



2025 Rec Baseball League Rules

Grades are as of Fall 2025 or the 2025-26 academic year

	Grades 4-5	Grades 6-7	Grades 8-9
Max innings or time limit (no new inn. after time expires, new inn. begins after 3rd out)	6 or 1:30	6 or 1:40	7 or 1:40
Pitching distance	46	50	60' 6"
Base distance	65	70	90
Pitcher removed after 2nd mound visit during same inning to same pitcher	Yes	Yes	Yes
*Max runs per half inning	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Mercy/run rule (20, 15, 12, 10, or 8 runs after 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 innings)	Yes	Yes	Yes
Players on defense	9	9	9
Game ball (2 new/2 used per game, supplied by JC Parks, retrieve foul balls on your side)	High School	High School	High School
Coaches allowed on field for defense (OK for coaches to be just outside the dugout)	No	No	No
Bat the roster & free substitution	Yes	Yes	Yes
Play 9 Bat 9 or Play 9 Bat 10 with free subs	No	No	No
Play 9 with DH for any defensive player	No	No	No
If player does not bat due to injury, sick, or no sub, he is out unless opposing coach waives	Yes	Yes	Yes
**Minimum players to play a game (8 & 9 batter is an out with each flip of the lineup)	7	7	7
Courtesy Runner for Pitcher & Catcher (last batted out)	Yes	Yes	Yes
Score & standings kept (verify with umpire & scorekeepers)	Yes	Yes	Yes
Official game if played 2.5 innings if home team leads or 1 hour	Yes	Yes	Yes
League games end in a tie	Yes	Yes	Yes
Infield fly rule	Yes	Yes	Yes
Lead off base, steal, advance on wild pitch or passed ball	No	Yes	Yes
Dropped 3rd strike rule	No	Yes	Yes
Balks called	1 warning per P	Yes	Yes
Bunting allowed	No	Yes	Yes
Intentional walk (per MLB rules, no pitches, Head Coach just notifies umpire)	Yes	Yes	Yes
Pitch limits (up to Head Coach, recommend Pitch Smart limits set by USA Baseball & MLB)	No	No	No
Metal cleats allowed (except on portable mounds)	No	No	Yes
Mandatory slide rule (but if umpire rules malicious, player is out & ejected for the game)	No	No	No
Bats (must have USSSA 1.15 BPF, USA, BBCOR stamp or wood. No max length-weight ratio)	Yes	Yes	***Yes, but -5

*If the home team cannot win the game, due to the max runs per half inning rule, the game is over. We will not play, or let the home team bat, the last half inning.

**If a team only has 7 players or less, they can borrow from another team in the league, but they must bat last, play the outfield, and wear their original team's jersey & hat.

***Grades 8-9: Must use drop 5 (-5) 1.15 BPF or USA stamped. BBCOR bats are allowed.

No time clock between pitches. No protests. All judgement calls by an umpire and all game outcomes are final.

Fully completed line-up cards shall be given to the opposing Head Coach and to the home plate umpire at the pre-game meeting.

Both teams should keep score and confer with the home plate umpire often, who will keep the official game score card and start time.

If not mentioned in rules above, then Greater Midwest Baseball (GMB) rules, then MLB Rules, will govern play.