

2016
GENERAL RULES
Revised 11/2015

- 1) Rules not covered by our League rules are covered by the current ASA or USSSA Rule book.
- 2) There will be no more than three (3) adults in each dugout or on the field during a game (Excluding Pixies and Peewees). At least two adults must be present during every game, and at every team function. An adult female should be available to attend to any injury to a team member. **(League By-Laws, Article VII. Sections 6 and 7).**
- 3) No new inning shall start after 1 hour and 20 minutes, unless a tie situation exists. The run rule is twelve (12) runs after three (3) innings, Ten (10) runs after four (4) innings, or eight (8) after five (5) innings or 1 hour and 20 minutes, except where stipulated in Division rules. There shall be no tie games. Play shall continue until a winner is decided, unless the game is called due to weather or darkness. The game will resume on a date determined by the Chief Player Agent. The same line-up must be used, as much as possible. If the time limit has been reached at the end of a completed inning and a tie score exists, the international tie breaker rule will be implemented, regardless of the inning. In all scoring divisions there will be a five (5) run limit per inning including junior/intermediate.
- 4) Home team shall be the last team listed on the schedule and will occupy the third base dugout.
- 5) **Home team** is responsible for chalking the field and returning the chalking equipment. **Visiting team** is responsible for raking the infield after the game. **North Des Moines Managers and Co/Managers-Coaches** are responsible for both during inner-league games. All teams are responsible for raking the infield after each practice.
- 6) Each team will be given line-up cards for the season. A completed line-up card will be turned in after each game. Line-up cards will include the substitute players. **Game will not be counted for the team if a line-up card is not turned in.** The scorekeepers, one from each team, must identify each other to the opposing team and the umpire before the game starts and exchange line-up cards. The plate umpire and the scorekeepers shall keep the official time with the time on the fence. Home team is the official book.

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- 7A) A manager must field six (6) players from his/her team roster by ten (10) minutes after the scheduled starting time, or forfeit the game with the exception of the Pixie and Peewee division. If neither manager can field a team, both teams forfeit. Forfeited games will not be rescheduled.
- 7B) Teams are allowed to pick up players, same age division or lower, up to nine (9) players, provided they can field six (6) players from their own roster. The players picked up cannot take the position of another girl from the team and are not a pitcher or a catcher. They will be listed last in the line-up and will play an outfield position.
- 8 No automatic outs will be imposed for teams starting the game with less than nine (9) players.
- 9) All Managers will be given the schedule at the first Manager/Co-Managers meeting and must alert the Chief Player Agent around April 1st, of any **known** scheduling conflicts due to school or other activities.
- 10) Games will be called for weather, darkness, or temperature when agreed upon by a minimum of three or more board members. - A minimum temperature of 45 degrees at the ball park is required. All games in progress shall be stopped immediately when the games are called. The decision as to the playability of each field shall be final.
- 11) Suspended games called by the Board Members shall resume play to the point where the game was called. The same line-up must be used, as much as possible.
- 12) Batting line-up will consist of all players on the team that are present. If an offensive player becomes sick or injured, and must be removed from the game, a Manager/Co-Manager will use their last batter, not on base, to replace that offensive player for that inning. Situation 1: The injured or sick offensive player will be allowed to return to the game in their same place in the batting line-up. Situation 2: If the injured or sick offensive player is not able to return to the game, their place in the batting line-up will simply be skipped over. This **WILL NOT** be counted as an out.
- 13) If a defensive player must be removed for illness or injury, the Manager/Co-Manager will place an available player that started as a substitute, into the defensive line-up. If no substitute is available, the defensive team can play shorthanded or pick up a player per Rule 7B. A Manager must be able to field a team of at least six (6) players to continue the game except in the Pixie and Peewee Division.

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- 14) (PIXIE, **PETITE, JUNIOR & INTERMEDIATE DIVISIONS ONLY**) No player shall sit the bench for more than two (2) innings per game except for disciplinary action.
- 15) The Manager or Co-Manager has the responsibility to bench any player for profanity, misconduct, or absences without excuse from practice or games. Notification of disciplinary action must be given to the opposing team manager and scorekeeper prior to the game or at the time of the infraction. The Manager or Co-Manager must notify, in writing, the Chief Player Agent prior to initiation of the disciplinary action. (**League By-Laws, Article VII, Sec. 5D**).
- 16) Metal spike or metal cleats are allowed in the intermediate division only.
- 17) Both teams' players and parents are responsible for cleaning up around the field and their respective bleachers following each game before treat tickets are given out.
- 18) Use of tobacco products is allowed in designated areas in compliance with the state law. The designated smoking area is the parking lot. Including the area north of fields 2, 4, and 6 beyond the outfield.
- 19) There will be no written protests. A disagreement shall be settled between manager(s), umpire, and Board Members present, before the next ball is pitched. **Judgment calls shall not be protested.**
- 20) Any color batting helmet may be worn during league play providing it is NOCSAE approved. All batting helmets must have chin straps and face mask, which must be used at all times. Failure to use chin straps will result in 1st offense – team warning, 2nd offense batter is out. Players are required to provide their own helmet with chin strap and face masks. Outer wearing apparel may be worn if conditions warrant.
- 21) The age brackets for the Five (5) divisions in the league are:
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| Intermediates: 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, and 18 | Juniors: 11 and 12 |
| Petites: 9 and 10 | Pixies: 7 and 8 |
| Peewee: 5 and 6 | |
- 22) When warming up a pitcher by another player, either at a game or practice, other than an adult, the person catching is required to wear a catcher's mask or batting helmet.

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- 23) Each Manager/Co-Manager is required to pay a \$50 deposit before the first game of the season. **The \$50 must be turned in by the first game; otherwise each game will be a forfeit.** Upon fulfilling the team concession stand dates, turning in the league issued equipment, the deposit will be returned. Failure to fulfill concession stand dates will result in forfeiture of the \$50 deposit. Second time results in forfeiture of a win.
- 24) League practice will take precedence over tournament practice.
- 25) Players playing outside their age division must request an exception with the board.
- 26) There shall be an Officer of the Day who will be the first point of contact for all questions that arise. Additional responsibilities will include the setting up the fields for the games of the day (ie: setting up scoreboxes, setting out the balls of the games, raising of the flag and national anthem, 2nd count for concession stand, and coordination of the game day umpires). All members except the members at large are required to be officers of the day.