

# Western Wisconsin Baseball League

## End of Year Tournament Information

### Philosophy:

The end of year tournament philosophy is that the End of Year tournament is a “new season” where all teams start with a 0 – 0 record. The regular season standings are used for pool seeding purposes, but they have no bearing on the play offs, including tie-breakers.

### Format:

- Format will consist of pool play followed by a Championship bracket tournament.
- All teams are guaranteed at least 2 games. Will attempt to schedule so that each team plays once on home field game.
- Seeding for the playoffs will be determined based on the league standings at the **end of week 7**.
  - 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place teams in each division will be seeded in pool play.
  - Filling the rest of the pools will be done in order to equalize the pools as closely as possible.
- Hosting community must ensure field is prepped and an umpire is assigned to the game.
- Winners of each pool will advance to the Final Four bracket games played at the **NR Hatfield complex and the Star Prairie field**.
- 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> place trophies/medals will be awarded from bracket play.

### Tournament responsibilities:

- Hosting community must prep the field and supply umpires for tournament games.
- All disputes must be resolved at the game, there is no protest mechanism.

## WWBL Playoff Rules

Unless otherwise specified, rules will be the same as during the regular season.

- Home team determined by **flip of coin** before game
  - Home team keeps the official book. Highly recommend you compare books every half inning so there are no discrepancies.
- All players in the tournament must have played in at least 1/2 of the regular season's games
  - Exception will be made for:
    - Player(s) that missed games due to injury
    - Supplemental players if needed to have 8 or 9 players at a game.
- There is no time limit for playoff games.
- The 10-Run rule is still in effect.
- Tournament games cannot end in a tie. If the game is tied at the end of 7 innings, use the following **extra-innings procedure**:
  - The player who had the last official at-bat for the last out in the previous inning will be placed on 2nd base to start each half of the 8th inning and each consecutive half-inning needed to complete the game.
  - The half inning will start with 0 outs and a runner on 2<sup>nd</sup> base.
- All disputes must be resolved at the game - there is no protest mechanism
- Pitchers are limited to 4 innings a game with 1 re-entry. If a game goes into extra innings, pitchers are awarded 2 extra innings with a single re-entry.
  - During first 7 innings:
    - Player pitched 4 innings, is awarded 2 extra innings
    - Player pitched 3 innings, can pitch for 3 innings during extra innings
    - Player pitched 2 innings, can pitch 4 innings during extra innings,
    - Player pitched 1 inning, can pitch 5 innings during extra innings.
- There is **no weekly maximum** of inning pitched during the tournament.

## Pool Play

- **WINNING TEAM** must report score to wwbleague@yahoo.com the **SAME NIGHT** as the game or **EARLY** the next morning
  - You can also text your score to 651-442-4438, but e-mail is the preferred method of reporting scores.
- The 1<sup>st</sup> place teams in each pool will advance to bracket play.
- Tie breakers apply only to the games between the teams that are tied at the end of pool play.
- Tie breakers may be used to determine pool 1st and 2nd place, then re-applied to determine teams that advance to Bracket Play.
- Tie breakers in order of precedence:
  1. Head-to-Head game
  2. Total runs allowed in pool play
  3. Total runs scored in pool play
  4. Coin Flip

### Example: 3 team pool, all 3 teams have a 1-1 pool record

Game 1 A=5, B=4      Team A: 1 – 1      Allowed 10 runs in pool play

Game 2 A=3, C=6      Team B: 1 – 1      Allowed 7 runs in pool play

Game 3 B=6, C=2      Team C: 1 – 1      Allowed 9 runs in pool play

- Cannot use “head-to-head” tie breaker, all 3 teams are 1-1

- The “Runs allowed” tie breaker eliminates team A (highest # of runs allowed) and leaves teams B & C

- Re-apply tie breakers and team B is pool 1<sup>st</sup> place due to head-to-head win over team C.

## Rain out or Darkness rules

Below are the scenarios when a game gets called because of weather or darkness:

- The Umpire has the final say as to whether or not to continue a game if there is a dispute as to whether or not to continue a game.
  - Safety is always the primary concern when making a decision to continue a game.
- The game is considered **FINAL** if:
  - 5 or more innings completed and the teams have had the same number of at-bats.
  - 4 ½ innings have been completed and the home team is ahead at the time the game was called.
  - 5 or more innings have been completed and the teams have not had the same number of at-bats
    - the score will be that of the **LAST COMPLETED INNING** unless the home team is ahead at the time the game was called.
- The game is considered **POSTPONED** and must be completed if:
  - The game is called before 5 completed innings (or 4 ½ if home team is ahead at the time the game was called)
    - The postponed game will start with the score at the **LAST COMPLETED ½ INNING**
    - The lineup and pitcher do not have to be the same as when the original game was called.
      - Pitchers will have 4 innings allowed and 1 re-entry in postponed game.
  - 1st rained out/postponed game, play on the first available date at originally scheduled field
  - 2nd rained out/postponed game, play on the second available date on originally scheduled field
  - In either scenario, If the scheduled field is unavailable, move the game to the other team's field