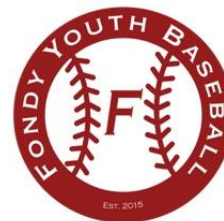




FDLSD Community Ed & Rec Dept
72 W. 9th Street
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Phone: 920-929-2885



**2026 YOUTH BASEBALL
3rd/4th GRADE (Third/Fourth Grade)**

This league shall be governed by the official WIAA High School Baseball rules with the following exceptions.

I. PLAYING FIELD DIMENSIONS

Pitching distance is 46'; baselines will be 60' or 65".

II. PLAYING RULES

- A. It is not within the power of the umpire or coaches to suspend any of the rules.
- B. Players completing Third Grade and Fourth Grade this school year must play in the 3rd/4TH Grade League
- C. Rosters shall be a maximum of 15 youths.
- D. Ten players will play in the field at one time. The 10th player must play in the outfield.
- E. Every member of the team roster appearing on time at the game must be given the opportunity to play two (2) complete innings by the fourth (4th) inning. A complete inning consists of six (6) consecutive outs.
- F. No fake tags will be allowed in any league.
- G. Adults or players may coach at first and third bases. Only one (1) coach will be allowed in the coaching box at a time. Players or minors coaching a base must wear a helmet.
- H. A regulation game will be six innings or four innings if called because of rain or darkness.
- I. A game will be called if one team is 12 runs ahead at the end of four (4) innings, or 10 runs ahead at the end of five (5) innings.
- J. The umpire shall call out a runner leading off before a pitched ball crosses home plate.
- K. Runners may advance a their own risk with the following exceptions:
 - a. Runners may NOT score from third base on a passed ball or wild pitch.
 - b. Runners may NOT score from third base on an errant throw back to the pitcher by the catcher.
 - c. Runners may NOT score from third base if a play is being made on a runner stealing 2nd base. (No first and third stealing plays)

Runners can ONLY score when a ball is contacted and put into play by the batter or in a forced in situation. (Hit by pitch or walk). In addition, if a play is made on a runner at a base and the ball goes out of play, the runners will be awarded one base and a runner at third may score. (NOTE:

a caught foul ball is considered a ball “in play” and the runner from 3rd base can tag and score).

- L. A player may not square away to bunt, and then swing away. If this occurs, a dead ball will be called and the batter will be called out.
- M. “All runners must attempt to slide **FEET FIRST** when any “Play” or “Attempted Play” is being made on them going into a base or home plate. Failure to slide will result in “Dead Ball” being called and the runner that did not slide being called out.” (**Umpire's Discretion**)
- N. Tennis shoes or rubber spikes may be worn.
- O. Infield fly rule is “NOT” in effect.
- Q. Teams must bat their entire roster.
- R. A maximum of 5 runs may be scored per inning by the hitting team during regular season games. This rule is waived for the playoffs.

EXTRA INNINGS

If a game requires extra innings, each “extra” inning will use the California Rule
The California Rule will have the following...

- 1) The team up to bat shall place the player that made the last out (in the prior inning) at second base
- 2) The inning will start with one out already given to the batting team
- 3) Each at bat will start with a 1-1 count
- 4) For pitching rules, the automatic out does not count as an out towards the pitcher’s eligibility.

PITCHING

- A. PITCHING RULES:
 1. No balk rule for pitching
 2. A player shall not pitch more than 6 “outs” per game and 9 “outs” per day..
 3. The batter may not take first base on a dropped third strike.
 4. No curve balls are allowed - See Rule III, Section C of the General Rules.
- B. The coach will be allowed one (1) free trip to the mound per inning, per pitcher; on the second trip the pitcher must be relieved.
- C. Time between innings: New pitchers will be allowed eight (8) pitches. Returning pitchers are allowed five (5) pitches.
- D. A walked batter gets first base only.
- E. **Pitchers may intentionally walk an opposing batter** by simply signaling to the home plate umpire – no pitches need to be thrown and the batter will be awarded first base only.
- F. Once a player is removed from pitching, they may not return to pitch in that game.

CATCHERS

- A. Catchers are required to wear all protective equipment - please read General Rules, Page 4 - VI - C,
- B. COURTESY RULE: A RUNNER **"MUST"** BE USED AFTER TWO (2) OUTS FOR THE CATCHER ONLY. THE COURTESY RUNNER WILL BE THE RUNNER WHO MADE THE LAST OUT. **THE CATCHER MUST CATCH THE ENTIRE NEXT INNING. ALL THREE (3) OUTS.**
- C. No player will warm up a pitcher without a catcher's facemask during a game or practice.

EQUIPMENT

- A. BATS
 - 1. All bats must have the "USA Baseball" stamp on bat to be legal