

CHURCHVILLE RECREATION COUNCIL

THE "BOYS OF SUMMER" MEN'S (40 & OVER) BASEBALL LEAGUE

2011 RULES & REGULATIONS

(last revised 4/10/2011)

The Churchville Recreation Council Men's (40 & over) Baseball League will play under Major League Baseball's Official Baseball Rules (OBR) along with the local modifications listed below. The Official Baseball Rules (OBR) can be found at:

http://mlb.mlb.com/NASApp/mlb/mlb/official_info/official_rules/foreword.jsp

***** UMPIRES WILL INTERPRET AND ENFORCE ALL RULES. DECISION OF UMPIRES IS FINAL *****

A. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

1. AGE. A player must be forty (40) years of age on or before December 31st of the calendar year in which the season begins. It is the team manager's responsibility to validate that players meet the AGE requirement. Acceptable methods for proof of age include drivers' license, birth certificate, and other government issued identification. **PENALTY:** Loss of all games in which the ineligible player has played.

B. GAMES

1. SCHEDULES. Games will be scheduled by the league. Forfeit time is fifteen (15) minutes after scheduled game time.
2. GAME LENGTH. Games will be seven (7) innings or (9) innings as determined by the schedule. For both, an 'official' game is five (5) innings (or 4 ½ innings if the home team is ahead) at the time the game is called.
3. SLAUGHTER RULE. If, after five (5) innings (4½ innings if the home team is ahead), there is a difference in score of ten (10) or more runs, the losing team has the **option** to concede the game.
4. TIME LIMITS. Games will be immediately terminated after **2 hours and 45 minutes** from the scheduled game start time regardless of inning or score. If this rule terminates an already 'official' game and the home team is winning at the time of termination, then the game is over and the home team wins the game. Otherwise, the score reverts back to the score as of the last complete inning. If this rule terminates a game that is not 'official', the game will be suspended and resumed at a later date; managers should concur on score, inning, etc, before leaving the field. **EXCEPTION:** All playoff/ championship games will be played to their natural end without time limits. Playoff/championship games that are suspended for any reason will be resumed from the point of suspension.
5. MINIMUM PLAYERS.
 - a. The minimum number of players to **start and finish** a game is eight (8). **PENALTY:** If a team cannot field a minimum of eight (8) players for the entire game, they must forfeit the game. A minimum of seven (7) players must be from the team's official roster. **PENALTY:** If a team does not have a minimum of seven (7) players from their official roster, they must forfeit the game.
 - b. If a team meets the above minimums but still has less than nine (9) players (or falls below nine (9) players during the game), they may "borrow" players as follows:
 - i. They may borrow players from the opposing team for defense only. **PENALTY:** using this option requires a one (1) out penalty at the end of the batting order.
 - ii. They may borrow players from any other BSBL team for both offense and defense.
NOTE: A team may use a combination of option (i) and (ii) but whenever option (i) is used, the team will incur the one (1) out penalty at the end of their batting order. Also, borrowed player(s) may not pitch and, if used for offense, must bat at the end of the batting order. Players cannot be borrowed for playoff/championship games.

C. ROSTERS

1. Each team must have a minimum of twelve (12) players on their official team roster.
 2. Team rosters must be submitted to the league commissioner by the start of the first regular season game.
 3. Team rosters will be closed to new players on a pre-determined date to be set by the league each year.
- NOTE: Unregistered (i.e., unpaid) players will cause a forfeit of any game in which they play.

D. UNIFORMS & EQUIPMENT

1. Team uniforms are the responsibility of each team.
2. **Metal spikes may be worn by all players.**
3. Batters and base runners must wear a single earflap (facing pitcher) or double earflap NOCSAE (**or other designated standard**) approved helmet.
4. The league will supply First Aid kits to each team.
5. The league will supply official game balls.
6. Only aluminum baseball bats that comply with BESR or wooden baseball bats that comply with OBR (rule 1.10) are permitted. **PENALTY:** same as OBR for using an illegal bat.

E. OTHER PLAYING RULES

1. PITCHERS. Once a pitcher is removed, he may not pitch again in the same inning.
2. SUBSTITUTE RUNNER. A player who meets any of the following 3 conditions may request a substitute runner **after successfully reaching base**. The substitute runner **must** be the player making the last out unless that player also meets any of these 3 conditions. Then the player making the out before him will be the substitute runner (and so on...)
 - a. The player declared 'lame' prior to the game due to an injury or physical condition, or
 - b. The player injured himself during the game, or
 - c. There are 2 outs in the current inning and the player is designated to catch or pitch in the next inning.

NOTE: A player declared 'lame' prior to the game must remain 'lame' for the entire game.
3. OFFENSE. **All players must bat**. Other than ejection, a player may be removed from the line-up without penalty for any reason (injury, hot date, etc) **but may not return to the game after he is removed**. A player who is removed for ejection will incur a recurring out at that position in the line-up. A player arriving late will be placed at the end of the line-up upon arrival. If a player cannot finish his at-bat, the next batter in the line-up will assume his count.
4. DEFENSE. A player may enter or leave a defensive position at any time except for the pitcher as stated above. All players must play a minimum of two (2) innings in a defensive position throughout the course of a game. However, a player may waive this minimum defensive play rule.
5. TAGS. Fake tags are NOT allowed. **PENALTY:** Player will be ejected from the game.
6. SAFETY RULE. Base runners must attempt to avoid unnecessary, dangerous contact with defensive players. **PENALTY:** If contact is made, *and to the judgment of the umpire was intentional*, the base runner will be called out and ejected from the game.