

Baseball Rules

Grade 3 (2017)

Stewartville Youth Athletic Association (SYAA)

Team Organization

Each coach will use only players on the roster. If a team does not have enough players, it may borrow players from the other team to make teams even. No Forfeit. Only players currently registered with SYAA are allowed to play.

Use 10 players, with a minimum of 8 players needed to start a game.

Six (6) infielders — P, C, 1B, 2B, 3B, SS

Four (4) outfielders — LF, LCF, RCF, RF.

Playing Conditions

☑ The home team will furnish the game ball.

☑ Pitching

Kid pitch starts at the 3rd grade level

- Any team member may pitch subject to the following rules.
- A pitcher can pitch a maximum of 1 inning per game (one pitch constitutes an inning)
- The defensive coach will serve as behind plate ump. All calls are final.
- A batter is awarded first base if hit by pitch (either by kid pitch or coach pitch)
- A batter may strike out by either kid pitch or coach pitch. Called strikes and swinging strikes.
- The defensive coach will pitch the remainder of an at bat once the batter has 3 balls in the count (e.g. 3-0, 3-1, 3-2). A batter may not walk.
- No Curve Balls or Sliders. Straight fast balls and change ups only.

☑ Players must play at least two full innings in the field. The entire roster will bat in order throughout the game.

☑ Rotate players in the field to be fair and consistent. Rotate batting order throughout the season, so the same child does not bat last every game.

☑ At the start of each play, the pitcher must be on the mound, the infielders on or behind the base paths and the outfielders at least 15' behind base paths.

☑ Coaches serve as umpires. Defensive coach will serve as behind the plate ump.

☑ Offensively, a coach may be at the 1st & 3rd base coach's box. Defensively, a coach may stay on the field for player guidance. The coach may not touch the ball or players in the field.

☑ All players, except the batter and the on-deck batter, are required to remain on the bench at all times.

☑ Teams will be up to bat same number of times.

☑ Games are 1 hour in length, or less, if a full inning can not be completed within the hour timeframe.

☑ 6-runs or 3-outs per team at bat (whichever occurs first).

☑ Official score WILL NOT be kept

Action on Bases

☑ Leading off or stealing is NOT allowed.

☑ A ball thrown back to the pitcher from the catcher (even if overthrown) is considered a dead ball. Base runners cannot advance.

☑ Base runners may advance extra bases on a ball hit to the outfield, but only one extra base on an overthrow.

☒ Overthrows that go out of play entitle the runner to the base that he is going to, plus one more.

☒ Time will be called when an infielder has control of the ball and raised over his head. All runners must stop at the base they were going to, providing they were more than halfway to the next base. If not, they will return to the base they just passed.

☒ In case of injury to a player, play is stopped and runners may not advance.

No infield fly rule will be called.

Action at Bat

3rd Grade: 3 swinging strikes at hittable pitches = out.

No called balls or strikes. No walks. Only swinging strikes at hittable pitches will be called.

A fouled ball is considered a swinging strike, except for final strike.

Batters and base runners must wear protective headgear.

Catcher must wear a facemask, chest protector, and shin guards.

After one warning, throwing the bat will be an out. This is a coach/umpire call.

The batter may not advance on a dropped final strike; batter is out.

No bunting.

SYAA Miscellaneous

☒ Coaches are responsible for team's equipment. Any adjustments please contact a SYAA Board member.

☒ No metal spikes allowed.

☒ Any remarks or comments of a derogatory or abusive nature by a player, fan, or coach for unsportsmanlike conduct will be handled as follows: Umpire shall give the offender a warning. If offense is repeated, the umpire shall order the offender from the field.

☒ In the presence of lightning and/or thunder, games and practices need to be cancelled immediately. In the event of rain or other weather related disturbances during the game, the coaches can call the game after consulting each other as they feel appropriate. If the weather is bad prior to the game, notifications will be sent out via text/email and announcements posted on www.syaamn.org and on our Facebook page.

☒ Hold at least one practice per week. Practices are to be held in Stewartville.

☒ Encourage good sportsmanship and FUN, not just to win.

☒ All disputes will be settled quickly and quietly with the coaches having the final decision. If you have any further questions, please contact a SYAA Board member.

(Revised May 2017)