



Des Plaines Youth Baseball

Official "AAA" Division Specific Playing Rules
2021 Season

<http://www.desplainesyouthbaseball.com>

AAA - Division Specific Rules:

The League shall consist of 11 and 12 year old players (as of May 1st of the playing year).

Playing Field

Bases = 70 feet

Pitcher's plate = 48 feet

Baseball Bats must meet the requirements below:

Length Maximum = 33 inches

Diameter Maximum = 2-3/4 inches, for 2020

Drop = -12 (Length to Weight)

Wood bats are allowed and **do not require the USA stamp**

All bats are allowed that have a USA Baseball or a USSSA Baseball stamp, or stamped with a BPF 1.15 stamp.

Game Time Limits – Regular Season

No inning can start after 2 hours from the game start time. Game time limit “drop dead” is 2 hours, 15 minutes after the start time.

Run Limits

Run limits will be in effect for this division. No batting team shall score more than 8 runs per inning.

Continuous Batting Order

Teams will bat a continuous lineup and each player will be required to bat in their respective spot in the batting order. It is encouraged that the Batting order be changed significantly at every game during the regular season.

Starting/Playing an Official Game

- Both teams need to have 8 players in order for the game to start. The 8 players can be comprised of rostered players, eligible call-ups, or if the coaches agree, borrowed players from the other team. The coach of the team with 8 or more players is not required to borrow players to the other team.
- **If a team has only 8 players, the missing player must be an outfielder**
- If a team cannot meet the minimum requirement of 8 players through any of the options above the game will be considered a forfeit.
- It is encouraged to come to an agreement between the coaches from the two teams in order to be able to play an official game, but if that is not accomplished the game will be considered a forfeit by the team who is unable to produce a line up consisting of 8 players.
- If neither team can produce a lineup of 8 players, it will be considered a forfeit by both teams.
- An official game cannot be played by a team who has 7 or less players.

- If at any time during the game a team is unable to field a team of at least 8 players (due to ejection, injury, etc) the game will be ended and considered a forfeit.
- If an agreement to play an official game cannot be reached and the game is declared a forfeit, a practice game should be played instead.

Bunting

Bunting is permitted. A batter who shows bunt must either bunt or take the pitch. The batter may not swing or slash bunt the ball. A slash bunt is when a batter squares off to bunt, and then pulls back and swings at the pitch. Any player who attempts a slash bunt is automatically called out, and runners are returned to the bases they occupied before the slash bunt attempt was made.

Suicide Squeeze Bunt

Not permitted.

Safety Squeeze Bunt

Is permitted. The runner on 3rd base may not break for home until the ball is bunted. If the runner on 3rd breaks before the ball is bunted they will automatically be called out.

Dropped Third Strike

In effect on May 18th going forward. From opening day through May 17th the rule does not apply. For instruction the umpire can advise the catcher that a dropped 3rd strike will be called later in the season.

Infield Fly Rule

Is in effect.

Avoid Contact Rule

Is in effect.

Catcher's Speedup Rule is in Effect

If the offensive team's catcher for the next inning is on base with 2 outs, the player who made the previous out will replace the catcher on base.

Headfirst slides

Only permitted when a player is returning to a base after having previously reached that base safely.

There are no warnings issued. A player will be called out for any infraction.

Leadoffs

Are allowed but are limited to 6 feet or 2 steps off the base.

Stealing

Is permitted. However, there is no stealing of any base if the leading team attains an 8 or more run lead. The leading team may not steal again until their lead decreases to less than 8 runs. Runner cannot steal until the ball leaves the pitcher's hand.

Delayed Stealing

Is permitted for 2nd and 3rd base. However, a baserunner may not delay steal home plate.

Runner scoring from 3rd base

A runner at 3rd base, may score on a wild pitch, passed ball, or a pickoff attempt at 3rd base. These situations aren't considered stealing home plate.

AAA: Playing Time Rules

Every rostered player must sit out one inning by 4th inning (if 12 players) or sit once before anyone sits a second time (if less than 12).

All players must play at least two innings in the infield and one in the outfield by the end of the 4th inning. Exception – pitches 3 innings, 4th and 5th inning should be then bench and outfield if required.

No Player can play any one position more than 2 times in 1 game except pitcher which is 3.

Penalty for all above: To be reviewed by board, can result in forfeit

AAA: General Pitching Rules

Pitching Eligibility

Only players rostered on an individual team are eligible to pitch for that specific team.

Maximum per Day Maximum per Week Maximum Innings Consecutive Days

3 Innings Per Day or 75 pitches whichever comes first
6 Innings Per Week

A pitcher who throws 3 innings must have at least a day of rest before they pitch again. A pitcher can't exceed 3 innings over any two consecutive days.

Examples:

Day 1	Day2	Day 3
3 innings	must rest	eligible to pitch 1-3 innings
2 innings	1 inning	may not exceed 2 innings
1 inning	2 innings	1 inning

- A calendar week is from 12:01 am Monday to 11:59 pm (midnight) Sunday.
- A pitcher is charged with the number of innings pitched in the specific calendar day and week in which they are pitched, regardless of whether they are league games or the resumption of a postponed or suspended game.
- A single pitch thrown during an inning is considered an inning pitched.

No Return Rule for Pitchers

A player who has been removed as a pitcher is not allowed to return to pitcher later in the same game regardless if they have met their innings limit for that game or not.

Pitched Ball Restrictions (Breaking Balls)

No breaking balls, including a “curve ball,” “slip pitch” or “slider,” will be allowed. Only the umpire will deem a pitch a breaking ball. 1 warning will be given. On subsequent breaking balls, the pitch will be deemed an illegal pitch.

Penalty:

If there are no runners on base, the penalty is a ball awarded to the batter. If there are runner(s) on base, the penalty is a balk. The ball is dead and all runner(s) advance 1 base.

Intentional Walks

Allowed.

Enforcement of “Hit by Pitch” rule

If pitches from the same pitcher hit opposition batters 2 times in 1 inning, or 3 times in the same game, the offending pitcher is immediately removed from the mound and cannot pitch again in that game.

There will be no “quick pitch.”

The batter will be allowed to get set in the batter’s box, and the pitcher will come to a set position before he pitches the ball.

Balks

The balk rules will be enforced after 1 umpire warning at the starting May 18. This includes all Playoff and Championship games. There will be 1 warning per pitcher. Three obvious ways to balk are:

- 1) Pitcher drops the ball while in contact with the rubber.
- 2) While in the stretch, the pitcher fails to come to a complete stop before delivering the pitch.
- 3) If the pitcher’s first move is to 1st base or home plate and the pitcher fails to throw the ball.

Penalty: If there are no runners on base, the penalty is a ball awarded to the batter. If there are runner(s) on base, the ball is dead and all runner(s) advance one base.