

## **Suffolk County P.A.L./B.O.S. Rule Book 2007**

### ***\*FOR PLAY OFF - REFERENCE SUSPENDED GAME RULE \****

MERCY RUN RULE: 10 run differential      \*\*\*\*\*4 INNINGS \*\*\*\*\*  
3 ½ IF HOME TEAM AHEAD

### **RULES MODIFIED From NFHS Baseball Rules**

#### **NOTE:**

**P.A.L./B.O.S. DOES NOT HAVE A 2 HOUR TIME LIMIT. THE ONLY RESTRICTIONS ARE**

- 1. NO INNING MAY START AFTER 8 P.M. UNLESS THE FIELD IS LIT**

### **SUFFOLK COUNTY P.A.L. BASEBALL CODE OF ETHICS-**

1. Team managers are responsible for the players, coaches and the fans for their teams and shall maintain an atmosphere of good sportsmanship.
2. Officials are not to be berated and judgment calls are not to be questioned.
3. If a question arises pertaining to a rule interpretation, only the team manager shall have a discussion with an umpire/official and the discussion shall be carried on calmly. The umpire/official will have the final say while the game is in progress. The manager has the right to protest the game. See page # 7 -Protesting a Game.
4. Throwing of equipment or fighting will result in ejection from the game, and the next game. Based on severity of the incident; further action, including expulsion from PAL may result.
5. Any three ejection's', **will** result in automatic expulsion from PAL./B.O.S.  
Exception: jewelry
10. Rules will be enforced according to the intent of said rules as interpreted by the PAL/B.O.S. Board.

### **WEATHER CONDITIONS/LIGHTNING:**

1. Every effort should be made to allow a game to be played. A suspension of game play for 15 minutes without improvement of weather conditions, would result in a called and rescheduled game or an official game based on the age division regarding the number of innings for an official game. See page # 4-official game.
2. Extreme temperatures ,re; heat index, during the summer months may constitute a reason to cancel a game. The scheduled games are to be rescheduled by the managers and reported to the Division Coordinator for umpire scheduling..
3. **As soon as lightning is visible, the game is to be stopped! Appropriate rules will apply;** re. **CALLED GAME or OFFICIAL GAME.**

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4. Umpire or P.A.L. official may prevent, stop or terminate any game due to weather or dangerous field conditions, which will result in a called or official game.

### Definition:

- *Called Game* - If a game is called before completion of the number of required innings, the umpire shall declare the contest **"NO GAME"**.
- *Official Game* - Refer to Page #4 on number of innings declared by PAL/BOS as an official game.

## PROTESTING THE GAME

1. The only person who may register a protest is the team manager, AKA the person in charge of the team.
2. The only ground for a protest is a decision based on an interpretation of the rules, or the use of an ineligible player.
3. The protest must be made immediately prior to the resumption of play (BEFORE THE NEXT PITCH), and indicated to both umpires in a highly visible manner. EXCEPTION: In the case of an ineligible player, the protest must be made before the final out of the game.
4. The protest may be removed any time during or immediately after the game. Protesting Manager must produce the appropriate rulebook and note the rule under protest, OTHERWISE PROTEST WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.
5. After conferring with the umpire in charge and establishing the grounds for a protest, the protesting manager will make a note of all pertinent game information at the time of protest
6. The umpire/official in charge will notify the opposing manager that the game is being played under protest, and after checking for accuracy, the umpire/official in charge will sign the protesting manager's Official scorebook.

## FORFEITS

1. A forfeit will be awarded under the following conditions:
  - (a) A team is not ready to play 15 minutes after scheduled game time. In case of a double header, both games are forfeited. **Forfeiting team will pay all fees.**
  - (b) A team is unable to field at least 8 players throughout the entire game.
  - (c) Fields must be in playing condition prior to the start of the game. Forfeits may be awarded if the field is unprepared or deemed hazardous to players by the umpire, due to the neglect of the home team. In case of a double header, if the field can not be made playable within 15 minutes of the starting, the first game will be forfeited. An additional 15 minutes will be allowed for preparation for the 2<sup>nd</sup> game. After the additional 15 minutes the 2<sup>nd</sup> game will be forfeited..
  - (d) If in the Board's judgment a forfeit is warranted.
2. All forfeit fees not paid at the field will be charged to the responsible team. If not paid, within 48 hours of the forfeit, future scheduled games may be cancelled, until payment is made.

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### **UMPIRE FEES**

1. Each team is responsible to pay 1 (one) umpire fee for each game.
2. Home Team is responsible to pay all travel fees.
3. Forfeit fee(s) is to be paid by forfeiting team. If forfeiting team wants, the Umpires will wait 15 minutes from the scheduled game time for additional players to show. After 15 minutes forfeiting team is responsible to pay the umpire's fee for the first game and for the second game, if a double header.
4. All forfeiture and travel fees not paid at the field will be charged to the appropriate team or organizations.
5. A travel fee per umpire will be paid if the umpires drive to a game and it is not played for any reason.

Travel Fees - \$25. Per umpire

6. If only 1 (one) umpire shows where 2 (two) are scheduled:

The Umpire receives a FULL FEE and a Half (1 ½)

Note: Game Cancellations; Umpire Coordinators must be notified **2 HOURS** prior to game time that the game will be cancelled in order for them to notify umpires, otherwise a travel fee will have to be paid to each umpire. Games cancelled for inclement weather only.

### **APPEAL PLAYS**

**In ALL DIVISIONS – There are no appeals permitted on Base Runners.**

### **GROUND RULES/FIELD REQUIREMENTS**

1. Ground rules will be discussed with the visiting manager and officials prior to the start of the game.
2. Home teams are solely responsible for conditions of the playing fields.
3. Fields must be in playing condition and lined prior to the start of each game. If a field is not lined, a \$50 fine MAY be imposed, **but the game will be played.**
4. Highly visible foul poles, cones or other visible apparatus must be in position.
5. Bases and pitching rubber must be anchored.
6. Organizations should have on deck circles in a safe area. If an umpire ascertains that an on deck circle is not in a safe area, he will have it moved to a safe area.
7. NO game or a Forfeit(s) may be awarded if an official deems the fields to be unsafe.

### **EQUIPMENT/UNIFORMS**

1. Batting and running helmets are mandatory.
2. Managers/Coaches will be required to wear suitable attire:  
(A Team Hat, Team Type Shirt & Coaches Shorts/Pants. Blue Jeans and Cut off Shorts will not be permitted.)

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**Failure to comply may result in a minimum \$25. fine.**

3. Each player's uniform number must be different.
4. Protective cups and appropriate head gear must be worn by catchers. The Noxsee sticker must be affixed to all head protection.
5. Bats must be in good condition and not altered in any unauthorized manner. Aluminum bats must have welded handles.

13 through 18u Divisions: Will be consistent with High School Rules.

6. The officials may remove from the game any equipment that they deem unsuitable for competition.
7. Steel Bauxite and composite bats are illegal. Composite bats are permitted.

**All divisions are subject to playoff eligibility rules.**

### **LINEUPS**

1. Prior to the start of each game, team managers will be responsible for exchanging lineup cards, containing the names and uniform numbers of the players listed in the order in which they will bat and their defensive positions. Any change in the lineup after the initial exchange must be immediately brought to the attention of the opposing manager in accordance with described rules. **A lineup card must be given to the umpire prior to the start of the game. He must also be notified of all substitutions.**
2. During a pre-game and prior to the start of each game, opposing manager shall check, each others pitching logs. Failure to present pitching logs will result in fines/suspensions. The pitching logs must be kept in ink.

### **CONFERENCES**

OFFENSIVE:

- 13, 14, 15/16 & 16/18 year old divisions: refer to FEDERATION RULES.

DEFENSIVE:

- 13, 14, 15/16 & 16/18 year old divisions: **3 charged conferences per 7 Inning Game** On the 4<sup>th</sup> and every other conference, the pitcher must be removed from that position.

### **SUBSTITUTION RULE**

A starting player, who has been removed from the game, maybe re-inserted once, under the following conditions:

1. The player must return to his original spot in the batting order.

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2. Only a starting player is eligible to be re-inserted and he may only be re-inserted once per game.
3. The player does not have to return to his original defensive position.
4. In the case of the EH ,he/she is regarded as an EP, an extra player, and follows the substitution rules as stated above.

### **INJURY/ILLNESS**

Any player, who sustains an injury (other than superficial) or becomes ill, may not play anymore that day. Note that swelling, lacerations, etc. will remove an injury from the superficial status. A player who has been rendered unconscious during a game shall not be permitted to play in a P.A.L. game without written authorization from a physician. When a player is removed from a game for injury/illness, all substitution rules apply.

### **PLAYING WITH 8 PLAYERS**

A team may play with eight players. When playing with eight players, **the vacant slot in the batting order is an automatic out.** If a ninth player arrives, he may be inserted into the game in the vacant slot and is considered a starting player.

### **INTENTIONAL BASE ON BALLS**

All age divisions of the defensive team have the option to either pitch the four balls to the batter or declare to the plate umpire that they wish to issue an intentional base on balls and the umpire will award the batter a base on balls.

### **PITCHING RULE AMENDMENT**

In the 9 through 14 year old divisions, a pitcher who was one of the original starting players, may be removed as a hitter from a game, for a pinch hitter offensively and then returned as a pitcher defensively; as long as he returns to start the ½ inning immediately following the ½ inning he was removed.

### **PLAY OFF RULES**

1. P.A.L. Board will assign an on-field coordinator or official to hear any and all protests. Division coordinator or official's decision, made on the field, will be final. Decisions will be made based upon the appropriate rule. There will be no appeals.
2. Host team will be responsible for the field
3. Division winner will be considered home team. If two division winners or two non division winners are meeting a coin flip will determine home team.
4. Home team in the FINAL ROUND of the playoffs will be determined by the flip of a coin.
5. For the Play Offs, **full games** will be played in accordance with the suspended game rule. A suspended game will be continued from the point stopped.

**MERCY RULE WILL BE IN EFFECT DURING ALL PLAYOFF GAMES.**

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### MERCY RULE

The mercy rule is ten (10) runs and will go into effect under the following conditions:

A game may end after four (4) complete innings (3 1/2 innings if it is the home team ahead). If the home team is behind they must always complete their turn at bat, in any inning.

*While the game is in progress, any team has the right to concede.*

### EJECTIONS:

1. Umpires will report any manager, coach, player/players or organization that violates any P.A.L. High School or Little League Rule. Record of these complaints will be kept on file by P.A.L. for further reference.
2. When a manager, coach, or player/players are ejected from a game, they must leave the field immediately. Failure to do so will result in a forfeiture.

**NOTE: An ejected person will not be able to be seen or heard by the Umpire.**

3. Ejection/Suspension - Any player ejected for **unsportsman like conduct** will automatically be suspended for the next game. Managers are responsible to report to the coordinator, the name and uniform number of the ejected player.

**NO EXCEPTIONS!!** Every ejection will be reviewed by the P.A.L. Baseball Board. Players, coaches, managers and spectators may be fined, suspended and/or barred from PAL Baseball for a period of time to be determined by the Board.

### EXTRA PLAYER (EP)

1. 10 through 14 year old divisions will not be able to use a DESIGNATED HITTER.
2. 10 through 14 year old divisions will be able to use an **EXTRA PLAYER (EP)** and the following rules and conditions will apply
  - (a) The team must have 10 or more players prior to the start of the game.
  - (b) The EP can not be added after the start of the game.
  - (c) The team has an option of using or not using an EP
  - (d) The EP is considered a starting player.
  - (e) The EP can be substituted for and is entitled to re-entry.
  - (f) A player removed because of injury, superficial or not, who is not replaced and the lineup is reduced from 10 to 9, the vacant spot in the batting order and an automatic out when it is his turn to bat.
  - (g) If an eligible player arrives after an injured player was replaced defensively by an EP, the newly arrived player must enter the game and bat in the vacant spot in the batting order.