

Lucas Fulton Henry Wood House League
It's for the Kids
12U Division
2022

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I. Overview

Major League Baseball intended for 11 and 12 year olds. All coaches, parents, spectators, and athletes are encouraged to focus on the skills and sportsmanship of the game and minimize the negative aspects of competition. The attitude and behavior of the coaches and parents are most of what the kids will take with them to the next level!!!

II. Safety

Safety is of primary concern for everyone associated with organized sports. In addition to the following specific safety related rules, the safety component of any action should prevail when discussing and ruling on any activity in question.

1. **Throwing Bats:** Throwing bats can pose a serious threat to both players and coaches and will not be tolerated. A player will be warned after their first offense and be removed for the remainder of the game after their second offense. The coaches should ensure that this rule is known by all players prior to each game.
2. **Helmets:** All batters and baserunners must wear a helmet. Any player intentionally removing a helmet while the ball is in play will be called out.
3. **Jewelry:** No jewelry is permitted by any player on the field at any time.
4. **Sportsmanship:** Heckling, profanity, fighting and any unsportsmanlike behavior will not be tolerated by Coaches, Players or Spectators at any time. No one is permitted to stand behind the backstop at any time. One warning may be given and the second violation will be cause for ejection and possible suspension.

III. General Playing Rules

1. **Home team pays umpires in cash.**
2. **Rules:** All technical rules and regulations, not superseded below, follow the guidelines of Babe Ruth Baseball.
3. **Age Limits:** All players must be no older than 12 by May 1st of the current year. Any team playing with an ineligible player will forfeit the game.

4. **Field Dimensions:** The playing field will be a regulation field with the following distances:
Bases 65 Feet
Pitching 50 Feet
5. **Home Team and Rainout:** Home team is responsible for getting and paying umpires. Home team coach is responsible for notifying opposing coach by 5:00pm of any cancellations. Every attempt to make up games should be made.
6. **Balls:** Any 9" 5 oz. rubber center ball can be used. Home team to provide one new and one good used ball.
7. **Bats:** Bats with a USSSA bat stamp can have a barrel size up to 2 1/4. Bats with a USABat stamp can have a barrel size up to 2 5/8. Drop 12 and 10 are allowed.
8. **Cleats:** No metal cleats are allowed. Violations will result in ejection or suspension.
9. **Time Limit:** Game will be 6 innings. If a game is called due to weather darkness it is complete after 4 innings. No new inning will be started after 2 hour time limit. Time up, game tied, is a tied game
10. **Runs per Inning Rule:** A maximum of 5 runs may be scored per inning by the team which is ahead or tied at the beginning of the inning. However, the team which is behind may tie the score then score a maximum of 5 additional runs.
11. **Run Rule: 15 after 3 innings and 10 after 4 innings.**
12. **Protests:** All protests shall follow the procedure outlined in Section 1 of Article XI outlined in the Constitution and By-Laws of the Evergreen, Delta, Swanton, and Liberty Center organizations.
13. **Over Throw:** Ball in play, the runner may continue to advance. Ball out of play, the runner is awarded the base he was going to and an additional base.
14. **Leading Off and Stealing:** *Runners can lead off and steal.*
15. **Base Running:** You may pinch run for the catcher with two outs; use a player not in the game or if you are batting all players then use the player who made the second out. This is not a sub, we are trying to speed up the game.
16. **Contact:** All players should slide to avoid contact at all times. Any intentional contact will result in the player being called out and may be ejected at the umpire's discretion.
17. **Dropped Third Strike Rule:** *This rule is in effect.*

18. **Playing Time/Playing Time:** *Each team will bat its entire roster. If a player is unable to bat due to injury or illness and they will be skipped, that player will not be permitted to re-enter the game. If a team only has 8 batters, an out must be taken for missing 9th batter. Each player must play two innings in the field. Free subs for every position on defense except pitcher.*
19. **Fielding:** Each team will field up to 9 players.
20. **Pitching:** Pitchers may pitch no more than 3innings per game. Innings must be consecutive. One pitch is considered a full inning. In the event of a tie, each pitcher will be allowed to pitch one additional inning. *There is one balk warning per pitcher.*
21. **Warm Up:** Each pitcher is allowed 6 warm up pitches at the start of the game and 3 warm up pitches between each inning.
22. **Personnel:** There will be only two coaches on the field and a manger, scorekeeper and one bat boy on the bench for each team.
23. **Play Night:** Tuesdays and Thursdays
24. **Tournament Play:** No boy, who was not registered at the beginning of the year, may play in any game. This includes league tournament. Only boys from a younger division may be brought up.
25. **Team Roster:** A team roster for each team will be completed on paper and turned in to the commissioner by June 15th. The roster will include name and date of birth.
26. **Have fun, play hard, play fair; It's for the kids.**