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# Corn Belt “B” Ball RULES 2024

## March 17, 2024 Volume 17

2024 Corn Belt "B" Rules  
Volume 17, March 17, 2024  
LITTLE LEAGUE RULES AND BI-LAWS

1. The CORN BELT "B" BASEBALL LEAGUE

A. The Corn Belt "B" Baseball League (CBBBL) shall consist of how every many Division's

The league managers vote on.

B. Any team wishing to enter the league must attend and be approved by a vote of the

league at the annual league meeting in the spring.

C. Each division shall select a Division Director at the league meeting.

D. Each town will have one vote on league matters, no matter how many teams in has.

E. A one hundred and ninety five (\$195.00) dollar annual fee shall be paid by each team

to the league President.

f. League fees must be paid to the League no later than the 1st of May.

G. Any additional fees shall be assessed if and when as they become necessary.

H. All correspondences to the League should be done by email, rockcreekball@aol.com

ONLY Phone in EMERGENCY

I. There are **No Complaints** to be addressed to the League concerning Rules or

Umpires, that should be handled on the Field.

ANY COMPLAINT WILL COST \$50 a complaint.

## 2. LEAGUE RULES

The CBBBL shall be governed by the Official Rules of Major League Baseball and Pony

Baseball Rule book, Little League Rule Book and Corn Belt "A" League and shall be

superseded by specific rules within our own league as described herein.

A. As per Little League Rules, there is no drop third strike in Corn Belt "B" Baseball.

B. There is no Infield Fly rule in effect in Corn Belt Baseball. But teams can not

drop the ball on purpose in an attempt to turn a Double Play. If the Umpire

discretions are that it was on purpose he shall call time and call the batter

out, and all base runners return to their bases.

C. No "Slash Bunt" Rule For safety reasons, a batter is out for illegal action when

he/she fakes a bunt and then takes a full swing. This would eliminate a A-Ball

player from fake bunting and "slap-hitting" the ball.

## 3. SCHEDULES

A. The league shall begin competition whenever a majority thereof decides.

B. Every effort should be made by each division to play as many of their scheduled

games as possible, prior to the League Tournament, to decide the Division

Championship.

C. A minimum of twelve(12) games required to decide a division champ.

D. Game days for 2024 are Tuesday & Fridays, with Saturdays being for rain make ups.

E. Rescheduling

1) The home team shall present the opposing Head Coach with two (2) options for

rescheduling a game within 1 week of the original date.

- 2) If the game is not rescheduled or played within this time frame, the team causing the delay shall forfeit.
- 3) Rescheduling shall only be done in the event of graduation ceremonies or inclement weather, unless both teams decide otherwise.
- 4) In the event of a scheduling dispute, the Corn Belt shall rule on forfeiture.
- 5) If a team fails to appear for a regularly scheduled game shall be recorded as a 2-0 loss in the regular season standings.
- 6) Regular Season games that are cancelled for reasons not approved by these rules, Corn Belt League Representative, or by mutual agreement of the coaches shall be recorded as a 2-0 loss of the cancelling team.
- 7) Regular Season games that cannot be rescheduled (after every attempt by both teams has been made) shall be recorded as a 1-1 tie in the final standings.
- 8) The home team's Coach shall notify the League Office of rescheduled games.

#### 4. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

- A. A player's eligibility is based on the ages nine(9) and ten(10) years old, whose birth date occurs prior to **Sept. 1st**. Younger players may participate at a coach and/or parents' discretion or to complete a team's roster if necessary. Eleven (11) years old will only be eligible for "B" Ball, if the team brings it the leagues attention at the first meeting of the year and each team votes on it. (But can play any position except pitcher). It is recommended they play "A" Ball. Players Whose Birthday falls between Old date of May 1 to New date of Sept. 1, are grandfathered to stay at the level they would have been until 2027.
- B. Boundary lines determining a player's team shall be based on high school district or park district providing the player resides at a permanent address within that area.
- C. Players living within a town's districts or school's area that DOES NOT have a team may participate in an adjacent town's program provided-
  - I) The player(s) have been approved by the three(3) league officers
  - II) And also by a majority of the coaches within the division.
- D. No player may be rostered on more than one "B" Ball team and be eligible to participate in the Corn Belt Baseball - with the exception of playing on a little league and farm league team within the same program. You can call up "C"

Players with in your town.

- E. Any team guilty of a roster violation(s) will be subject to forfeiting all games in question.

#### 5. ROSTERS

A. Roster sheets must be completed in full and given to the Division Director

no later than March 15 or ASAP Rosters for 2024 must be emailed to League office

to Be Posted ONLINE for every teams viewing)

- B. Rosters shall be limited to a maximum of twenty(20) players.

C. A MAXIMUM of TWENTY (20) players may be suited in uniform for a game.

- D. Any and all roster changes must be submitted in writing to the Division Director at least one(1)week prior to a player's participation in order to be eligible for play.

E. Need Uniform Numbers, First and Last Name, emailed to [rockcreekbball@aol.com](mailto:rockcreekbball@aol.com) before release of Schedules

#### 6. LINEUPS AND PLAY

- A. A team must field a starting lineup of no less than eight(8) players in order to start the game.

B. A game may continue with eight(8) players with an OUT being recorded whenever

the open spot in the batting order comes up. A game started with eight(8)

players and has no substitutes and a player is ejected during the game, the

game shall end and the offending team will forfeit the game.

- C. The entire roster shall bat in order.(See Rule 6-L)

D. A game will consist of six(6) innings for a complete game unless rule "E" or "F" apply.

E. If in the event a game is called because of rain before six(6) innings are

complete, a four(4) inning game will be a complete game, or 3 1/2 innings

if the home team is winning. Any game rain out before a fourth (4th) inning

is complete the game will be replayed from the beginning. If a game is called

because of darkness before four(4) innings, the game will be suspended and

resumed from that point to complete a full six(6) innings. No new inning will

start after 8:00pm.

F. A team which is ahead by eleven(11) or more runs after four(4) innings of play,

or the home team is leading by eleven(11) or more runs after three and one half

(3 1/2) innings, shall be the winner.

G. There will be a maximum of five(5) runs per inning, at which time the other team

will bat, no matter how many outs there are. In the sixth(6th) inning there is a maximum of ten(10) runs, unless the score is tied, in which case the 5 run rule will be in effect.

**H.** Free substitution for all players is allowed.

**I.** Each Player on the Roster must play at least Two(2) defensive inning.

**J.** Each team will use four (4) outfielders; three(3) if a team has only 9 Players.

**K. Bunting is Allowed.** There is no Fake Bunting, and pulling the bat back to swing

A Batter will be called out if they do so.

**L.** Teams have the option to bat their (15) players or bat as many players as the opposing team have in their line-up & substitute the rest of

the players into the line-up. The Newly enter player must play (2) innings of

Consecutive innings

- 1 ) Any players dressed at the game and not in the batting line-up must be substituted into the line-up for at least (2) innings of defense. (Only if they are not in the batting order)

## 7. PITCHING

**A.** All players may pitch within the guidelines of PONY LEAGUE Baseball as described by the CBBBL, but must use innings limit listed below.

**B.** A pitcher is allowed to pitch in any combination, at total of no more than six

(6) innings, in a one(1) week period with a Maximum of 65 pitches per game,

(if the Pitcher reaches 65 pitches in the middle of an at bat, he can finish

Pitching to that batter) beginning at midnight Sunday. If there is a discrepancy

as to how many pitches between two coaches, you add up each coaches count and

Divide by 2. Each team is allowed Three (3) additional innings for rain outs and

rescheduled games where your team would play 3 games in one week. The additional

three (3)innings must be used in the rain out/make up game ONLY. (Max. 35 pitches)

**C.** A pitcher is considered to have made an appearance after having thrown one(1) pitch.

**D.** A pitcher is considered to have pitched one(1) inning after having thrown his first pitch.

**E.** Violation of Article 7. PITCHING B. shall result in forfeiture of all games

that said pitcher has pitched in the week of the violation.

**F.** A pitcher must be given a minimum of forty-eight(48) hours rest after having

made an appearance, unless he has pitched three(3) innings or less the previous

night, before pitching in the next game.

**G.** The determination of a rest period is based on the starting time of the last

game that the pitcher had pitched in.

**H.** A PITCHER MAY BE REMOVED FROM THE MOUND AND RETURN, PROVIDED HE HAS NOT BEEN

REMOVED FROM THE GAME DEFENSIVELY. (The Pitcher May Re-enter only Once Per Game)

**I.** The pitcher's rubber will be 46 feet from the back tip of home plate to the front

edge of the rubber.

**J.** Nine(9) & ten(10) years olds who pitch in "A" ball cannot pitch in "B" ball.

**K.** There is no rule on removal of pitcher for excessive hitting players with pitches,

it's Coaches discretion of removing the pitcher.

**L.** Strike Zone is from the shoulder to slightly below the knee and 2" inches on

either side of the plate based on the batters upright

Standing position.

#### 8. CBBL BALK RULE

**A.** The CBBL DOES NOT acknowledge a balk rule. However, the pitcher shall be required

to maintain contact with the pitching rubber. All nine(9) fielding players shall

be required to be positioned inside the foul lines when the pitcher begins his

delivery motion.

**B.** Any violation of this rule shall require the umpire to call a ball WITHOUT warning.

#### 9. GAME TIME AND FORFEITS

**A.** All game times for weekday games are 6:00pm((to save daylight both coaches can agree to

start at 5:45pm, some night games start at 8:00pm-

check schedules) A 6:30pm forfeit time shall require a late team to either take

the field or begin batting at 6:30pm (8:30pm for night games)

**B.** This rule should be enforced by the home plate umpire.

**C.** Any game scheduled for Saturday shall start by a mutual agreement between both

coaches.

**D.** There is a 2(two) hour time limit on all games, an inning cannot start after 8pm

An inning starts right after the 3rd out is recorded

#### 10. UMPIRES

**A.** The Home team shall be responsible for providing One(1)umpire. Two (2) is

Suggested. (New 2019)

**B.** The Umpires should be at least Sixteen (16) years old.

Umpires will be 16 years or older unless they have participated in at least two hours of classroom/practical training in an approved Corn Belt training program.

**C.** A Patched umpire must be used for all Playoff games (This is waived in 2024 Due to umpire shortage)

**D.** If the assigned umpire or umpires fail to attend the game, both managers must agree on selection of their replacement.

1. If an agreement cannot be reached by the managers acting responsibly, they are both to report by phone or in person to the league office. League office will decide if the game should be rescheduled. If the game is played, it is final.

2. Game may begin with only 1 umpire present, both teams can agree on a Base Umpire, before the game begins. Once the game is played the game is final.

## 11. BALLS

**A.** Home team is responsible for providing two(2) (minimum) new leather little league baseballs.

**B.** Additional balls must be made available and provided as the home plate umpire deems necessary, in order to keep the game moving and to ensure the safety of the players.

## 12. EQUIPMENT

**A.** All umpires shall be required to enforce ALL PONY LEAGUE RULES regarding equipment.

**B.** Catchers should be properly protected with a complete set of certified regulation gear (including a throat protector, helmet, facemask, chest protector, shin guards, and protective cup)

**C.** The bat shall be no longer than thirty-two(32) inches in length and the barrel shall be no bigger than two and 5/8 (2 5/8) inches in circumference. (New 2019)

## 13. PROTESTS

**A.** In the event of a protest, the game must be protested at the time of the play or call-in question.

**B.** The protest must be confirmed at that time and done so in writing and submitted to the league President within twenty-four(24) hours as described in the PONY BASEBALL RULEBOOK. Protest should be emailed to [rockcreekball@aol.com](mailto:rockcreekball@aol.com) There is a \$50.00 protest fee, that will be returned if the protest is upheld. You will



forfeit the protest fee if your protest is Denied.

C. A league protest committee does have the authority to declare the game a forfeit.

#### 14. GAME RECORDS

A. The results from each game and pitcher's innings pitched must be submitted to

[facebook page](#) within 48 hours after the game. (NEW FOR 2011)

Or emailed to [rockcreekball@aol.com](mailto:rockcreekball@aol.com) Highlights

can also be sent, to be included on the highlights page.

Web Site: [www.rockcreekball.com](http://www.rockcreekball.com) for standings.

B. Every team will be responsible for filing a game report. The winning team must

report the game to get credit for the win. Failure to do so will result in the

winning team getting credited with a tie instead of the win.

#### 15. PLAYOFF GAME

A divisional playoff game (if necessary) must be played on the next available

scheduling date, within one(1) week, on a site to be determined by the board.

#### 16. MANAGERS AND COACHES

A. All managers and coaches shall be responsible for the conduct and sportsmanship

of his own players both on and off the field.

B. Coaches other than adults need to wear protective helmets while coaching the bases.

#### 17. BASE RUNNING

A. Bases are 60 feet apart.

B. A runner who leaves the base before the pitch crosses the plate can only advance

one(1) base farther than the batter. If played on and is out the out stands.

However, the runner must return to the base with one(1) warning, next occurrence

removal from base with no out being called.

C. Base stealing is allowed, only after the pitch crosses the plate. A runner can

steal or advance on a pass ball/wild pitch for only one base at a Time, per pitch,

on the base steal attempt the runner is not allowed to advance on an overthrow

(This encourages the catcher to try and throw out the runner)

There is no stealing of Home.

D. Base runners must avoid contact. If contact will be made, the runner must slide.

If the runner fails to slide and avoid contact, he is out. If the shoulder is

dropped and the runner intentionally runs into the fielder, he is automatically out

and ejected.

E. After a pitch not hit and the ball is back in the pitcher's possession, base runners

must return to their base.

F. No advance by a base runner on throwback to the pitcher.

G. **No advancement from 3rd by a base runner on an overthrow at 3rd base.**

This DOES NOT INCLUDE if the ball goes out of play on the overthrow.

When ball is in

control in the infield, there is no advancement by a base runner. If

the base runner

is between bases when the ball becomes controlled, and the runner does not stop he

can continue to the base they were running to and is liable to be tagged out as a

result, but once the runner stops or makes any motion to head back to the base, they

just came from, they must return to that base while the ball is in control on the

infield. Common courtesy and sportsmanship shall apply

**(This is MANDATORY FOR ALL TEAMS TO INFORM THE UMPIRE Before the GAME STARTS THAT**

THERE IS NO ADVANCEMENT FROM THIRD ON ANY OVERTHROW, as long as the ball does not

go out of Play)

#### 18. Lightning/Thunder

A. When thunder is heard or lightning is seen\*, the leading edge of the thunderstorm is

close enough to strike your location with lightning. Suspend play for at least 30

minutes and vacate the outdoor activity to the previously designated safer location

immediately.

B. 30-minute rule. Once play has been suspended, wait at least 30 minutes after the last

thunder is heard or lightning is witnessed\* prior to resuming play.

C. Any subsequent thunder or lightning\* after the beginning of the 30-minute count will

reset the clock and another 30-minute count should begin.

D. When independently validated lightning-detection devices or mobile phone apps are

available, this technology could be used to assist in making a decision to suspend play

if a lightning strike is noted to be within 10 miles of the event location. However, you

should never depend on the reliability of these devices and, thus, hearing thunder or

seeing lightning\* should always take precedence over information from a mobile app or

lightning-detection device.

#### 19. ALL-STAR GAME

A. **2024 All-Star to be determined at later date - June 22 AT Newark**

B. Continuous batting order 3 Players from each team

C. Pitchers can Pitch One inning

- D. Alternate players onto the field
- E. Suggestion of each player can pitch to 1 inning.
- F. No ten-run rule
- G. Game must be 6 innings
- H. Head Coaches will be voted on by other Coaches
- I. Players will receive a Trophy for Participating  
(All Coaches are encouraged to assist the Head Coach)

## 20. END-OF-SEASON-TOURNAMENT

- A. Tournament Qualifiers
  - 1) All teams qualify
    - a) All teams will be seeded by record
    - b) Seeding will be done by the board
    - c) 2024 seeds will be Winning Pct. times games Played, then head-to-head  
then Runs against
    - d) All seeding is Final
- B. Tournament Play 2024 TBD
  - 1) First rounds are played at the high seed, with hometown furnishing umpires
  - 2) Semi-Finals and Finals are played at the high seed, with hometown furnishing umpires
  - 3) 2023 Tournament all games are at the HIGHER seed, and top four must pick up  
Trophies from League President or Leo's Trophies
- C. Tournament Pairings
  - 1) See Bracket
- D. Tournament Pitching
  - 1) Pitchers may pitch a total of six(6) innings in the first week of the tournament
  - 2) Pitchers may pitch a total of six(6) innings the second week of the tournament
  - 3) For 2023 Pitchers may pitch a total of six(6) inning in the first week of the tournament. Play in Game teams are allowed to pitch 9 innings in the 1st week if your team is a play in game.

## 21. AWARDS

- A. Individual trophies will be award to the top 4 finishing teams in the Tournament  
16 per team
- B. All - Star Participants will receive a Trophy/Medal

**Corn Belt  
“A” BALL  
BRONCO  
RULES  
2024**

**March 17, 2024  
Volume 14**

2024 Corn Belt "A" Rules  
Volume 14, March 17 2024  
BRONCO RULES AND BI-LAWS

1. The CORN BELT "A" BASEBALL LEAGUE

- A. Any team from a town not recently been in any level of Corn Belt Baseball wishing to enter the league must attend and be approved by a vote of the league at the annual league meeting in the spring by majority vote.
- B. Each division shall select a Division Director at the league meeting.
- C. A one hundred and ninety five (\$195.00) dollar annual fee shall be paid by each team to the league President/Treasurer. 2024
- D. An additional five(\$5.00) dollar entry fee shall be paid by each new team that is from a new town and has been approved to enter the league.
- E. League fees must be paid to the Secretary/Treasurer no later than the 1st of May.
- F. Any additional fees shall be assessed if and when as they become necessary.
- G. All correspondences to the League should be done by email, rockcreekball@aol.com  
ONLY Phone in EMERGENCY
- H. There are **No Complaints** to be addressed to the League concerning Rules or Umpires, that should be handled on the Field.  
ANY COMPLAINT WILL COST \$50 a complaint.

## 2. LEAGUE RULES

- The CBBL shall be governed by the Official Rules of Major League Baseball and Bronco Rule book and shall be superseded by specific rules within our own league as described herein. ([Bronco Rule Book Click Here](#))
- A. There is drop third strike Now we play Bronco Rules.
- B. Infield Fly rule does apply
- C. No "Slash Bunt" Rule For safety reasons, a batter is out for illegal action when he/she fakes a bunt and then takes a full swing. This would eliminate a A-Ball player from fake bunting and "slap-hitting" the ball.

## 3. SCHEDULES

- A. The league shall begin competition whenever each division or a majority thereof decides.
- B. Every effort should be made by each division to play as many of their scheduled games as possible, prior to the League Tournament, to decide the Division Championship.
- C. A minimum of twelve(12) games required to decide a division champ.
- D. Rescheduling
- 1) The home team shall present the opposing Head Coach with two (2) options for rescheduling a game within 1 week of the original date.
  - 2) If the game is not rescheduled or played within this time frame, the team causing the delay shall forfeit.
  - 3) Rescheduling shall only be done in the event of graduation ceremonies or inclement

weather, unless both teams decide otherwise.

4) In the event of a scheduling dispute, the Corn Belt shall rule on forfeiture.

5) If a team fails to appear for a regularly scheduled game shall be recorded as a 2-0

loss in the regular season standings.

6) Regular Season games that are cancelled for reasons not approved by these rules,

Corn Belt League Representative, or by mutual agreement of the coaches shall be

recorded as a 2-0 loss of the cancelling team.

7) Regular Season games that cannot be rescheduled (after every attempt by both teams

has been made) shall be recorded as a 1-1 tie in the final standings.

8) The home team's Coach shall notify the League Office of rescheduled games.

#### 4. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

A. A player's eligibility is based on the ages eleven(11) and twelve(12) years

old, whose birth date occurs prior to Sept 1st. Younger players may participate at a coaches and/or parents discretion or to complete a team's

roster if necessary. Players Whose Birthday falls between Old date of May 1 to New date

of Sept. 1, are grandfathered to stay at the level they would have been until 2027.

B. Boundary lines determining a players team shall be based on high school district or park district providing the player resides at a permanent address within that area.

C. Players living within a town's districts or school's area that DOES NOT have a team may participate in an adjacent town's program provided-

I) The player(s) have been approved by the three(3) league officers

II) And also by a majority of the coaches within the division.

III) Once the players play for the adjacent town they can continue to play

for that town.

D. No player may be rostered on more than on one (1) "A" Ball Team) and can only play with

the one team and be eligible to participate in the Corn Belt A - with the exception of

playing on a little league and farm league team (farm League Team would mean a

"B" or "C" Ball team) within the same program.

E. If your team does not have enough players, you may pull a player from the level below

(B League). No Sharing of Players from another team of the same level.

F. Any team guilty of a roster violation(s) will be subject to forfeiting all games in question.

## 5. ROSTERS

A. Roster sheets must be completed in full and given to the Division Director

ASAP No Schedules will be handed out until a team's roster is submitted. (Rosters for 2024 must be emailed to League office to Be Posted ONLINE for every teams viewing)

B. Rosters shall be limited to a maximum of twenty(20) players.

C. A MAXIMUM of TWENTY (20) players may be suited in uniform for a game.

I) A maximum of fifteen (15) players to bat in a continuous batting order.

D. Any and all roster changes must be submitted in writing to the Division Director at least one(1)week prior to a player's participation in order to be eligible for play.

E. Need Uniform Numbers, First and Last Name, emailed to [rockcreekbball@aol.com](mailto:rockcreekbball@aol.com) before release of Schedules

## 6. LINEUPS AND PLAY

A. A team must field a starting line up of no less than eight(8) players in

order to start the game.

B. A game may continue with eight(8) players with an OUT being recorded whenever

the open spot in the batting order comes up. A game started with eight(8) players and has no substitutes and a player is ejected during the game, the

game shall end and the offending team will forfeit the game.

C. Each player on a team's roster DOES NOT HAVE TO PLAY defense for a minimum

number of outs. EVERY EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE to play every player however.

Players that arrive late, will be inserted into the batting order in the last position.

D. Each team shall have a continuous batting order consisting of no more than fifteen(15) batters.

1) Teams will have free substitution of the fifteen(15) batters for defense

only. Batting order must remain the same order. Players who show up late are placed last in the batting order, and can bat when their turn arrives.

2) Teams with more than fifteen(15) players can enter the remaining players by the re-entry rule.

3) Teams have the option to bat their fifteen(15) players or bat as many players as the opposing team has in their line-up, and substitute the rest of the players into the line-up.

4) If a player is injured during the game and can not continue to play and there is no substitute, an out will not be recorded in that players spot.

5) If a player is ejected and there are no substitutes, an out will be recorded

E. Teams have the option to bat their (15) players or bat as many players as the opposing team has in their line-up & substitute the rest of the players into the line-up The Newly enter player must play (2) innings of Consecutive innings (see substitution rule)

1 ) Any players dressed at the game and not in the batting line-up must be substituted into the line-up for at least (2) innings of defense. (Only if they are not in the batting order)

F. A game will consist of six(6) innings for a complete game unless rule "H" or "G" apply.

G. If in the event a game is called because of rain before six(6) innings are

complete, a five(5) inning game will be a complete game, or 4 1/2

innings if the home team is winning. Any game rain out before a fifth (5th)

inning is complete the game will be replayed from the beginning. If a game is called

because of darkness before five(5) innings, the game will be suspended and

resumed from that point to complete a full six(6) innings.

H. A team which is ahead by ten(10) or more runs after four(4) innings of play,

or the home team is leading by ten(10) or more runs after three and one half

(3 1/2) innings, shall be the winner.

I. **If a team is up by 15 runs, that team could no longer steal any bases, until**

**the score falls to less than 15 runs, then they could steal again until the**

**score reaches up by 15 again. (New 2019)**

## 7. PITCHING

A. All twelve (12) year old players may pitch within the guidelines of Baseball as

described by the CBBL, but must use innings limit listed below.

B. A pitcher is allowed to pitch in any combination, at total of no more than six

(6) innings, in a one(1) week period, beginning at midnight Sunday.

each pitcher is allowed 6 innings per week, with a limit of 75 pitches per game.

If there is a discrepancy between the two teams on how many pitches a pitcher

has thrown, the two sides would add them together and divide by 2, to get the

number of pitches. If a pitcher hits the 75 pitch mark in the middle of a batter,

he is allowed to finish pitching to the batter. Regular rest rule applies. In



the event of a rain make up game added to the schedule. Each pitcher is given

3 more innings for the week(No More than 40 pitches),

1) A pitcher is allowed to pitch an additional three(3) innings in a one(1)

week period if his team was scheduled three(3) regular season games in

one(1) week.

C. A pitcher is considered to have made an appearance after having thrown one(1) pitch.

D. A pitcher is considered to have pitched one(1) inning after having thrown his first pitch.

E. A pitcher must be given a minimum of forty-eight(48) hours rest after having made an appearance, unless he has pitched three(3) innings or less the previous night, before pitching in the next game.

F. The determination of a rest period is based on the starting time of the last game that the pitcher had pitched in.

G. A special allowance is made for MAKE-UP and RAINED OUT games, in which a pitcher

may pitch an additional three(3) innings a week, provided the pitcher(s) is not

in violation of the required minimum rest period. The additional innings MUST

BE USED in the make-up game.

H. Once a Pitchers is removed from pitching, he cannot return to pitch in the same game.

I. The pitchers rubber will be 50 feet from the back tip of home plate to the front edge of the rubber.

#### 8. CBBL BALK RULE

A. The First Balk will be a warning, and the umpire will tell the offending Pitcher

what they did, wrong. The next balk by the same pitcher will result in a balk

one warning is giving to each pitcher once.

#### 9. GAME TIME AND FORFEITS

A. All game times for weekday games are 6:00pm(some night games start at 8:00pm-

check schedules) A 6:30pm forfeit time shall require a late team to either take

the field or begin batting at 6:30pm (8:30pm for night games)

Games can start at 5:45 if both coaches agree to help save daylight.

B. This rule should be enforced by the home plate umpire.

C. Any game scheduled for Saturday shall start by a mutual agreement between both coaches.

D. Any and all scheduled dates and game times which cannot be played MUST be

rescheduled as soon as possible, by MUTUAL agreement, between the coaches involved.

The specifics of rescheduling MUST be submitted in writing to the Division Director by the home team manager.

E. There is a 2(two) hour time limit on all games, an inning cannot start after 8pm

An inning starts right after the 3rd out is recorded

#### 10. UMPIRES

A. The Home team shall be responsible for providing One umpire, a second umpire is

encouraged but the absence of one in not to delay the game.

B. The Umpires should be at least Sixteen (16) years old.

C. If the assigned umpire or umpires fail to attend the game, both managers must agree on selection of their replacement.

1. If an agreement cannot be reached by the managers acting responsibly, they are both to report by phone or in person to the league office. League office will decide if the game should be rescheduled. If the game is played, it is final.

2. Game may begin with only 1 umpire present, both teams can agree on a Base Umpire, before the game begins. Once the game is played the game is final.

#### 11. BALLS

A. Home team is responsible for providing two(2) (minimum) new leather little league baseballs. MUST BE SENIOR LEAGUE STAMPED OR HIGHEER

B. Additional balls must be made available and provided as the home plate umpire

deems necessary, in order to keep the game moving and to ensure the safety of the players.

#### 12. EQUIPMENT

A. All umpires shall be required to enforce ALL PONY LEAGUE RULES regarding equipment.

B. Catchers should be properly protected with a complete set of certified regulation gear (including a throat protector, helmet, facemask, chest protector, shin guards, and protective cup)

C. Bat Rule

A. All (-3) Bats are legal with 2 5/8" Barrel

\*\* (-3 bats are recommended)

All (-4 to -5) Bats can be up to 33" in Length or under

All (-6 to -9) Bats can be up to 32" in Length or under

All (-10 to -12) Bats must be 28" in Length or Under

All Wood Bats are allowed (but why would you use one?)

All Aluminum Bats with 2 3/4" Barrel Bats are Illegal.

\*\* (Only -3 Bats can be used in High School Play and is why -3 bats are recommended)

D. The Pitching Rubber is 50 feet

E. The Bases will be 70 feet apart

### 13. PROTESTS

A. In the event of a protest, the game must be protested at the time of the play

or call-in question.

B. The protest must be confirmed at that time and done so in writing and submitted

to the league President within twenty-four(24) hours as described in the Bronco

BASEBALL RULEBOOK. Protest should be emailed to [rockcreekball@aol.com](mailto:rockcreekball@aol.com) There is

a \$50.00 protest fee, that will be returned if the protest is upheld. You will

forfeit the protest fee if your protest is Denied.

C. A league protest committee does have the authority to declare the game a forfeit.

### 14. GAME RECORDS

A. The results from each game must be entered on **A League Facebook page** include

score and pitchers used, you can also add highlights and Pictures with in

48 hours of finish of game **A Ball Facebook page**

Web Site: [www.rockcreekball.com](http://www.rockcreekball.com) for standings. A Coach/Parent/Town Representative is

responsible to do this.

B. Every team will be responsible for filing a game report. The winning team must

report the game to get credit for the win. Game must be reported within 48 hours,

Failure to do so will result in the winning team getting credited with a tie instead of the win.

### 15. PLAYOFF GAME

A divisional playoff game (if necessary) must be played on the next available

scheduling date, within one(1) week, on a site to be determined by the board.

### 16. MANAGERS AND COACHES

A. All managers and coaches shall be responsible for the conduct and sportsmanship

of his own players and fans, both on and off the field.

B. Coaches other than adults need to wear protective helmets while coaching the bases.

### 17. BASE RUNNING

A. Base stealing is allowed. (**Steal Line was removed for 2019**) (**New 2019**)

B. Base runners must avoid contact. If contact will be made, the runner must slide.

If the runner fails to slide and avoid contact, he is out. If the shoulder is

dropped and the runner intentionally runs into the fielder, he is automatically out

and ejected.

C. In the event of a runner off base after a pitched ball and the runner makes an

attempt to return to the base they were occupying, they must return to that base

unless a play is made by the defense. No Game Delays

#### 19. Lightning/Thunder

A. When thunder is heard or lightning is seen\*, the leading edge of the thunderstorm is

close enough to strike your location with lightning. Suspend play for at least 30

minutes and vacate the outdoor activity to the previously designated safer location

immediately.

B. 30-minute rule. Once play has been suspended, wait at least 30 minutes after the last

thunder is heard or lightning is witnessed\* prior to resuming play.

C. Any subsequent thunder or lightning\* after the beginning of the 30-minute count will

reset the clock and another 30-minute count should begin.

d. When independently validated lightning-detection devices or mobile phone apps are

available, this technology could be used to assist in making a decision to suspend play

if a lightning strike is noted to be within 10 miles of the event location. However, you

should never depend on the reliability of these devices and, thus, hearing thunder or

seeing lightning\* should always take precedence over information from a mobile app or

lightning-detection device.

#### 20. ALL-STAR GAME

A. **2024 All information below is tentative TBA (June 22, 2024)**

I) Boys should be there in Newark

B. 1 site Newark in 2024

C. usually 3 Players per team chosen by their own coach

D. Continuous batting order

E. Host Town is responsible for umpires

F. Alternate players onto the field

G. 1 inning maximum a player can pitch

H. No ten run rule

I. Game must be 7 innings

J. Head Coaches will be voted on by other Coaches

K. 4 towns per one all-star team (12 players) for maximum players, 1 team will could have 15 players (All Coaches are encourage to assist the Head Coach)

Towns/teams for each all-star team will be determined by the board.

L. Players will receive a Medal for Participating

#### 21. END-OF-SEASON-TOURNAMENT

A. Tournament Qualifiers

1) All teams qualify

a) All teams will be seeded by record

b) Seeding will be done by the board

c) Winning percentage times games played

d) Single elimination tournament

B. Tournament Play 2024 at higher seed

1) Tournament play

C. Tournament Pairings

- 1) See Bracket

D. Tournament Pitching

- 1) Pitchers may pitch a total of six(6) innings in the first week of the tournament
- 2) Pitchers may pitch a total of nine(9) innings the second week of the tournament

No rest period required for pitchers pitching on Friday then Saturday.

22. AWARDS

A. Individual trophies will be award to the top 4 finishing teams in the Tournament

B. All - Star Participants will receive a Trophy/Medal

# **Tri-County Pony League Constitution & By-Laws**

**Volume 28  
March 17, 2024**

**TRI COUNTY PONY LEAGUE  
CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS  
NORTH BRANCH  
VOLUME 28 March 17, 2024**

**ARTICLE 1- Name and Purpose**

- Section 1. Tri-County Pony League
- Section 2. The purpose shall be to promote baseball for youth and teach fundamentals and sportsmanship.
- Section 3. It shall be the policy of this league that no person shall be denied the opportunity to participate due to his family's economic hardships.
- Section 4. All correspondences to the League should be done by email [rockcreekball@aol.com](mailto:rockcreekball@aol.com) ONLY Phone in an EMERGENCY
- Section 5. There are **No Complaints** to be addressed to the League concerning Rules or Umpires, that should be handled on the Field. ANY COMPLAINT WILL COST \$50 a complaint.

**ARTICLE 2- Executive Committee**

- Section 1. The Executive Committee shall consist of (5) five members. This body will be made up of 4) four current officers and the advisor.
- Section 2. The Executive Committee shall conduct general business, fill vacancies, and determine criteria to be discussed at the board meetings.
- Section 3. The Executive Committee shall be responsible annually for presenting a proposed budget and for the approval at board meetings before the playing season begins.

**ARTICLE 3- Officers**

- 1. Officers shall serve as board members and vote on all policies of the league.
- 2. Officers will not vote on any policies concerning their teams.

Section 1. President/Treasurer

- A. The duties shall be to conduct all business at the board meetings and Executive Committee meetings.
- B. The President is Tri County Pony League's representative to the public.
- C. The President is allowed to manage and or coach a team.
- D. The President will vote on all policies of the league.

Section 2. Vice President

- A. The Vice President will assist in conducting all board meetings.
- B. The Vice President will assume all Presidential duties in the event that the President is unable to participate.
- C. The Vice President will be a representative on the Executive Committee in the event the President or an Ex-Officer is unable

to attend.  
D. The Vice President will vote on all policies of the league.

### Section 3. Secretary

A. The Secretary shall record all proceedings of every Board Meeting.  
B. The Secretary shall type notes and make copies to be distributed at the next meeting.  
C. The Secretary shall purchase hats for All-Star game and medals for all participants.  
D. The Secretary will vote on all policies of the league.

### Section 4. Treasurer

A. The Treasurer shall receive all monies and pay all bills upon approval of the board.  
B. The Treasurer shall keep an itemized account of all receipts and disbursements, and present a written report at each meeting of the board.  
C. The Treasurer's book will be audited upon request of the board.  
D. The Treasurer shall buy trophies, medals, certificates or ribbons for All-Star Game and 1st, 2nd, 3rd, & 4th places individuals for end of season tournament.  
E. The Treasurer will vote on all policies of the league.

### Section 5. Advisor

A. The Advisor shall assist by guiding the committee and offering input where needed.  
B. The Advisor shall be called upon to interpret rules on appeals filed with the league.  
C. The Advisor will vote on all policies of the league.

### Section 6. Managers

A. Managers shall assume responsibility for equipment and uniforms. This includes collection of uniforms at the end of the season. The manager shall maintain upkeep of the equipment.  
B. Managers shall not negotiate changing game dates or times with



other managers or umpires without permission of the  
schedule coordinator. Failure to comply will risk forfeiture.  
policies C. Managers shall serve as board members and vote on all  
of the league.

#### Section 7. Umpire/Rule Books

A. The Official Rules of Baseball MLB are the guidelines to  
be followed.  
B. Pony League Baseball Rules shall override where  
applicable. C. 1st use Tri-County Pony League Rules, then USSSA Baseball,  
then MLB.  
D. Any amendments to either of these, passed by the board,  
will overrule the above. (Umpire must be 16 yrs old or older)

#### ARTICLE 4- Meetings

Section 1. Regular board meetings will be announced with at least (1) one  
week

notice on website [www.rockcreeball.com](http://www.rockcreeball.com)

Section 2. Special meetings may be called by the President or by (7)  
seven

board members and another officer.

Section 3. All committees are urged to hold meetings to discuss matters  
that

they need to bring before the board.

#### ARTICLE 5- Quorum

Section 1. Majority by show of hands.

#### ARTICLE 6- Amendments

Section 1. This constitution may be amended at any board meeting by a 3/4  
majority of those present.

#### ARTICLE 7- Revenues & Expenditures

Section 1. Monies used to operate this organization shall come from:

- A. Entry fees (paid by each competing team)
- B. Donations
- C. Fundraiser's
- D. Concessions

Section 2. Individual teams will provide and supply proof of insurance to  
the

league President, along with a map to each teams field.

Section 3. League shall provide trophies, medals, certificates or ribbons as designated from the general fund.

Section 4. A quorum of the board shall be necessary to approve disbursements exceeding twenty-five dollars. (\$25.00)

Section 5. Entry fee of \$195.00 in 2024 is to be paid before the season begins. Fees will be established annually to accommodate for yearly expenditures.

#### ARTICLE 8- Boundaries

Section 1. Eastern boundary shall vary along Rt. 47 only to include the School District of Kaneland.

Section 2. North boundary shall be Rt. 38 to include the School District of Kaneland.

Section 3. Western boundary shall vary from the School District of Earlville and Leland, which will include Malta

Section 4. Southern boundary shall vary along Rt. 52 only to include the entire School Districts of Serena, Sheridan, Newark and Marseilles.

#### ARTICLE 9- League

Section 1. League shall be divided into divisions if:  
(2) A. More than (6) but less than (14) team shall be divided into divisions.  
divided B. If more than (14) teams but less than (20) , shall be into (3) divisions.  
(4) C. If more than (20) but less than (28), shall be divided into divisions.  
a D. The number of divisions can be changed other than stated by majority of the vote before the season starts.  
how many E. For the year 2023, will consist of(1)division Depends on teams

Section 2. Any new town or organization, which wants to enter the Tri County Pony League, shall come to a meeting and ask to join the league.

with  
to

A. There will be a vote of the existing teams at the meeting,  
a majority vote winning.  
B. All new teams must follow the Tri County by-laws and rules  
part of the league.  
C. New towns joining the league shall pay an extra (\$25.00).

**ARTICLE 10- All-Star Game**

Section 1. Site shall rotate between (Next Date) (Last Host Date)

1. Sandwich (2015) (2021) (2022)	9. Lisbon
2. Waterman (2025*) (2016)	10. Earlville
3. Plano (2026*) (2017)	11. Harding
4. Serena (2027*) (2018)	12. Paw Paw
5. Leland (2011) (2019)	13. Sheridan (2000)
6. Somonauk (2011) declined in 2011	14. Shabbona (2004)
7. Newark (2024*)	15. Yorkville
8. Hinckley-Big Rock (2028*)	16.

Marseilles

\*Projected host for that year

Section 2. In the event a team is unable to host a game, the site shall be moved to the next town, with the rotation order remaining the same.

Section 3. Any new towns joining the league:  
A. Would be placed in the last position, which is (17th) position.

Section 4. The game shall be held on the Fourth of July, or a date selected at the first meeting.

A. If weather causes a postponement of the game, it shall be rescheduled on the first Sunday following the Fourth of July.

1. If the 4th of July falls on a Sunday, game shall be played on the following Sunday.

B. In the Year 2024 in Newark June 22, 2024 (Skills and Drills start at TBD pm with game to follow. Expect approximately 4 hours total.)

C. Each team will select 3 players from there team to represent them at the All-Star Game These players' names must be turned into the League Office by June 17th. Divisions subject to change.

D. Head Coaches will be voted on by other Coaches (All Coaches are encouraged to assist the Head Coach)

E. Every player must play at least (3) innings.

1. It's encouraged to pitch only one inning, but No pitcher shall be allowed to pitch more than (2) innings.

2. Pitcher's innings apply to the week's total innings.

Except

for playoff games  
Section 5. The game shall be (7) innings in length.  
A. The game shall be (9) innings in length if there are more  
than (18) players per team.

Section 6. The host town will be responsible for providing:  
A. Umpires (Patched Umpires are preferred)  
B. Field in proper condition.  
C. Advance Public Notice.

#### ARTICLE 11- Schedule

Section 1. Schedule shall be compiled by the schedule coordinator.

Section 2. Schedule should have:  
A. Play in division to play each team twice. Once at home and  
once away.  
B. Out of the division play each team once divided equally  
between home and away.  
C. If (2) divisions, shall play each team once.  
D. In 2024 each team will be scheduled a minimum 14 division  
games (1 division) and will determine the division champ. If 11  
teams in a division you may be scheduled 14 games. (12 Games  
must be played to win Division) (All Division game must be Played  
to be the Division Champion  
E. Teams can select how many more games, if any, they wish to  
play. They will be scheduled against other teams who wish to  
play more games from either division.

Section 3. All scheduled games must be played when scheduled.  
A. Unless prohibited by weather conditions.  
B. Unless permission to re-schedule is granted by schedule  
the coordinator.  
C. Violations will be considered a forfeit and dealt with by  
league office.  
1. If violation repeats, disciplinary action could result.  
D. Rescheduling  
1. The home team shall present the opposing Head Coach  
with two (2) options for rescheduling a game within 1 week of the  
original date.  
2. If the game is not rescheduled or played within this  
time frame, the team causing the delay shall forfeit.

graduation ceremonies  
 otherwise.  
 shall rule on  
 game shall be  
 approved by  
 agreement of the  
 cancelling team.  
 every attempt by  
 tie in the final  
 rescheduled

3. Rescheduling shall only be done in the event of or inclement weather, unless both teams decide
4. In the event of a scheduling dispute, the Corn Belt forfeiture.
5. If a team fails to appear for a regularly scheduled recorded as a 2-0 loss in the regular season standings.
6. Regular Season games that are cancelled for reasons not these rules, Pony League Representative, or by mutual coaches shall be recorded as a 2-0 loss of the
7. Regular Season games that cannot be rescheduled (after both teams has been made) shall be recorded as a 1-1 standings.
8. The home team's Coach shall notify the League Office of games.

Section 4. All evening games shall begin:  
 can start at  
 start an  
 fielding  
 ends  
 official  
 before the  
 the game.  
 begins  
 exceeded,

- A. At 6:00pm unless noted on schedule, if coaches agree game 5:45pm to help save daylight
- B. Some night games are scheduled for 8:00pm start time
  1. 5:45pm games followed by an 8:00pm game should not inning after 8:05pm
  2. Teams that play at 8:00pm please take batting and before your team arrives.
  3. 8:00pm games shall start 10 minutes after 5:45pm game
  4. No inning shall start after 10:00pm on 8:00pm games. The Umpire and each manager should write down the Start time of the game, and the official end time, game begins, so everyone is aware of the ending time of
- C. Saturday and Sunday games are to begin at 10:00am unless otherwise noted.
- D. No inning is allowed to begin after 8:15pm. An inning when the third out of the previous inning is registered.
- E. (2-hour & 15 Minutes limit all games with Double Headers) including Saturday games. 2:15-hour limit not to be

manager  
then  
with runs,  
added  
have time  
suspended  
play stopped.  
position in  
or Higher.  
ball to

- Please hustle in and hustle out no stall tactics - \*(If a goes to the mound for charge conference when there is less 15 minutes left in the time limit and his team is ahead for every trip to the mound will result in 5 minutes being added to the official end time of the game.)\*\* Playoff games limit of 2:30 Hours except the 1st Place Game.  
(No ten rule in Championship Game)
- F. Tie games and Halted games for time limit are considered games. They must be concluded from the point where the play stopped.
  - G. All teams must complete the schedule regardless of standings.
  - H. Home team to supply (2) new official Pony League approved baseballs for the game. Balls must be stamped Pony League or Higher.
  - I. If the game balls are lost, then use the best available ball to be submitted.

#### ARTICLE 12- Team Structure

Section 1. register  
the  
legal  
registered  
governing the  
blind  
team)  
the same  
does

- Each participating town shall have a pool of players who register with their organization. Each organization shall offer open registration to their respected school district, for which organization belongs to. They shall accept and use every registration.
- A. Teams shall divide into(2)or more teams when the players is divisible by(12).
    - 1. Each organization shall use their own rules in division of the teams by either of the following:
      - a) Blind draft
      - b) Regular draft
      - c) Balance of Power (Equalize/parity)
    - 2. Each team shall be as equal as possible (granted in a draft all skilled players could end up on the same team)
      - a) NO HAND PICKED TEAMS
      - b) No team shall hold tryouts and cut players.
    - 3. Returning players from the previous year may stay on team as long as they live in the school district of the organization.
    - 4. Player(s) who live(s) in a town's school district that

not offer Traveling Boys Pony League my participate in  
an adjacent town's program provided that,  
league a) The player(s) has (have) been approved by the  
league. officers.  
they are b) And also by a majority of the coaches within the  
c) If a player is on a High School Baseball roster,  
ineligible for Tri-County Pony League

Section 2. Each team will consist of (20) players maximum to (9)  
minimum.  
continuous A. Program will be allowed to bat (15) players in a  
positions batting order, with free substitution in defensive  
only. Batting order must remain the same.  
1. If a team has more than (15) players, the extra players  
should be substituted into the batting order. (see  
substitution rule)  
2. Teams have the option to bat their (15) players or bat  
as many players as the opposing team has in their line-up  
& substitute the rest of the players into the line-up  
(see substitution rule)  
batting a) Any players dressed at the game and not in the  
at line-up must be substituted into the line-up for  
in least (2) innings of defense. (Only if they are not  
the batting order)

after game B. Minimum number for fielding a team.  
a 1. Team must field at least (7) players by 10 minutes  
be is scheduled to start or umpire shall declare the game  
forfeit in favor of team with enough players to play.  
2. If neither team can field (7) players, both teams will  
charged a loss.  
3. If a team plays with less than (9) players  
when a) Empty spots in the batting order must be declared  
around an turning in the line-up and every time they come  
automatic out is charged.  
game b) If a player arrives late, he is allowed to enter the  
immediately.

Section 3. **ROSTERS** Each team must turn in a roster with First, Last Names  
and uniform

Numbers to League Office ASAP. No Rosters/No Schedules

- participate in
- the game.
1. 14 & under league (12-14 year olds)
  2. Must be no older than 14 as of **Sept. 1st, 2024.**
    - a) Players older than 14 as of **Sept. 1 1st, 2024** are still eligible if they are still in 8th grade.
    - b) Players Whose Birthday falls between Old date of May 1 to New date of Sept. 1, are grandfathered to stay at the level they would have been until 2027
  3. In U.S.S.S.A. Tournaments the age is 14 years old and under
  4. Pony National Tournament has a 13 only and a 14 only tournament.
- notifying the
- to one
- teams
- team
- Team) and can only
- the Tri-County
- would mean a "A" or
- officers
- action.
- will review the incident and could result in disciplinary

#### ARTICLE 13- Equipment

- Section 1. Shall be as outlined in the U.S.S.S.A. Rules and Regulations. We will not be joining any affiliate this year, every team that wants to play in their tournament must register themselves
- Section 2. Noting the following exceptions.
- A. Steel spikes will not be allowed.
    1. If a player is wearing steel spikes, the player is given the opportunity to remove them. If the player refuses, the player shall be barred from the game.
- Section 3. Bat Rule
- A. All (-3) Bats are legal with 2 5/8" Barrel  
**\*\* (-3 bats are recommended)**  
All (-4 to -5) Bats can be up to 33" in Length or under  
All (-6 to -9) Bats can be up to 32" in Length or under  
All (-10 to -12) Bats must be 28" in Length or Under



All Wood Bats are allowed (but why would you use one?)  
All Aluminum Bats with 2 3/4" Barrel Bats are Illegal.  
\*\* (Only -3 Bats can be used in High School Play and is  
bats are recommended)

why -3

Section 4. Pitching Distance/Bases Distance  
A. Pitching Rubber Distance from Back of Home Plate to the  
front  
of Pitching rubber shall be 54 feet  
B. Distance of Bases from the back of Home Plate to the Back  
Corner  
of the base shall be 80 feet

**ARTICLE 14- Pitching**

Section 1. A player may pitch a maximum of (10) innings per calendar  
week.  
A. Calendar week begins at midnight Sunday and ends at  
midnight  
the next Sunday  
B. All innings Pitched for the week count towards each  
pitcher  
including Weekend Tournaments, Practice games and non-  
league  
games.

Section 2. A pitch to one batter will constitute one inning.

Section 3. If a pitcher pitches more than (3) innings then the pitcher  
must  
have (40) hours rest from the start of the previous game.

Section 4. Violation of Article XIV- Section III shall result in  
forfeiture  
of all games that said pitcher has pitched in the week of the  
violation.

Section 5. If a team has 3 scheduled games in one week, each pitcher is  
given  
an additional 4innings.

Section 6. Each Pitcher will be given a warning first, before any balk is  
called on them.

Section 7. Once a Pitcher is removed from the mound, he cannot be inserted  
into Pitch again, in that game.

**ARTICLE 15- Fighting**

Section 1. First offense- shall result in a 2-game suspension.

Section 2. Second offense- shall result in suspension from the league.

**ARTICLE 16- Substitution/Injuries/Slide Rule/Slash Bunt Rule**

Section 1. Tri County Pony League will use free substitution.

A. A player removed for a substitute must remain out of the game for 6 defensive outs.

1. Player may re-enter game at any position but must bat in his original place in the lineup, or at a lower position in the lineup.

a) The only exception being player may not re-enter as a pitcher if the player has already pitched in the game.

b) If there are no eligible substitutes and a player becomes sick or injured, the last player to leave the game shall be placed in the injured player's position.

c) If a player is injured during the game and can not continue to play and there is no substitute, an out will not be recorded in that players spot.

d) If a player is ejected and there are no substitutes, an out will be recorded.

Section 2. Slide rule

A. Base runners must avoid contact. If contact will be made, the runner must slide. If the runner fails to slide and avoid contact, he is out. If the shoulder is dropped and the runner intentionally runs into the fielder, he is automatically out and ejected.

### **Section 3. Slash Bunt Rule**

A. No "Slash Bunt" Rule For safety reasons, a batter is out for illegal action when - he/she fakes a bunt and then takes a full swing. Synopsis: This would eliminate a Pony Division baseball player from fake bunting and "slap-hitting" the ball.

## **ARTICLE 17- Ten Run Rule & Complete Game**

Section 1. Applies after 4 1/2 innings if the home team is leading, or 5 if the visiting team is leading.

A. If at this point one team is leading by 10 runs the game is complete. It may continue if both teams agree, but the outcome

will not change. Any innings pitched will be charged for the pitcher's weekly totals.

B. A game is complete after 5 innings, or 4 1/2 is home team

is

ahead. If games are less than this because of darkness,

rain,

or time limit they will be considered suspended games and must be completed at a later date.

C. A Pony Game consists of 7 innings

#### ARTICLE 18- Lightning/Thunder

Section 1. When thunder is heard or lightning is seen\*, the leading edge of the

thunderstorm is close enough to strike your location with lightning. Suspend

play for at least 30 minutes and vacate the outdoor activity to the previously

designated safer location immediately.

Section 2. 30-minute rule. Once play has been suspended, wait at least 30 minutes after the

Last thunder is heard or lightning is witnessed\* prior to resuming play.

Section 3. Any subsequent thunder or lightning\* after the beginning of the 30-minute count

will reset the clock and another 30-minute count should begin.

Section 4. When independently validated lightning-detection devices or mobile phone apps

are available, this technology could be used to assist in making a decision to

suspend play if a lightning strike is noted to be within 10 miles of the event

location. However, you should never depend on the reliability of these devices

and, thus, hearing thunder or seeing lightning\* should always take precedence

over information from a mobile app or lightning-detection device.

#### ARTICLE 19- Umpires

Section 1. The umpire is governed by the Official Pony League Baseball Rules, with amendments. An Umpires minimum age requirement is 16 yr old.

Section 2. Home team supplies a check to pay the patched umpire.  
A. A second umpire is encouraged but the absence of is not to delay the game.  
B. Each team is responsible of getting a base and a Home Plate ump and paying for it.  
Minimum age is 16 yr. old. Games will not be held up because there is no base ump. If an umpire does not show up, it is the home teams responsibility to find someone to replace him, both coaches must a agree on the replacement.

Section 3. If the assigned umpire or umpires fail to attend the game, both managers must agree on selection of their replacement.  
A. If an agreement cannot be reached by the managers acting responsibly, they are both to report by phone or in person to the league office. League office will decide if the game should be rescheduled. If the game is played, it is final.  
B. Game may begin with only 1 umpire present.

#### **ARTICLE 20- Standings**

Section 1. All teams must report score and pitchers used. Winning team must report score within 48 hours to receive credit for the win. Not doing so will result in winning team being credited with a tie.  
A. Each team is to create a facebook page to post Report of game(s) played. Report can also be emailed to the league office.  
B. Report shall include for each game:  
1. All pitchers used for both teams and number of innings pitched.  
2. Final score.  
3. Winning and losing pitchers.  
C. Coaches who fail to report pitchers used within 48 hours of the finish of the game, will be suspended from coaching the next's team game. (NEW FOR 2009, GOOD FOR 2024)

Section 2. League official is keeping standings and publish semi-monthly in the local paper, by web site. www.rockcreekball.com or www.reapernation.com (Youth baseball)

Section 3. The team with the most wins in the division shall be declared the winner of the division.

A. If the weather forces a postponement, the game must be played at the first available opportunity.

B. 12 games must be played to determine division winner.

C. Play-off site for ties in division leaders to be determined

by:

1. Run differential from previous games.

a) If no difference, a coin flip shall determine the site.

#### ARTICLE 21- Post Season Tournament

Section 1. All teams are included in the tournament.

Section 2. Winning Percentage, Runs Against and Games Played help determine the seeding. Seeding is done by board members.

Section 3. Team with the best winning percentage will be seeded the highest.

A. Teams will be seeded by the league officials.

B. 2024 seeds will be Winning Pct. times games Played

C. Games played before June 27 midnight will be counted in the seeds.

Section 4. Team awarded the highest seed will be paired against the lowest seed. Second highest seed against second lowest and so forth.

A. Highest seed will be home team for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd rounds.

Section 5. Each pitcher is allowed 10 innings of pitching for the 1st & 2nd round and 7 innings in the 3rd round and 10 innings for semi-finals and finals.

A. All rest periods for pitchers shall apply if they pitch more than 3 innings.

1. With the exception of the semi finals and finals.

B. In 2024 pitchers get 7 innings first week & 7 innings for 2nd

Round 10 innings for Semi's/Finals, unless there is only one week of playoffs (not two), then all teams will start

the week getting 14 innings each per pitcher. Rest Periods do not

apply to Semi-Finals and Finals (Fri & Sat).

Section 6. Schedule of tournament to be determined later. 2023 TBD

- A. 1st round to be TBA
- B. 2nd round to be TBA
- C. 3rd round to be TBA
- D. Semifinals to be TBD
- E. 3rd place game will be TBD
- F. Championship game will be TBD

Section 7. Host Town for final four will Be responsible for Providing:

**(NO HOST TOWN 2024)**

- Two Patch Umpires

- B. Field in Proper Condition
- C. Advance Public Notice
- D. Sound System for Public Address Announcing For  
Championship Game
- E. Concessions
- F. Decorations

#### ARTICLE 22- U.S.S.S.A. Tournaments and World Series

Section 1. The manager of the team in first place in the standings at the end

of the regular season shall be manager of the division in the U.S.S.S.A. Tournament. **(The League Will not be paying the entry**

**fees) THE LEAGUE WILL NOT BE PARTICIPATING IN THIS. IN 2018 EACH COACH CAN FORM THEIR OWN TEAM AND PAY SAID ENTRY FEES**

A. If unable, then second place manager shall be given the opportunity.

B. If the 1st & 2nd place managers are unable, then the 3rd place

manager and so on, until a manager is able to commit.

C. This rule is for both 14 and under tournament teams.

D. League will pay entry fee for 14 year old team.

E. 13 and under team will need sponsors for jerseys and entry

fees. Call league office with any sponsors.

Section 2. The manager then selects the coaches from a pool of other division

managers.

A. If no managers are available then a manager may choose whom he

wishes for his coach

Section 3. Manager selects the players from the rosters of every team in the

division.

- attend  
Team.
- A. Every manager must submit a list of 4 players maximum to a tryout to be selected to the U.S.S.S.A. Tournament
  - B. Players may participate on one tournament team at a time.

Section 4. Pony National Tournament

- A. Any team can enter Pony National tournament.
  - 1. You can register your own team.

ARTICLE 23- Protests

Section 1. Protests are only allowed on interpretation of the rules.

- Pony
- A. Protest will be decided by officers of the Tri County League Division in which your team plays.
  - B. There is absolutely **NO COMPLAINING to LEAGUE OFFICE ABOUT ANY MATTER**-Handle it between Coaches. ONLY FORMAL PROTEST are ALLOWED. \$50 Protest fee must be paid before your protest will be heard. If you win your protest, you will refunded your \$50.00 Protest Fee.

ARTICLE 24- League Office

Section 1. League office for the year 2024

Section 2. The Commissioner of Baseball can be reached at

Greg H. Gould  
G-Force Labels & Printing, Inc.  
405 E. South St.  
Plano, IL 60545  
(630)327-9168  
Fax (630)552-8960  
Work (630)552-8911  
Email - [rockcreekball@aol.com](mailto:rockcreekball@aol.com)