

Northeast Ohio Youth Baseball League

2019 Farm Supplemental Rules

NeoBaseball.org

Revised 6/16/2018

1. Maximum age for playing on a farm team shall be 8 years old. Any child who is 9 years old before May 1 cannot be on a farm team (April 30th cutoff). NOTE: One 9-yr-old “exception” permitted (the exception player can’t turn 10 prior to July 1st of the current year).
2. Official Game(s):
 - a. All games are 6 innings. Additional full inning(s) shall be played if the sixth inning ends in a tie.
 - b. Mercy Rule: An official game shall be declared if at the end of 5 or more, full innings, the visiting team is ahead by ten or more runs, or if at the end of 4 ½ innings or more the home team is ahead by ten or more runs, the game shall be official and can end.
 - c. No new inning shall start after **2 hours** of gameplay (official start time shall be when umpire declares “play ball”/first pitch).
 - d. There shall be a maximum of 5 runs per inning per team. (NOTE: Unlimited runs shall be available for the final inning at the Farm Tournament only – The regular season scheduled games shall remain 5)
3. Substitution(s):
 - a. All players present for a game must play. (Roster batting - No Matching Rosters).
 - b. All players must play a minimum of two innings in the field. Exception: Player does not have to play two innings if being disciplined, but the opposing coach should be notified prior.
 - c. Each player available for a game will be inserted into the batting order and will bat even though he may not be playing in the field (continuous batting order).
4. Pitching
 - a. The pitching distance shall be 40 feet for the player-pitcher. An 8’ radius circle shall be drawn around the pitching rubber. When pitching, the coach-pitcher shall be required to release an overhand pitch from within the circle (not closer than 32’).
 - b. When there is a coach-pitcher, the player-pitcher must be within the 8’ diameter circle during the pitch.
 - c. Player-pitch shall be no less than 4 innings and coach-pitch shall be no more than 2 innings, which shall be 2 player-pitch, 2 coach-pitch, then 2 player-pitch (Note: Any extra innings past 6 shall be player-pitch only).
 - d. Player-pitchers shall not pitch more than 2 innings per one game, 3 innings per day, and 6 innings per week. (Note: a week shall run Monday through Sunday).
 - e. No Re-entry: Once a player-pitcher is removed from the mound, they can’t re-enter as a pitcher at later innings of the same game (except in the innings when there is a coach-pitcher).
 - f. A pitcher shall be charged with pitching a complete inning if 5 runs are scored before three outs are made. If more than one pitcher is used in an inning, that pitcher who pitched to the greatest number of batters shall be charged with 2/3 of an inning. If no outs are made and 3 pitchers are used, each shall be charged with 1/3 of an inning.
 - g. An age exception player is not permitted to pitch (as player-pitcher).
 - h. Coach-pitcher should not instruct baserunner(s).
 - i. If the coach-pitcher intentionally interferes with the batted ball then the batter is out. If the coach-pitcher unintentionally interferes with the batted ball, it is ruled a dead ball and batter is awarded first base (other runners may advance only if forced).
5. Batting:
 - a. Bats shall be a maximum of 2 ¾ inches barrel, no drop size limit.
 - b. No Bunting off of a coach-pitcher (penalty: a strike shall be called).
 - c. No drop third strike - The batter is out on any third strike from a kid-pitcher, whether the catcher drops the ball or not.
 - d. When a coach-pitcher is used, the batter has a maximum of 5 pitches to hit the ball in fair territory or the batter is out. However, if the batter hits a foul ball on the fifth pitch (and ensuing pitches), the batter shall receive another pitch (can’t

strikeout if foul ball hit on final pitch). The coach-pitch portion is also a 3-strike batter out scenario - providing it is from a foul ball strike and/or swing-and-miss strike (strikes will not be called if the batter doesn't swing during the coach-pitch portion, but a pitch will be counted).

- e. There will be no base on balls from a coach-pitcher.
- f. Foul-tip: Batter is out on third strike from kid-pitcher and the fifth pitch from a coach-pitcher. (NOTE: A "foul-tip" is a foul ball that does not go higher than the batter's shoulders and is caught by the catcher behind the plate).

6. Baserunner(s):

- a. There will be no lead-off/steal of second or third base until the pitched ball has passed home plate. Penalty-If a player leaves early, the ball is dead, the runner is called out and the count does not change on the batter. This is a judgment call by the umpire and cannot be protested.
- b. Runner from third base is only allowed to advance home as a result of a batted ball, forced home by a bases-loaded walk, hits batsmen, or ball out of play.
- c. Any misplayed ball at 1st base shall immediately become dead and no runners may advance further.
- d. Any overthrow by the catcher at second or third base on a runner stealing shall immediately become dead with no further advancement by the runner(s).
- e. No stealing bases during the coach-pitch portion

7. Defensive Player(s):

- a. Ten defensive players with four outfielders is optional. A 10 player defense shall consist of 4 outfielders and a traditional infield with a pitcher and catcher.
- b. A team will be permitted to play a game with 8 players. An out will be declared in the missing player's spot in the lineup.
- c. A catcher and pitcher must be present at all times (even with 8 player defense)

8. Umpire(s):

- a. Portage Umpires Association will do its best to have an umpire for all Farm games. However, if an umpire does not show up for a Farm game, then a coach from each team should umpire when their own team is batting.
- b. The strike zone for Farm shall be from white line to white line of the batter's box and from ankle to chin. Our goal is to have batters hit the ball and not have an excess of walks.

9. Farm games shall be played with the Diamond (DOL-1, DOL-A), Baden (1BBG, 2BBG), or Rawlings (RLLB, ROLB) baseball only.

10. A safety base can be used at 1st, which shall be determined by the home team (the hosting area for tournaments) .

11. End-of-season Tournaments shall be:

- a. Seeded based on points (3 for win, 2 for tie, 1 for loss, and no points awarded for games not played)
- b. A "Consolation" style bracket with the first full round placed

12. Teams shall consist of players from within the community and/or school system. No more than one player per team shall be from another community and/or school system. An authorized player release and disclosure is required prior to roster approval. Any exceptions (multiple player releases from a community when no team is available) must have Executive Board approval. (Unapproved Violation of this rules shall result in one to two year(s) suspensions of coach(es) and/or representative.

13. Coaches, players, parents, spectators, etc. shall be removed and/or shall be banned from future events for up to 1-year by the Executive Board for inappropriate activities (ie. Use of drugs/alcohol at games, use of profanity, unsportsmanlike conduct, etc.)

14. Background screenings/checks and concussion training certificates are required for all managers/coaches. No more than 1 team manager, 3 assistant coaches and 1 person to manage bench per team is permitted.

Max pitch count recommendations per game (2 games per week): 7-8 yrs up to 50 pitches, 9-10 yrs up to 60 pitches, 11-12 yrs up to 70 pitches