal cleats allowed. Players may wear plastic-rubber cleated shoes.
22. Any time lightning is seen the game shall be terminated. No exceptions.

23. Protective gear such as: hockey style helmet with elongated facemask, chest protector, shin guards, and protective supporter with cup (provided by player) shall be worn by the catchers.
24. In the event any PWYA Coach is ejected from any game at any venue he/she must report the incident to their Over All Coordinator within 24 hours. Failure to do so will result in disciplinary action up to and including termination of coaching privileges.
25. Traveling team rosters may not be changed for any reason without the prior consent of the PWYA Executive Board. This includes the addition of any replacement players needed to field a team. Violation of this policy may result in disciplinary action up to and including termination of coaching privileges.
26. 8U travel teams will be selected from the pool of interested 8 year-old players in the 7/8 league. 7 year-old players may be selected for 8U only if there are not sufficient numbers of 8U players to field a team. Players must attend the tryout unless excused by the Boys Overall Coordinator.
27. 8U will have a post-season tournament bracket to end the season. The bracket will vary based on number of teams within the league.

Reviewed 12/2025 JH  
APPROVED BY BOARD VOTE