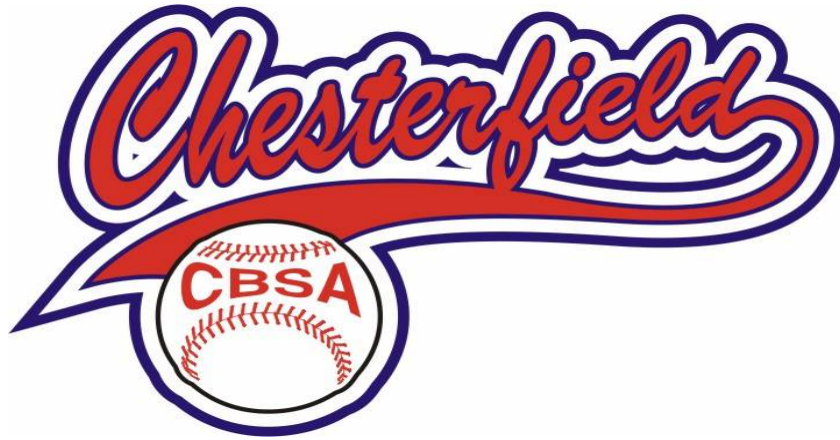


**Chesterfield
Baseball & Softball
Association**

CBSA



Umpire Manual

**Baseball
&
Fast-Pitch Softball**

February
2011

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General Information

Purpose

Chesterfield Baseball/Softball Association (CBSA) is committed to providing the community with an athletic program that encourages participation, contributes to both physical and mental growth and supports good sportsmanship and fair play for all involved. CBSA has established/modified basic playing rules that dictate play in all age levels and all divisions. These rules are established by the Board of Directors and are not subject to modifications by any umpire, coach, player, fan or other participant. When on the job, the umpire staff represents CBSA and is expected to be well-groomed, dressed professionally, knowledgeable, and courteous at all times.

Mission Statement

Chesterfield Baseball & Softball Association (CBSA) is a non-profit organization whose mission is to develop, supervise, voluntarily assist the interest of those who participate at all skill levels in Chesterfield Baseball & Softball Association. Through exemplary leadership, we strive to develop and promote individual character as exemplified by: sportsmanship, physical well-being, discipline, respect, and teamwork.

Requirements

The minimum age for employment is 14 years. Prior to employment, all persons must complete an umpire registration form which can be found on the website at www.cbsasports.com under the "Umpire" tab. Umpires are categorized by age and ability and are listed on the roster as such. You must be capable of performing the duties necessary to officiate a baseball or softball game.

It is the policy of CBSA to require that an umpire be two (2) years older than the age group of the teams playing. This may only be waived in an emergency at the discretion of the Umpire-in-Chief (UIC) and with the

consent of each team manager.

Umpires are prohibited from umpiring in any league game or tournament game in which their team or a family member's team is participating. In the event that this situation becomes necessary, the Umpire-in-Chief shall notify the opposing manager before the start of the game. The opposing manager shall have the choice of where the umpire shall be stationed.

Facilities

Chesterfield Valley Athletic Complex (CVAC) is operated by the City of Chesterfield. The facility administrator is Mr. Chris Zink. He and his associates are responsible for maintaining and setting up the fields. If a field that you are assigned to requires a change in pitching or base distance, you must report it to a maintenance crewmember or to the UIC.

For handicapped persons requiring transportation, please contact the field crewmember on duty.

Please note that it is not the responsibility of the UIC on duty or the field crew to remain at the complex after completion of the last games. Umpires who do not independently drive to the CVAC must arrange to have a parent or other responsible party arrive at the complex by 10:00 p.m. (at the latest) to provide transportation home.

Weather Conditions

Playing conditions are evaluated by Chris Zink or the field supervisor on duty. Field status is posted on the hotline 636-537-4770 x1 x1 operated by the City. Check the hotline prior to reporting to work. Information is updated by 7:00 a.m. on weekends and 3:00 p.m. on weeknights or as conditions change throughout the day. In the event of sudden severe weather or lightening in the area, the UIC will sound a warning with an air-horn at which time umpires are to stop all games in progress and instruct all persons to leave the fields and return to their cars. Under no circumstances are persons to be given permission to remain in the dugout or bleacher areas -- metal conducts electricity!

All umpires are required to provide their own water jug which can be refilled throughout the day. CBSA provides two (2) large coolers containing iced water which are accessible at the 'umpire hut' or on the UIC's cart. When the weather is warm, water is necessary for proper hydration and it is

recommended that you drink eight (8) ounces for every twenty (20) to thirty (30) minutes that you work.

The UIC is not responsible for bringing water to the fields to refill your bottles.

The use of sunscreen and/or bug spray is recommended but is not provided by the association.

On duty health care professionals are not provided by CBSA at any time.

Training

Indoor and outdoor training sessions are provided annually by CBSA at no cost to participants. Dates and times will be posted on the website. At the discretion of the UIC, a written test may be given over CBSA specific rules. Test dates and times TBD. On-the-field training by the UIC will also occur throughout the season on an “as necessary” basis.

CBSA abides by the Major League Baseball (MLB) National Division and the Amateur Softball Association (ASA) Official Rules except as modified by CBSA rulebooks (which are revised annually). Each umpire will have in his/her possession the specific rulebooks as they apply to the games. Rulebooks are also kept at the fields at all times (ask the UIC). During the season, it may become necessary to further modify, clarify or create rules. It is the responsibility of all umpires to check the CBSA website for any changes.

Expectations

Respect for your self and for others is a priority. Maturity and responsibility are key elements to becoming a good umpire. Remember that you are the authority on the field representing CBSA and we expect you to act professionally at all times. In turn, you will gain the respect of the coaches, players and fans. BE LOUD ----- BE ASSERTIVE ----- BE CONFIDENT.

Know the rules and remember that judgment calls are not negotiable. Rule calls, on the other hand, can be challenged if done so properly by the coach. *Protests are allowed in baseball leagues. Protests are not allowed in softball leagues*; all issues must be resolved on the field. In the event that conflicts cannot be resolved, you must call the UIC to the field to intervene.

Umpires are expected to start games on time if scheduling permits. Umpires are required to take a ten (10) minute break between games when scheduled for two (2) or more games in a row.

All umpires are to be in appropriate CBSA uniform when officiating CBSA games.

Umpires are neither expected nor permitted to officiate in any game officially declared a “forfeit” or a “rain-out” by CBSA or by CVAC. If a manager tells you otherwise, contact the UIC on duty.

While at CVAC, umpires are forbidden to use profane language, tobacco products or alcoholic beverages at any time. The parking lot is considered part of the athletic complex.

If a game has not started due to weather conditions, then the umpires do not get paid.

Reporting Structure

Umpires are to report to the UIC upon arrival at the complex. Umpires are expected to arrive 20 minutes prior to their first game. Go directly to the ‘umpire pavilion’ which is located by the entrance to the “C” Quad, just west of the red-brick building adjacent to the parking lot.

Field assignments will be posted by the UIC and may reflect alterations to the schedule that is posted on-line. Alterations will be made at the discretion of the UIC for purposes of providing the best working environment for all concerned.

For all intents and purposes, all staff umpires and administrative assistants are under the direct management of the UIC. In turn, the UIC shall report to the Director of Umpires, who is an active member of the Board of Directors. The President of CBSA shall preside over all Board positions in all capacities.

Uniforms and Equipment

Umpire shirts cost \$25/shirt (this is not a deposit to be refunded). Umpire

caps will be provided by CBSA. You can purchase a shirt at any of the umpire training sessions or the UIC will collect your payment at the fields. Proper attire for all games in all divisions will consist of:

- Light blue polo-type shirt with CBSA logo

- Heather grey umpire slacks (no cotton twill, “Dockers” or cargo type)

- Black socks only

- Black shoes – metal cleats *are not permitted* at any time while on the field/plate area

- Black umpire combo or short-billed hat (without any lettering or markings) or black visor

- Black or grey ball bag with indicator and brush

Slacks must be belted and worn at the natural waist. Shorts of any kind are not permitted to be worn by male or female umpires. Shirts must be tucked into pants. Plain white or black short or long sleeve undershirts are permissible but no writing or designs should be visible on front or back.

Once you have arrived at the complex, you are considered to be on-the-job (the parking lot is considered to be part of the complex) and should be in proper umpire attire. Any umpire arriving at the complex who is not in uniform will be asked to remedy the situation if time permits. If an umpire is not in uniform, he/she will be dismissed from the game.

All umpires are responsible for providing their own equipment. Full plate equipment is required to be worn by all umpires, any age, at any level of play while acting as the plate umpire during a game. Plate equipment consists of: mask with throat protector, chest protector, and shin guards, ball bags with indicator and brush. Field umpires will carry a indicator. CBSA encourages umpires who do not already have equipment to utilize the reimbursement program that is provided as such: purchase an ‘umpire equipment package’ from Gaffney’s Sporting Goods on Manchester & Clarkson (no other store), send a copy of the receipt to Julie Peterson, work a minimum of fifteen (15) games during the season and receive reimbursement from CBSA for up to \$100 toward your purchase.

It is recommended that you wear or carry a watch; however, digital timers will be provided for each field and will be the “official clock” for all games. Timers will be affixed to a clipboard and hung on the screen behind home plate. Clipboards are to be returned to the UIC following the last game of the day for each field.

Concessions

Although the CVAC does not allow food or beverage items (except water) to be brought into the complex, this does not apply to umpires who are scheduled to work. Coolers and lunch boxes may be kept in the umpire hut or taken to the fields and placed behind the fence. There are two (2) concession stands open during game times. Umpires are expected to order at the windows and are discouraged from knocking on the side doors to order food items.

On Saturdays and Sundays, all umpires will receive one (1) sports drink for every game that they work. Umpires working two (2) or more games in a row will be eligible to receive a hamburger, cheeseburger or hotdog. The UIC on duty will disburse all food and drink items. In addition, the City operated concession stand has items for purchase at any time during hours of operation

All umpires are required to provide their own water jug which can be refilled throughout the day. CBSA provides two (2) large coolers containing iced water which are accessible at the 'umpire hut' or on the UIC's cart. When the weather is warm, water is necessary for proper hydration and it is recommended that you drink eight (8) ounces for every twenty (20) to thirty (30) minutes that you work. The UIC is not responsible for bringing water to the fields to refill your bottles.

Scheduling

The following levels of play are available for umpiring though scheduling for such will be dependent on the age and ability level of each umpire:

Boys Select Baseball	U9 – U14
Boys American Baseball	U8 – U14
Boys High School Baseball	U15 – 18
Girls Select Softball	U10 – U18
Girls Select High School	U15 – U18
Girls American Softball	U8 – U14

Select Leagues are for competitive tournament teams and games are played on Tues/Wed/Thurs evenings. American Leagues are for recreational teams and are primarily played on Fri evenings, all day Sat/Sun

and on Mon evenings.

Rosters of all umpires will be available on-line. Umpires will be listed as Select or American Level; Baseball or Softball. Note that an American level umpire cannot work a Select level game (unless approved by the UIC), but that a Select level umpire can work an American level game.

All umpires must work a minimum of fifteen (15) games per season in order to return for the following season. There is no maximum to the number of games that can be worked. The schedule will be posted to the website at least two (2) weeks prior to the start of the current season and will be for the entire month. Scheduling will be available per season as “blocked” or “flexible:

Blocked: request for a specific league or game date for an entire season. Best for those umpires who know they can work on certain days of the week and want guaranteed games or income.

Flexible: cannot commit to blocked schedule, but willing to work if available if and when game slots are open. Best for younger umpires who have other activities which take precedence (playing a team sport) and are willing to pick up random games with paychecks that fluctuate in amount.

Those umpires who request blocked games will be given priority, but must commit to working a minimum of thirty (30) games during the season. Flex schedule requests will be honored as first come-first served for any open game slots throughout the season.

Open games, rain-out additions, etc. will be posted by the scheduler at intervals throughout the season. These games are available to anyone on a first-come, first-served basis by contacting the scheduler via phone or email. Scheduler will then post changes to the website. Field and plate assignments will be pre-determined by the scheduler to insure even distribution of positions.

Once the schedule has been posted, it is the responsibility of each umpire to find his/her own replacements if unable to work your assignment (for any reason). The umpire who initiates the trade must contact the scheduler (or UIC if it is the day of the game) and give the name of the umpire who will be his/her replacement. Replacements must be of same ability level i.e. Select

games cannot be officiated by anyone who does not appear on the appropriate roster. Once assigned or posted, games cannot be returned or “given back” to the scheduler even if the game date is several days or weeks away. In an emergency or when no replacement can be found, you must contact the UIC immediately.

Umpires are responsible for contacting their partner and verifying that their partner is going to show up for their games. If one of the two umpires is unavailable for the game, that umpire is responsible for contacting the scheduler to let them know why they are not going to show up. If you are unable to contact your partner, let the scheduler know. This should help eliminate umpire no shows on games and having to do solo games.

In order to insure that all games start on time, umpires who arrive later than ten (10) minutes prior to the official start time of any game run the risk of having their game given away. For emergencies (car trouble, traffic, etc.) please call the UIC to let him know that you will be arriving late. For the health, well-being and safety of the umpire staff, we recommend that umpires work no more than three (3) baseball games or four (4) softball games in a row – especially when the days are warm, sunny, humid. All umpires age eighteen (18) and older may waive this recommendation at their discretion; however, umpires under the age of eighteen (18) will not be scheduled for more than three (3) baseball or four (4) softball games in a row at any time during the playing season.

Disciplinary Actions

Failure to appear for scheduled games, disregard for personal appearance, inappropriate and un-sportsmanlike conduct, tardiness and refusal to report to an assigned game or position are reasons for reprimand and/or dismissal. Attendance records are kept for each season. You will receive a written warning via email after a second no-show if you fail to find a replacement. A third infraction will result in job termination. All notification will be sent by the Director of Umpires. Performance records are kept on file every year.

Salary Structure

Umpires are categorized by age and ability and are listed on the roster as such. Salaries are determined accordingly. Rookies start at Level D while experienced umpires will be evaluated by the UIC and placed accordingly.

Level A - \$38 per game

Level B - \$30 per game

Level C - \$25 per game

Level D - \$20 per game

Performance evaluations are on-going throughout the season and level/salary increases will be determined at the end of the spring/summer season and prior to fall ball. Evaluations will focus on these criteria: professionalism, knowledge of the rules, mechanics, control of game, plate performance (strike zone), judgement, attentiveness and assertiveness.

An incentive cash bonus, payable by check, will be awarded after completion of the regular season to all umpires who meet a “minimum games worked” criteria as follows:

40-69 games = \$100

70-99 games = \$150 plus \$50 OR premier umpire jacket (valued at over \$50)

100+ games = \$250 plus \$50 OR premier umpire jacket (valued at over \$50)

Payroll

Game cards will be provided at the fields for each game that you work. You must fill in the card and sign it. After completion of each game, both home and away coaches must sign the card after you have recorded the official score. The UIC must sign your card after each game. All cards must be placed in the ‘mailbox’ that is in the green lock box before you leave the complex.

Cards must be submitted in order for you to receive pay for each game that you work. Keep track of all games that you work in case of a payroll discrepancy. Any problems must be reported to the Payroll Coordinator, Julie Peterson, at the time of occurrence.

Paychecks will be mailed to you every two (2) weeks. CBSA uses the

payroll service Automatic Data Processing (ADP). You must provide your social security number on the registration form in order for your check to be processed.

Payment WILL NOT be made for games that never started. In the event that teams have warmed up and umpires are about to start the game and the game gets called off due to weather, then the umpires DO NOT get paid.

Tournaments are available at varying times throughout the season. Independently run tournaments will be paid by the individual tournament director at whatever rate has been established.

Health & Safety Action Plan

In the event that a player sustains an injury during participation in any official CBSA game or tournament, umpires are expected to remain calm and in charge, but are not expected to offer medical advice or treatment. Notify the UIC on duty as soon as reasonably possible.

If at any time, an injury occurs that the umpire deems to be of a serious nature, do not hesitate to call **911**.

The “blood rule” is in effect. Actively bleeding wounds must be completely covered prior to re-entry into game. Uniforms and equipment that becomes bloody must be removed from said person prior to re-entry into game. Following any injury, if an umpire suspects that a player has a concussion, a broken bone, heat exhaustion or other medical concern, you should take the following steps:

1. immediately stop a game in progress
2. do not try to judge the seriousness of the injury yourself
3. insure that player is evaluated by manager/coach, parent/guardian or health care professional at time of injury
4. do not attempt to touch player
5. do not attempt to move player
6. see that player is protected from the elements (direct sun, rain, etc) while on the field
7. control the audience (players and spectators)
8. inform the manager/coach to attend to player and ask that player’s

- parents or guardian are notified if they are not in attendance
9. see that player is removed from field by manager, parent/guardian, health care professional as soon as reasonably possible
 10. do not allow the player to return to the game in progress without parental/guardian permission

Official Signals

In addition to signals, umpires must remember to make the corresponding verbal call as well. Below are the most frequently used hand/arm signals. These are the basics. You will add your own personal touch along the way.

PLAY BALL



Verbally calls
"Play ball"

DO NOT PITCH



Signal toward
pitcher

COUNT



Left hand indicates balls,
followed by strikes on the
right hand. Verbally give
count.

FOUL TIP



Fingers touch together,
chest high, followed by
strike call.

STRIKE/OUT



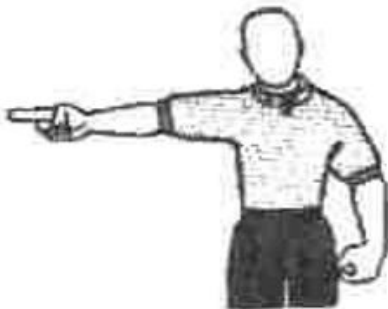
Fist to hammer at 90 degrees or greater

SAFE



Verbally call "Safe"

FAIR BALL



Point to fair territory with hand closest to infield. No verbal call.

INFIELD FLY



Verbally call "Infield fly"

**TIME OUT/FOULBALL/
DEAD BALL**



Verbally calls "Time."
"Foul ball" or "Dead ball"

DELAYED DEAD BALL



Extend left arm out,
fist with palm down
(or out)

DOUBLE



First two fingers in
the air

HOME RUN



Right fist in the air,
rotate counterclock-
wise

Contacts

For additional information or questions, please contact the appropriate person as listed below:

Director of Umpires

Ken Florian

email: orangehose@live.com

Umpire-in-Chief

Greg Willman

email: sportsnut38@gmail.com

cell: 636-248-5852

Registration & Payroll

Julie Peterson

email: umpireadmin@cbsasports.com

office: 636-537-4646; fax: 636-216-0088

Scheduling

Jeremy Maranan

Email: cbsaumpire@yahoo.com

cell: 314-550-0751

Field Administrator

Chris Zink

email: czink@chesterfield.mo.us

office: 636-812-9511; cell: 314-680-9522

CVAC

field staff

cell: 314-445-4243

Rainout Number

636-537-4770, ext. 1, ext. 1 (listen to entire message)

CBSA Website

www.cbsasports.com

Boys Select Coord..

Randy Kellis

email: randy.kellis@sbcglobal.net

phone: 636-537-1915

Boys American Coord.

Terry Macalady

email: tkmacalady@msn.com

phone: 636-625-0354

Baseball Scheduling

Ron Gibbs

Email: rgibbs81@yahoo.com

Phone: 314-439-9454

Girls Select Coord./ Softball Scheduling

Ed Hemmann

email: ehemmann@att.net

phone: 636-532-7692

Girls American Coord.

Lisa Rooney

email: rooneylg@charter.net

Phone: 636-458-2272

Rule Modifications

CBSA has modified the rules of both the Amateur Softball Association (ASA) and Major League Baseball (MLB) in order to promote a level of play that is community oriented for both Softball and Baseball leagues. In addition to knowing the rules of both the ASA and MLB, umpires are to familiarize themselves with the specific modifications of this association and apply them where necessary. CBSA rulebooks can be found on-line.

as a quick reference use “Rules Grids” as indicated

softball grid located on page 34

baseball grid located on page 35

Rosters

Softball – American League

Official roster is the finalized on-line copy. Hard copy must be made available if requested by the umpire during any official or tournament game for purposes of player documentation. “Guest players” may not be utilized in any American League games, any division. Roster additions can be made if completed 24 hours in advance of the day of the game. Roster additions must be approved by the age group coordinator. The player must complete the manual registration form with parent having agreed to the liability waiver and entered into the registration system.

Penalty: teams in all divisions playing with non-roster players shall forfeit all games in which said player(s) participated. If a game is in progress when a roster violation is noted, the umpire shall immediately call the game a forfeit in favor of the opposing team.

Softball – Select League

Official roster is the finalized on-line copy. Hard copy must be made available if requested by the umpire during any official or tournament game for purposes of player documentation. “Guest player” may be utilized in Select Softball League games only. Said player must register on-line or print the manual registration form and parent needs to agree to the liability waiver before playing. Manager must be in possession of signed waiver

(with parent or legal guardian signature) when said “guest player” participates in any league game or tournament. There will be no limit to the number of guest players per team, per game which shall be at the discretion of a team’s manager.

Baseball – American & Select League

Official roster is the finalized on-line copy. Hard copy must be made available if requested by the umpire during any official or tournament game for purposes of player documentation. “Guest players” may not be utilized in any American League games, any division. Roster additions can be made if completed 24 hours in advance of the day of the game. Roster additions must be approved by the age group coordinator. The player must complete the manual registration form with parent having agreed to the liability waiver and entered into the registration system.

Penalty: forfeiture of all games where violation occurred. If a game is in progress when a roster violation is noted, the umpire shall immediately call the game a forfeit in favor of the opposing team.

Team Uniforms

All players participating in any CBSA league or tournament game must be in proper team uniform. *Players who are not in uniform will not be permitted on the field.* Any type of protective clothing (sweatshirts, jackets) worn during inclement weather must not have an attached hood and must be worn under the jersey so that the player number is visible at all times.

Guest players are utilized in the Girls Select League only and may wear alternative uniform during league or tournament games at the discretion of that specific coach.

Metal cleats are not permitted in any league or division including high school; if player does not remove cleats/shoes after umpire warning, she shall be ejected from the game.

Jewelry

In all leagues, both baseball and softball, players in the game are prohibited from wearing any type of jewelry while on the field of play with the exception

of a necklace. All jewelry must be removed (cannot be covered with tape or band-aids) including rings, watches, earrings (including “starter” type pierced earrings), bracelets, other facial/body cosmetic or decorative items. *Offending player will not be permitted to enter into or continue the game until violation is corrected.*

Medical alert bracelets or necklaces and religious medals are not considered jewelry. Medical alert bracelets must be taped to the body in a secure fashion so that the medical alert information remains visible; necklaces do require taping.

Team Equipment

Prior to the start of, and at any time during the course of a league game or tournament, manager/coach shall be responsible for verifying with the umpire that all of his/her players are using equipment that is safe, sound and not in disrepair.

Prior to the start of each game, the manager/coach is expected to have all bats laid out that will be used by the team for inspection by the umpire.

Any equipment judged by umpire to be broken or unreasonably dangerous will be deemed illegal and use thereafter will be prohibited.

Defective equipment must be repaired, replaced or removed from the game immediately. Any issues regarding legality of player’s equipment will be resolved at the time of incident by the umpire of the game being played.

Penalty - refusal to cooperate by manager/coach/player will result in ejection of said person from the game.

Softball:

Bats must be ASA approved by the manufacturer and can be of any weight/length ratio

Balls used shall be ASA approved as selected by CBSA for the current season; optic yellow, COR .47

* eleven (11) inch for all divisions U10 and under

* twelve (12) inch for all divisions U12 and over

*American League/Select League**: umpires will provide softballs for the games.

* if it does not interrupt the flow of the game, the pitcher may request the use of a different ball at any time prior to or during game play.

Helmets* must have a face guard, chin strap and be NOCSAE approved.

Facemasks must be worn at all times by all players who warm up a pitcher whether on the field or on the sidelines.

Baseball:

Bats that are aluminum, composite or wood are permitted in all divisions
All game bats must be within age appropriate length-to-weight ratios.

- 11U and 12U **-9.5**
- 13U and 14U **-5.5**
- High School **-3**

PENALTY: First violation; batter is out and player is warned. Second violation: team forfeits. Bat violation protest must be initiated by the protesting team and presented to the umpire.

Balls used shall be MLB approved as selected by CBSA for the current season. CBSA Umpires will provide two (2) new baseballs for all league games.

Helmets* with earflaps are required; face guards and chin straps are not required but are strongly encouraged.

Facemasks must be worn at all times by all players who warm up a pitcher whether on the field or on the sidelines.

*Helmets must be worn at all times while the ball is live and in play; purposeful removal of a helmet will result in a delayed dead ball and player will be called out.

Manager/Coach

Field Privileges

Total of two (2) offensive coaches will be allowed on the field; one (1) at first (1st) base and one (1) at third (3rd) base.

Softball - defensive coach(s) must stay within the designated dug-out and is not permitted on the field at any time unless awarded a “time-out” by the umpire.

Baseball - one (1) defensive coach will be allowed on a bucket, on the field, thus being in the field of play and subject to interference rules and penalties.

Conduct

Manager is responsible for the conduct of his/her team's players, coaches, fans and spectators and must not promote or allow unsporting-like behavior by any team member or associate. Players, fans, coaches may cheer for their own team, but are not to direct any songs, chants, cheers to the opposing team. Negative remarks and statements will be considered offensive and unsportsmanlike.

If manager/coach is unable to control the conduct of team fans/parents and an ejection of said fan/parent occurs, the *ejection report will be charged to the manager*

Manager is prohibited from calling a play before the umpire.

Judgment calls cannot be argued nor changed unless by official appeal.

The strike zone is not open to discussion and is not negotiable.

Manager may not:

- approach an umpire or enter the field of play without first being given permission or granted a time out by the umpire
- leave the dugout or coach's box in a hostile manner
- deliberately throw a bat, helmet or other equipment
- use any command or commit any act for the purpose of trying to cause the opposing pitcher to balk
- use word or act to incite or try to incite spectators to demonstrations
- use profanity or remarks which reflect upon opposing players, umpires, or spectators
- enter the area behind the catcher while the opposing pitcher and catcher are in their positions
- use amplifiers, bullhorns, whistles or other noise making devices on the bench or on the field during the course of the game
- maliciously interfere (verbally or physically) with a fielder/batter at any time (interpretation at the discretion of the umpire)
- have any object in their possession in the coach's box other than a score book which shall be used or scorekeeping purposes only
- use electronic communication devices (cellular telephones, blackberry devices, personal computers) while in the dug-out, surrounding area or after having been ejected from a game
- have and/or consume alcoholic beverages in the dugout or surrounding field area

Penalty: if of a minor nature, warning for first (1st) offense and ejection for second (2nd) offense. Make every effort to communicate with managers/coaches in a non-hostile manner but, do not hesitate to eject offenders if you feel that the integrity of the game has been compromised.

Ejections apply to the current game in progress.

Ejection Reports

An umpire officiating a game, the UIC and/or any on-duty member of the Board of Directors has the right to expel or suspend a player, manager, coach, spectator or team from the remainder of the current game only when in their judgment, such person(s) or team has committed a serious offense against the rules.

For each incident, an ejection form will be completed by the game umpire and shall be given to the UIC to be kept on file. Should there be a second (2nd) ejection of any kind by the same team during the same game the umpire will declare a forfeit by the offending team.

No manager, coach or player is permitted to make contact with an umpire. The Umpire-in-Chief will be notified immediately.

Any manager or coach ejected from a game, the following penalty will apply:

- 1st offense – current game plus one additional game suspension
- 2nd offense – current game plus five additional games suspension
- 3rd offense - 1 year suspension
- Any time there is contact to the umpire - minimum 1 year suspension to maximum lifetime suspension

Suspension can continue into the next season.

Play of Game

Photography

Parent or professional photographers are not permitted on the field during play of game nor allowed on a field between innings nor in the dugout for the purpose of videotaping or still photography of any kind. Photos may be taken while photographer is positioned behind the fence or out-of-bounds lines.

Players

In American League only, in all divisions of both softball and baseball, each player on the roster must be permitted to play a minimum of two (2) innings

in a five (5) inning game, or three (3) innings in a seven (7) inning game in every scheduled and/or rescheduled league game; unless the game is shortened due to inclement weather, application of the mercy rule run limits, if player is ejected, removed from the game due to sickness or injury. Penalty for violation is forfeit.

Free substitution shall prevail in all leagues and all divisions as noted:

Softball – all positions including pitcher at any time and as often as desired

Baseball – all positions except that of pitcher as noted per age division (maximum of consecutive innings). Once removed from pitching, player may not return to pitch in the same game, but can remain in the game at any other position

U8 American – machine pitch only

U9 American & Select – 3

U10-11 American & Select – 4

U12-13 American & Select – 5

U14 American & Select – 7

High School – 7

Once a pitcher is removed, he cannot re-enter the game at position of pitcher. After the first violation pitch is thrown, a violation protest must be initiated by the protesting team and presented to the umpire.

Penalty: the offending team will be charted an out and will begin their next at bat with one out. No penalty can be applied after the half (1/2) inning in question is completed without protest.

Start time

Official “start time” of every league game will be established by the umpire at the time of completion of ground rules. This will be the governing time by which the game time limit, hereinafter outlined, will be applied.

No league game(s) shall begin after nine-thirty (9:30) p.m.

All games are to start on-time. If a team is not present for the scheduled start of game, five (5) minutes shall pass before the umpire(s) charge the absent team with a forfeit. Should there be at least one (1) player present for a team, a fifteen (15) minute period will be given by the umpire(s) for remaining players to arrive prior to charging the team with a forfeit. Should both teams violate this section, each team shall be charged with a loss.

No game is required to start earlier than the officially scheduled start time; however, it can if agreed upon by both team managers and the game

umpires.

The Official time will be kept by using a timer on the field. All games will end at the conclusion of an inning when time expires.

No new inning will start once the timer alarm sounds indicating that time has expired. The inning in progress will be completed unless the Home team has the lead. A new inning begins immediately after the final out of the proceeding inning is recorded.

The home team scorekeeper shall be the official score-keeper.

At the discretion of the umpire, time may be added back to the official game clock for deliberate delay of game by manager, coach or player after receiving one (1) prior warning and/or prolonged delay of game due to injury of player, requiring assistance to leave field or for medical attention.

Tie Game

In case of a tie after the time limit has expired or 7 innings have been completed, ***the California Tie-Breaker will be put in place.*** Each half inning will start with the bases loaded and one (1) out. Each team will continue the batting order from the previous inning, with the three (3) previous batters occupying the bases; the last batter occupying 1st base, the next batter occupying 2nd base and the 3rd batter occupying 3rd base. This tie-break format will be played for one inning. If the game remains tied after the one tie-break inning, **the game shall be recorded as a tie in the official league records.**

Run Limit

At the end of the time limit specified if a run limit per inning exists for the division and either team is ahead by more runs than can be scored in the half (1/2) inning, the game will be called complete and the inning will not be concluded. The game shall count as a legal game regardless of the number of innings played.

Softball – American League – maximum of five (5) runs per inning

Softball – Select & High School League – no run limit exists per inning

Baseball – American League – maximum of seven (7) runs per inning

Baseball – U9 – maximum of seven (7) runs per inning

Baseball – Select U10-U14 - no run limit exists per inning

Baseball – High School - maximum of seven (7) runs per inning

Mercy Rules

During the progress of any game the following run rules apply for all divisions in all leagues (except 8U):

fifteen (15) runs after three (3) innings, or
ten (10) runs after four (4) innings, or
eight (8) runs after five (5) innings

Courtesy Runner

At the offensive manager's option, though not mandatory, a courtesy runner may be used:

Softball – for the pitcher and/or catcher (of the last defensive inning) if they are on base at any time. The player who made the last out will be used as the courtesy runner

Baseball – for the pitcher and/or catcher of record (previous inning) and can be applied at any time. The last batted out will be used as the courtesy runner. The courtesy runner is not mandatory.

Forfeits

Any and all games forfeited will be recorded as a seven to zero (7-0) loss to the team that concedes the forfeit and a seven to zero (7-0) win to the opposing team. Should both teams forfeit, both teams will be assigned a score of 0-0 (or a tie). Scores shall be recorded accordingly on the official game card.

Suspended play

All game stoppages due to weather conditions shall result in a delay of game as decided by the Umpire-in-Chief who will sound an air-horn and/or notify umpires verbally. Team members must report to the field of play to receive official confirmation of a game postponed. Failure to report will result in a forfeit being declared.

If unstable weather conditions, tornado or severe storm warnings, do not report to the field; if able, report to the Umpire Station and consult with the Umpire-in-Chief. Players should be instructed to remain in their vehicles or instructed to go to a safe shelter until further notice by their manager/coach. In the event of rain or inclement weather, a game will be considered complete if after two and one-half (2½) innings if Home team is winning, or

after three (3) innings if the Visiting team is winning. Upon completion or stoppage of the game, umpires will present a game card recording the score.

Protests

Allowed in baseball all divisions and in all leagues.

Protests are not permitted in any softball divisions or league.

Softball – any and all disputes must be settled on the field at the time of occurrence. When necessary the UIC may be called for a ruling. If delay of game exceeds five (5) minutes, umpire shall stop the game clock. No game shall be stopped in excess of ten (10) minutes.

Baseball – protests can be made only on rules violations or player eligibility. No protest can be accepted when it involves a question of an umpire's judgment. Manager/coach of the protesting team must call "time" and immediately notify the UIC and manager of opposing team; all must initial both scorebooks, noting where protest occurred. If the protest is not withdrawn, all umpires working the game must submit, in writing, a detailed letter describing the situation(s) leading up to the point in the game where the protest occurred within twenty-four (24) hours after the game and immediately send it to the appropriate CBSA baseball commissioner.

Pitching Machine

*Pitching Machines will be used for all U8 American League baseball and softball games. Specific rules regarding the use of the machine and the game are as follows:

1. pitching distance will be measured from the point of ball discharge in front of the wheel
2. one player at position of pitcher may be used and shall be positioned on either side of the machine at a distance not closer to five (5) feet from the side of the machine. The Defensive player playing position of pitcher SHALL NOT be positioned in front of the machine.
3. **one (1) umpire** will be used who will stand behind the machine and call all balls and strikes
4. **umpire will feed balls into the machine**; before dropping the ball into the machine, he/she will hold the ball over their head and make eye contact with the batter.
5. player will advance to first (1st) base after a hit ball or walk (four (4)

called balls). A player will be called out after three (3) called or swinging strikes.

6. the speed adjustment of the machine will be **set by the umpire** with agreement of both managers. If an agreement cannot be reached, the umpire will set the machine speed which will be checked after every half (1/2) inning by the umpire. If a machine is not throwing properly, with the agreement of both coaches, it can be adjusted at that time by the umpire

7. a power/mechanical failure will be handled the same as a rainout, two and a half (2½) or three (3) innings will be a complete game.

8. batted balls hitting the machine are considered live and in play. If the ball hits the machine and goes out-of-bounds, it will be considered “out-of-play” and the batter will be awarded first (1st) base plus one extra base. If the ball becomes lodged in, under or within the power supply, it will be considered “out-of-play” and the runner will be awarded one (1) base.

9. if the offensive manager/coach deliberately hinders the defensive team in fielding a batted ball, the batter is declared out.

Manager/coach is not to negotiate or alter rules of play prior to or during the game and shall not dictate to the umpire at ground rules or anytime thereafter, how the game will be played. This includes the pitch count and the determination of whether a batter has received a “walk” or “strike-out” during play of game. Called strikes and swinging strikes will be enforced in the same manner.

2011 Baseball Rulebook Changes

Clarification of Rainout Ties

Current Rule (Part I Paragraph F, Sec 18, pg. 17)

Sec. 18 – In the event of Rain or inclement weather, a game will be considered complete if after 2 ½ innings the Home Team is winning, or after 3 innings if the visiting team is winning.

New Rule

Sec. 18 – In the event of Rain or inclement weather, a game will be considered complete if after 2 ½ innings the Home Team is winning, or after 3 innings if the visiting team is winning.

If the game is stopped AFTER 3 innings, AND is in the middle of the inning, results would be determined based on the score of the previous inning. If the game was tied at the end of the previous inning, the game shall be recorded as a

tie in the official league record.

Clarification of Rainout – No Suspended Games

Current Rule (None)

New Rule (Part I Paragraph F, Sec 19, pg. 17)

Sec. 19 – in the event a game is stopped due to weather, and it NOT a completed game, a rescheduled game will be set and restarted from the beginning.

Bat Ratios

Current Rule (Part II Paragraph A, Sec 9, pg. 28)

Sec. 9 -Aluminum, composite and wood bats are permitted in all divisions. All game bats must be within age appropriate length-to-weight ratios.

- 11U and 12U **-9**
- 13U and 14U **-5.5**
- High School **-3**

PENALTY: First violation; batter is out and player is warned. Second violation: team forfeits. Bat violation protest must be initiated by the protesting team and presented to the umpire.

New Rule (added to each age group)

Sec. 9- Aluminum, composite and wood bats are permitted in all divisions. All game bats must be within age appropriate length-to-weight ratios.

- 11U and 12U **-9.5**
- 13U and 14U **-5.5**
- High School **-3**

PENALTY: First violation; batter is out and player is warned. Second violation: team forfeits. Bat violation protest must be initiated by the protesting team and presented to the umpire.

8U Runner Rules

Current Rule (None)

New Rule (Part II Paragraph B, Sec 1-American (G), pg 33 and Select (I) pg 35)

During the course of the game, when a ball is put in play, action will continue until the ball is returned to the infield and is under the control of an infielder inside the base paths.

9U Select and 10U American 3rd Base Stealing/Advancing Rules

Current Rule (Part II 9U Select Paragraph C, Sec 1 pg 39 and 10U American Paragraph D, Sec 1 (H) pg. 41)

Lead-offs and stealing will be permitted, **except for home plate.** A player can

not advance home on a wild pitch, pass ball, or on any throw back from the catcher to the pitcher (either good throw, errant throw, or pitcher misses throwback from catcher). Runners at third (3rd) base shall not steal home during a pitch or in a delayed-steal manner.

New Rule

Lead-offs and stealing will be permitted, **except for home plate**. A player can not advance home on the following:

- Pass ball/wild pitch
- Return throw to the pitcher
- Drop 3rd Strike

A player may only advance from 3rd base when the ball is offensively put in play.

13U and 14U Metal Spikes Rules

Current Rule (Part II Paragraph G, Sec 1 (G), pg. 28 and Part II Paragraph H, Sec 1 (G), pg. 51)

Shoes with metal spikes or metal cleats are permitted.

New Rule

Shoes with metal spikes or metal cleats are permitted (although NO metal spikes are allowed on portable pitching mounds).

14U Select Gold Wood Bat Rules

Current Rule (Part II Paragraph H, Sec 1 (I), pg. 52)

The bat shall be a smooth cylinder made of wood, aluminum, magnesium or graphite-composite with a knob. The diameter at the thickest part shall not exceed 2 ¾". The length is not to exceed 34 inches. The bat shall not weigh, numerically, more than five and one-half (5.5) ounces less than the length of the bat. (e.g., a 33 inch long bat cannot be less than 27.5 ounces). Penalty, refer to Paragraph A, Sec. 9.

New Rule

The bat shall be a smooth cylinder made **only of wood**, with a knob. Aluminum, magnesium or graphite-composite will NOT be allowed. The diameter at the thickest part shall not exceed 2 ¾". The length is not to exceed 34 inches. The bat shall not weigh, numerically, more than five and one-half (5.5) ounces less than the length of the bat (e.g., a 33-inch-long bat cannot be less than 27.5 ounces). Penalty, refer to Paragraph A, Sec. 9.

Pitching & Base Distances

Softball

<u>League</u>	<u>Division</u>	<u>Pitching</u>	<u>Bases</u>
American	U8	35 ft	60 ft
American/Select	U10	35 ft	60 ft
American/Select	U12	40 ft	60 ft
American	U14	40 ft	60 ft
Select	14/HS/U16/U18	43 ft	60 ft

Baseball

<u>League</u>	<u>Division</u>	<u>Pitching</u>	<u>Bases</u>
American	U8	40 ft	60 ft
American & Select	U9	45 ft	65 ft
American & Select	U10	45 ft	65 ft
American & Select	U11	50 ft	70 ft
American & Select	U12	50 ft	70 ft
American & Select	U13	54 ft	80 ft
American & Select	U14	60 ft 6 in	90 ft
High School	U15-U18	60 ft 6 in	90 ft

Rules Grid

Quick overview of softball and baseball rules to use as a guide during ground rules and during play of game.

Softball

Age Level	8 *	10		12		14	14/HS/16/18
	American	Select	American	Select	American	American	Select
Base Length	60	60	60	60	60	60	60
Pitching Distance	35	35	35	40	40	40	43
Innings Played	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Game Time limits	1 hr. 30 min.	1 hr. 20 min.	1 hr. 20 min.	1 hr. 20 min.		1 hr. 20 min.	1 hr. 20 min.
Complete Game				3 innings		3 innings	3 innings
Mercy Rules	n/a	15/3, 10/4, 8/5	15/3, 10/4, 8/5	15/3, 10/4, 8/5	15/3, 10/4, 8/5	n/a	15/3, 10/4, 8/5
Max Runs per Inning	5	6	5	0	5	5	0
Illegal Pitches	N/A	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Stealing	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Steal Home	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Drop 3rd Strike	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Bat the Roster	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Infield Fly Observed	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Bunting Allowed	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Courtesy Runner	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Metal Spikes	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes ***
Pitching Machine	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
Ball Requirements	pitching machine	11" yellow	11" yellow	12" yellow	12" yellow	12" yellow	12" yellow
Total Fielders	10	9	10	9	9	9	9
Umpires	1 **	2	2	2	2	2	2
Free Substitution	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

* 8U specific rules

7U teams playing 8U can have an asst. coach as backup for catcher. 8U teams cannot.

No walks allowed. No maximum pitch count. Player either hits or strikes out.

Maximum of 3 coaches on the field (1B, 3B and pitching machine feeding balls)

**Umpire behind plate calling strikes only. Player can strike out with called or swinging strikes but not walked by the pitching machine.

***Metal spikes 16 and older (not 14s)

Baseball (8U-11U)

	8 & under		9 & Under		10 & Under		11 & Under	
	Select	American	Select	American	Select	American	Select	American
Base Length	60	60	65	65	65	65	70	70
Pitching Distance	40	40	45	45	45	45	50	50
Innings Played	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Game Time limits	1 hr 30 mins		1 hr 45 mins		1 hr 45 mins		1 hr 45 mins	
Complete Game	3 innings		3 innings		3 innings		3 innings	
Mercy Rules	None		15/3 & 10/4 & 8/5		15/3 & 10/4 & 8/5		15/3 & 10/4 & 8/5	
Max Runs per Inning	7	7	7	7	No Limit	7	No Limit	7
Pitching Outs Allowed	9 outs	Machine	9 outs	9 outs	12 outs	12 outs	12 outs	12 outs
Balks Enforced	No	N/A	1 Warning	No	Yes	1 Warning	Yes	Yes
Lead-Off/ Steals	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Steal Home	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Drop 3rd Strike	Out	Out	Yes	Out	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Bat the Roster	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Infield Fly Observed	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Bunting Allowed	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Courtesy Runner	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Metal Spikes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Bat Ratio- Rules	None	None	None	None	None	None	-9.5	-9.5
Bat Length (max 2 3/4")	30" Max		31" Max		32" Max		33" max	
Pitching Mounds	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Baseball (12U-High School)

	12 & Under		13 & Under		14 & Under		High School
	Select	American	Select	American	Select	American	
Base Length	70	70	80	80	90	90	90
Pitching Distance	50	50	54	54	60'6"	60'6"	60'6"
Innings Played	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Game Time limits	1 hr 45 mins		1 hr 45 mins		1 hr 45 mins		1 hr 45 mins
Complete Game	3 innings		3 innings		3 innings		3 innings
Mercy Rules	15/3 & 10/4 & 8/5		15/3 & 10/4 & 8/5		15/3 & 10/4 & 8/5		15/3 & 10/4 & 8/5
Max Runs per Inning	No Limit	7	No Limit	7	No Limit	7	7
Pitching Outs Allowed	15 outs	15 outs	15 outs	15 outs	21 outs	21 outs	21 outs
Balks Enforced	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Lead-Off/ Steals	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Steal Home	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Drop 3rd Strike	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Bat the Roster	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Infield Fly Observed	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Bunting Allowed	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Courtesy Runner	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Metal Spikes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Bat Ratio- Rules	-9.5	-9.5	-5.5	-5.5	-5.5	-5.5	-3
Bat Length (max 2 3/4")	33" max		34" max		34" max		36" max
Pitching Mounds	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Miscellaneous

The following resources are available for information. CBSA does not promote nor sponsor any vendors or manufacturers represented by these sites. Access is at the sole discretion of each umpire.

Websites

Suppliers of umpire plate equipment, clothing and apparel, accessories:

www.asasoftball.com
www.gerrydavis.com
www.officialgear.com
www.honigs.com
www.gerrydavis.com
www.getofficial.com
www.rawlings.com

Suppliers of player/team equipment:

www.adamsusa.com
www.rulesofsoftball.com
www.rawlings.com
www.eteamz.com
www.umpire.org

General Information, rules interpretations, discussion forums:

www.naso.org National Assoc. of Sports Officials
www.amateurumpire.com Info and recommendations for all levels
www.softballsearch.com/softballrules links to various sites
www.macroweb.com/ibrules interactive tests on rules
www.baseball-rules.com Jim Brown's interactive rules & myths site
www.baseball-links.com John Skilton's links to umpire and rules pages
www.gmcgriff.com referee/umpire home page general resource

Books & Publications

Available by special order via ISBN number:

Official Rules of Major League Baseball	ISBN: 1-57243-143-1
ASA Official Rules	contact ASA to obtain
Make the Right Call	ISBN: 1-57243-112-1
N.A.P.B.L. Umpire Manual	ISBN: 1-57243-259-4

Periodicals

Available via contact or membership:

Hey Blue! (monthly newsletter)	kwalker@pei.sympatico.ca
Referee Magazine (free if you join NASO)	www.referee.com