



# 2026 Baseball Rules and Regulations

## ROSL Baseball Rules Summary

	<b>Tee Ball</b> 2026 director: Kyle VanDeventer	<b>Control Pitch</b> 2026 director: David Maxwell	<b>10U Freehan</b> 2026 director: Benard Dorer	<b>12U Cabrera</b> 2026 director: Lou Barkman	<b>14U Kaline</b> 2026 director: Matt Reynolds	<b>18U Harwell</b> 2026 director: Tommy Carion
<b>General</b>						
<b>Age</b>	<b>6U</b>	<b>8U</b>	<b>10U</b>	<b>12U</b>	<b>14U</b>	<b>15-18</b>
<b>Partner Communities</b>	N/A		Warren	Warren, Bloomfield Hills,	Waterford, Warren, Bloomfield, Ferndale	Troy, Waterford, Clawson, Madison Heights, Warren
<b>Season Schedule</b>						
<b>Number of Practices</b>	1/week	2/ week at season start until games begin recommended.	2/ week at season start until games begin recommended.	2/ week at season start until games begin recommended.	2/ week at season start until games begin recommended.	2/ week at season start until games begin recommended; ROSL Harwell teams typically have joint practices before season starts
<b>Number of Games</b>	12 (allow for up to 3 rainouts)	12 (allow for up to 3 rainouts)	13 (allow for up to 3 rainouts)	13 (allow for up to 3 rainouts)	13 (allow for up to 3 rainouts)	13 (allow for up to 3 rainouts)
<b>Playoffs</b>	None	None	Single Elimination. All teams make playoffs.	Single Elimination. All teams make playoffs.	All teams make playoffs. Single-elimination playoff rounds.	All teams make playoffs. To be eligible to pitch postseason, a player must play in 50% of

						“playable” regular season games.
<b>World Series</b>			Single game	Single game	Single game	Single game
<b>Game Play</b>						
<b># of Innings</b>	3 innings or time	6 innings or time	6 innings or time	6 innings or time	7 innings or time	7 innings or time
<b>Complete Game</b>	N/A	2 innings	4 innings (3.5 if home team is ahead)	4 innings (3.5 if home team is ahead)	5 innings (4.5 if home team is ahead)	5 innings (4.5 if home team is ahead)
<b>Time Limit</b>	1hr 15 min	1 hr. 30 min.	1 hr. 30 min. (no new inning after 1:30)  No time limit for World Series	1 hr. 45 min. (no new inning after 1:45)  No time limit for World Series	1 hr. 45 min. (no new inning after 1:45)  No time limit for World Series	2 hours
<b>Base Distance</b>	60'	60'	65'	70'	80' (old:75)	90'
<b>Pitching Distance</b>	N/A	Between 35'-45' of plate	46'	50'	54'	60.5'
<b>Home Field</b>	The home team will occupy the third base bench.	The home team will occupy the third base bench.	The home team will occupy the third base bench.	The home team will occupy the third base bench.	The home team will occupy the third base bench, except for Worden #4.	The home team will occupy the third base bench, except for Worden #4.
<b>Infield Practice</b>			Beginning 15 minutes before the game, each team gets 6 minutes maximum of infield practice (visiting team first)	Beginning 15 minutes before the game, each team gets 6 minutes maximum of infield practice (visiting team first)	Beginning 15 minutes before the game, each team gets 6 minutes maximum of infield practice (visiting team first)	Beginning 15 minutes before the game, each team gets 6 minutes maximum of infield practice (visiting team first)
<b>Inning Max(Mercy Rule)</b>	The whole lineup each inning bats	Once through the lineup, but coaches discretion for large team sizes to keep it to 10	7 runs per inning (can tie and go up 7 runs if down at the beginning of the final inning)	7 runs per inning (can tie and go up 7 runs if down at the beginning of the final inning)	7 runs per inning (can tie and go up 7 runs if down at the beginning of the final inning)	7 runs per inning (can tie and go up 7 runs if down at the beginning of the final inning)

<b>Game Mercy Rule</b>	N/A	N/A	10-run lead after 5 innings (4 ½ innings if home team is ahead)	10-run lead after 5 innings (4 ½ innings if home team is ahead)	10-run lead after 6 innings (5 ½ innings if home team is ahead)	10-run lead after 6 innings (5 ½ innings if home team is ahead)
<b>Game Results</b>			All game scores are to be input in SportsEngine within 24 hours of the game completion. This is the responsibility of the winning manager.	All game scores are to be input in SportsEngine within 24 hours of the game completion. This is the responsibility of the winning manager.	All game scores are to be input in SportsEngine within 24 hours of the game completion. This is the responsibility of the winning manager.	All game scores are to be input in SportsEngine within 24 hours of the game completion. This is the responsibility of the winning manager.
<b>Min/Max Players on Field</b>	Max 11	7/10	7/9 Must be 7 players rostered to start a game. No out recorded for eighth/ninth batter if team starts game with 7.	7/9 Must be 7 players rostered to start a game. No out recorded for eighth/ninth batter if team starts game with 7.	7/9 Must be 7 players rostered to start a game. No out recorded for eighth/ninth batter if team starts game with 7.	7/9
<b>4th Outfielder</b>	Yes; 5th outfielder optional	Yes	No	No	No	No

<b>Minimum Defensive</b>	All players play defense	Players must play multiple defensive positions throughout the game and continually rotated throughout the season. -Coaches, please work with players on being comfortable in the catcher's gear at your practices. It's important to give each kid a chance behind the plate to build confidence.	All players must play at least 2 defensive innings by end of fourth inning. Do not have to be consecutive. After the bottom of the fourth, all players are eligible to play defense the rest of the game. Coaches are encouraged to have all players play one inning minimum in a non-outfield position.	3 complete innings for all  Coaches are encouraged to have all players play one inning minimum in a non-outfield position.	3 complete innings for all  Coaches are encouraged to have all players play one inning minimum in a non-outfield position.	3 complete innings for all
<b>Exception 12U-18U Only</b>				Exception: If a Player is coming late and/or must leave early, and his Manager has notified the opposing Manager prior to the start of the game, the Player may play less than his 3 complete innings and forfeit will not result. This must be noted on the official score sheet.		
<b>Absent Players 18U Only</b>	Once a decision has been made prior to the start of a game that a player will not play in a game, that player may not enter the game under any circumstances. Penalty will be forfeiture of the game. The opposing manager must be notified prior to the start of a game and must sign the official score sheet acknowledging the decision. Late Arriving / Early Departing Players - These players will be allowed to play in a game. The manager of the opposing team must be notified at the beginning of the game in either case of late arriving or early departing players.					
<b>Bench/Dugout Rules All Leagues</b>	Only players, managers, coaches, and score keepers are allowed in the dugout during the game. Players not currently playing must remain in the dugout during a game. Brothers, sisters, relatives, or friends may not be in the dugout at any time during a game.					

<b>Player Ejection</b>		N/A	<p>If a player is ejected, they cannot be replaced and the team must take an out in the batting order.</p> <p>The ejected player may participate in the next scheduled game if it is their first ejection.</p> <p>For each additional ejection beyond 1, the player must sit out a number of games equal to their total number of ejections minus 1. The games missed will be the next consecutive scheduled, played games.</p>	<p>If a player is ejected, they cannot be replaced and the team must take an out in the batting order.</p> <p>The ejected player may participate in the next scheduled game if it is their first ejection.</p> <p>For each additional ejection beyond 1, the player must sit out a number of games equal to their total number of ejections minus 1. The games missed will be the next consecutive scheduled, played games.</p>	<p>If player is ejected in first three innings, they can be replaced. If a substituted player is ejected, they can be replaced. If a player who started is ejected after three innings, they cannot be replaced and must take an out in the batting order.</p>	<p>If player is ejected in first three innings, they can be replaced. If a substituted player is ejected, they can be replaced. If a player who started is ejected after three innings, they cannot be replaced and must take an out in the batting order.</p>
<b>Coach Ejection</b>	<p>If a coach or manager is ejected before, during or after a game, they additionally must sit out the next scheduled, played game as a one-game suspension.</p>	<p>If a coach or manager is ejected before, during or after a game, they additionally must sit out the next scheduled, played game as a one-game suspension.</p>	<p>If a coach or manager is ejected before, during or after a game, they additionally must sit out the next scheduled, played game as a one-game suspension.</p>	<p>If a coach or manager is ejected before, during or after a game, they additionally must sit out the next scheduled, played game as a one-game suspension.</p>	<p>If a coach or manager is ejected before, during or after a game, they additionally must sit out the next scheduled, played game as a one-game suspension.</p>	<p>If a coach or manager is ejected before, during or after a game, they additionally must sit out the next scheduled, played game as a one-game suspension.</p>
<b>Base Running</b>						
<b>Lead Off</b>	No. Stay on base until ball is hit off tee	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes

<b>Stealing</b>	No Only one base gained per fairly batted ball	No stealing and players may only take an additional base (doubles) if the batted ball reaches the outfield. No triples or home-runs and no advancement on overthrows.	Runners may steal 2nd and 3rd base after pitched ball crosses home plate. No stealing home; runners only score on batted ball or force home on walk.	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Dropped Third Strike?</b>	N/A	N/A	No dropped third strike rule. Batter out on every strikeout.	Batter may reach base on dropped third strike.	Batter may reach base on dropped third strike.	Batter may reach base on dropped third strike.
<b>Infield Fly</b>	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Courtesy Runner</b>	N/A	Courtesy runner encouraged for catcher. The courtesy runner must be the last player who was out.	Courtesy runner encouraged for catcher. The courtesy runner must be the last player who was out.	Courtesy runner encouraged for catcher. The courtesy runner must be the last player who was out.	Courtesy runner encouraged for catcher. The courtesy runner must be the last player who was out.	Courtesy runner encouraged for catcher. The courtesy runner must be the last player who was out.
<b>Batting</b>						
<b>Batting Order</b>	All players bat	All players bat	All players bat continuously.  Must be 7 players present to start a game. No out recorded for eighth or ninth batter if team starts game with fewer than 9.  Coaches can contact league director at least 48 hours before game start to attempt to reschedule game.	All players bat continuously.  Must be 7 players present to start a game. No out recorded for eighth or ninth batter if team starts game with fewer than 9.  Coaches can contact league director at least 48 hours before game start to attempt to reschedule game.	All players bat continuously.  Must be 7 players present to start a game. No out recorded for eighth or ninth batter if team starts game with fewer than 9.  Coaches can contact league director at least 48 hours before game start to attempt to reschedule game.	All players bat continuously.  Must be 7 players present to start a game. No out recorded for eighth or ninth batter if team starts game with fewer than 9.  Coaches can contact league director at least 48 hours before game start to attempt to reschedule game.

<b>Bunts</b>	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Pitching</b>						
<b>Innings Limits</b>	N/A	N/A	3 innings max. (1 pitch = an inning).	3 innings max (1 pitch = an inning).	4 innings max (1 pitch = an inning). If a pitcher throws 1 pitch beyond 3 innings, that pitcher must rest a minimum of 60 hours before next pitch thrown. Rest begins at midnight following gameday.	7 innings max (1 pitch of an inning = inning pitched). If a pitcher throws 1 pitch beyond 5 innings in a game, that pitcher must rest a minimum of 72 hours before throwing a pitch in a future game. Rest clock begins at midnight following game day.
<b>Curveballs</b>	N/A	No curveballs	No curveballs	No curveballs	Curveballs allowed	Curveballs allowed
<b>Intentional Walks</b>	N/A	N/A	No intentional walks	No intentional walks	No intentional walks	Allowed; motioned to the umpire by the defensive manager or pitcher
<b>Mound Visits</b>	N/A	N/A	One per inning per pitcher without substitution (must take out after one); a third trip to the mound per game for a single pitcher also must result in substitution (two per player per game is allowed)	One per inning per pitcher without substitution (must take out after one); a third trip to the mound per game for a single pitcher also must result in substitution (two per player per game is allowed)	One per inning per pitcher without substitution (must take out after one); a third trip to the mound per game for a single pitcher also must result in substitution (two per player per game is allowed)	One per inning per pitcher without substitution (must take out after one); a third trip to the mound per game for a single pitcher also must result in substitution (two per player per game is allowed)
<b>Balk</b>	N/A	N/A	No balks	Balks are called. One warning per pitcher. One base awarded.	Balks are called. One base awarded.	Balks are called. One base awarded.
<b>Equipment</b>						

<b>Ball Type</b>	Tball	Baseball	Baseball	Baseball	Baseball	Baseball
<b>Bat Requirements</b>	USA or USSSA Bats allowed; Wood bats allowed	USA or USSSA Bats allowed; Wood bats allowed	USA or USSSA Bats allowed; Wood bats allowed	USA or USSSA Bats allowed; Wood bats allowed	USA or USSSA Bats allowed; Wood bats allowed; Drop 3 BBCOR allowed	Drop 3 BBCOR  One pitch with illegal bat = batter called out, team warned. One more infraction that game results in an ejection
<b>Cleats</b>	Rubber only or tennis shoes	Rubber only	Rubber only	Rubber only	Rubber only	No metal on turf, otherwise allowed

# Weather Conditions

## **Rain during the day -**

The ROSL Sports office will determine the field conditions and make a decision to play or cancel games by 5:00 pm on the day of games. Pay attention to text messages and e-mails informing you of any cancellations. If ROSL cancels the games, there may be multiple scenarios: All games canceled, certain fields cancelled (some may be playable), partner communities (ex: games in Madison Heights) may or may not be cancelled based on fields or a combination of all the above. In the event of ROSL cancellations there will be no forfeits and games will be made up only if we are under the minimum numbers of games needed per Division.

## **Thunderstorms with Lightning -**

The game will be suspended immediately. Players should seek covered shelter or dugout. A 15-minute waiting period will occur after the last sign of lightning. If lightning continues for more than 30 minutes, the game will be canceled.

## **Tornado Watch (Conditions exist for tornado but no sightings)**

If this is in effect prior to the game time/or during game time, the game may be played but be alert for warning siren.

## **Tornado Warning (Tornado has been sighted)**

If warnings exist prior to game time, games will be canceled.

If warnings exist during a game, the game will be suspended immediately. All persons should take cover. Managers must make sure all players have made it to safe cover. Stay in a safe place until weather conditions improve.

**Heat Conditions and Air Quality** - If a heat index relative to humidity and temperature is reached the game will be canceled and managers notified accordingly. If an air quality exceeds 150, the game must be canceled.

**Light Rain** - Games can be played during light rain if field conditions allow.

## **Game Suspension Time Limit -**

Games will not be called due to weather for at least 30 minutes after the game is suspended. Unless the umpire calls the game for another reason (daylight), the game can resume within 30 minutes of the initial delay, weather permitting.

## **Rainout Rule -**

If all softball teams in a given league are rained out, no games will be made up from that day in that league. However, if one team completes an official game, all other teams must make up their scheduled games.

**Canceled Games** - Postponed or abbreviated games will not be rescheduled unless the rainout limit is reached.

### **Rainout Game Limit-**

Only three (3) games can be lost from the season. If a league were to be rained out more than 3 times, the 4th rainout and all further rainouts must be rescheduled.

The ROSL shall make every attempt to play each game to its completion while at the same time ensuring the safety of the players.

### **Championship Games**

All championship games must be played to completion based on the rules of that division. In the event of a rain delay, the teams will complete the game on another date and time.

## **SCHEDULING**

ROSL schedulers will publish the schedule in advance of May 1st of that season, which will be distributed by the Director of each Division. Within 10 days of receiving the schedule, a team may request an accommodation or adjustment based on conflicts. After the expiration of the 10 day period, the schedule is considered final.

After the schedule is final, any changes must follow the following procedure:

1. Requesting coach reaches out to accommodating coach and suggests alternative dates to proceed;
2. If coaches agree on a replacement date, Requesting coach emails the Director with the agreed upon dates. The Requesting coach **must** forward the email chain showing agreement between coaches;
- 3. Agreement and email to Director must be made 48 hours in advance**

The Director will attempt to secure the date(s) requested. If the date is not available, the process is to be repeated in step 1. If no further dates are agreeable, the original date remains the date of the game.

# Sports Code of Conduct

## Players

It is the intention of the ROSL to provide a healthy environment for the players while they learn and experience the game of baseball or softball.

It is with this intention that it is required that the registered player and parent/guardian sign the Sports Code of Conduct below securing the partnership between the player, family and league.

As a Player, I understand that I must follow these rules as a player in good standing:

1. Play and follow its rules and regulations.
2. Show respect for authority to the officials of the game and of the league board members.
3. Demonstrate good sportsmanship before, during and after games.
4. Help parents and fans understand the league philosophy, so they can enjoy the game.
5. Be courteous to opposing teams and treat all players and coaches with respect.
6. Be modest when successful and be gracious in defeat.
7. Respect the privilege of the use of public facilities.
8. Refrain from the use of drugs, tobacco, alcohol and abusive language.
9. Resist jumping on the benches.

I agree that if I fail to abide by the aforementioned rules and guidelines, I will be subject to disciplinary action that could include, but is not limited to the following:

1. Verbal warning by an official, head coach, or any ROSL Officer or ROSL Board Member
2. Written Warning
3. Game suspension to players and parents.
4. Game forfeit through the official, coach or any ROSL Officer or ROSL Board member.

## **Coaches, Assistants, and Scorekeepers**

It is the intention of the ROSL to provide a healthy environment for the players while they learn and experience the game of baseball or softball.

It is with this intention that it is asked that the Coaches and Assistants sign the Sports Code of Conduct below securing the partnership between the Managers, Assistants and the league.

As a Coach/Assistant/Scorekeeper, I recognize that coaches are role models for their team members and all participants involved in the activity, and that sports help to develop a sense of teamwork, self-worth and sportsmanship.

As such, I agree to abide by the following:

1. Place the emotional and physical safety of any player ahead of a personal desire or external pressure to win.
2. Do my best to provide a safe playing environment for all participants.
3. Lead by example by demonstrating fair play and sportsmanship to all involved.
4. Provide a sports environment for my team that is free of drugs, tobacco, alcohol and abusive language and refrain from their use at all sporting events.
5. Respect the game and the league officials and communicate with them in an appropriate manner.
6. Be knowledgeable of the league rules and regulations and teach these rules to all players on my team.
7. Encourage my team members to play by the league rules and respect the rights of other players, coaches, fans and officials.
8. Be responsible for my own behavior and also the behavior of my team members, their parents and fans.

I agree that if I fail to abide by the aforementioned rules and guidelines, I will be subject to disciplinary action that could include, but is not limited to the following:

1. Verbal warning by official, head coach, any ROSL officer or ROSL Board Member.
2. Written warning
3. Game or Season Suspension
4. Game forfeit through the official or ROSL Officers or ROSL Board Member.



# Equipment

**Baseballs** - Baseball will be played with regulation baseballs of 5oz, 9". The home team should supply two new baseballs for each game. If these two are lost, then either team should supply a new ball or slightly used baseball. The home team will collect all baseballs they gave at the end of the game.

**Bases** - The home team is responsible for laying out the bases for all fields except Memorial Park. Bases should be properly staked into the field using provided stakes. Umpires, prior to the start of a game, please ensure that bases are adequately secured for safe play.

**Bats** - (Revised 2024), For divisions 6U-14U, players can use either USA or USSSA approved bats (they should be marked/stamped as such). BBCOR bats allowed for 14U. Wooden bat are also allowed. For High School division, players will use BBCOR-certified bats.

**Calculating the Drop Weight** - The drop weight is calculated by taking the weight of the bat (ounces), and subtracting the length of the bat (in inches). The drop number is the result and will be a negative number. The resulting number is the drop weight.  $\text{Weight} - \text{length} = \text{drop number}$

Examples:

27oz., 30 inch = -3

24oz., 30 inch = -6

19oz., 27 inch = -8

**Hitting Stick** – Hitting Sticks are banned from ROSL games. They are dangerous to all involved. They are allowed for practices on the field only, not behind the dugouts.

**Catchers Gear** - All players that catch for pitchers must wear ROSL provided, personal use or coach approved equipment. Chest protector, knee pads and gloves are provided for each team. Please ensure proper wear of the gear by ensuring all snaps, tie downs, and clips are properly secured. Please maintain the equipment as if it were your own and return in clean condition at the end of the season. Report damaged or broken equipment to the league equipment manager as necessary.

**Athletic Supporter and Cup** - All male players must wear a protective cup, especially catchers. Coaches do not permit players to catch if they do not have a cup. Players must be encouraged to wear protection for their own safety.

**Cleats** - Baseball cleat rules are as follows and vary between leagues. Players cleats or shoes must be approved by the coach. Failure to comply may result in ejection or suspension. Harwell players cannot wear metal cleats on Diamond 3 at Memorial Park. See rules grid above for more cleats guidance.

**Helmets** - Baseball helmets must be used in all practices and games when batting, whether provided by ROSL or supplied by the player.

# All Star Games

The ROSL mid-summer All Star Game will be played by all divisions coach pitch and up.

Teams are selected by nominating their top players to represent their team in the annual classic.

Each team will consist of up to, but not exceeding, 16 players.

A running batting order will be used. All rostered players are in the batting line-up.

The coaches for each All-Star team are picked by the Division Director

The All-Star team coach may select his own assistant coaches and should consider asking other head coaches within the division.

## Playoffs and Championship

Freehan, Cabrera, Kaline, and Harwell teams will get seeded into a playoff series at the conclusion of the regular season.

Teams are seeded according to final standings and set by the Division Directors. Standings are determined by winning percentage first, Head to Head record second, Head to Head run differential third and finally a coin toss if needed. Teams do not have to have played the same number of games.

Single-game eliminations are played in the postseason,

There is no time limit for Championship games.

All other playoff games will have the same time limit as regular season.

All mercy rules do not apply to Championship Games.

# General baseball rules

- 1. Eligibility** - To be eligible to participate in the ROSL, each player must register through the ROSL web site. You do not need to be a resident of Royal Oak to participate in the Sandlot league.
- 2. Middle and High School Athletes** - Players that are on middle or high school teams should consult with the school coach to determine if playing ROSL will be a conflict to the school team. The school team is the priority and participation in ROSL should not conflict with school teams. No ROSL coach can penalize players for missing practices/games in order to play for the school team
- 3. Playing Age** - Players must have reached the following ages by May 1 of the current year to be eligible to play in the following leagues:  
T-Ball: 5, 6  
Control Pitch: 7, 8  
Freehan: 9, 10  
Cabrera: 11, 12  
Kaline: 13, 14  
Harwell: 15, 16, 17, 18  
Note: Players have the option to move to a higher level following request from parent and Director approval.
- 4. Ineligible Players** - Any player that is not officially registered to play in any game will cause that team to forfeit all of the games in which the ineligible player participated in. All players must play in half of the regular season games to be eligible to play in the playoffs. A player that is not registered with ROSL cannot practice with any ROSL team at any sanctioned practice.
- 5. Rosters** - Teams must have a complete roster on file by opening day. Governing bodies (other communities) of teams playing in Royal Oak Sandlot Leagues are responsible for maintaining and vetting rosters.
- 6. Managers & Coaches** - Managers are selected by the Director of each league. Managers can select coaches and scorekeepers to assist in running the team. All coaches must be at least 18 years old. Any assistant coaches that are 17 and younger must wear a helmet if on the field of play. This is for insurance purposes. The names of all coaches and assistants must also be on the team roster and approved by the league Vice President.
- 7. Background Check** - All coaches, managers and scorekeepers must register for a background check to be performed. A background check must be performed before being allowed to interact with players.
- 8. Umpires** - The ROSL selects the umpires, and they serve the league to enforce the rules and ideals of baseball. They have the authority of the league Board of Directors to enforce the rules of the game and to ensure the game is played under the guidelines of the Code of Conduct.
- 9. Code of Conduct** - All players, coaches, managers, and parents must abide by the Code of Conduct shown above. The league holds this Code as a high priority and will enforce disciplinary action as necessary to uphold the expectations of the league.

**10. Jewelry** - Players cannot wear jewelry of any kind during games or practices. This includes watches, rings, wristbands, earrings, necklaces, etc. This is for the safety of the players and this rule will be enforced by umpires, managers, and parents. Break away necklaces are allowed.

**11. Pictures/Video** - Parents are not allowed on any field while a game is being played to take pictures or video. It is dangerous to the people involved and for our players being distracted.

**12. On deck area** - The on-deck area will be designated by the umpire prior to the start of the game. When no safe area is available behind the backstop or bench area, the on-deck batter will take a position away from and behind the batter. Only league approved bats are allowed in the on-deck circle. Approved donuts and weighted bats are OK to use with coach approval. No dangerous items may be permitted anywhere in the dugout, on-deck area, or field.

**13. Bat Safety** - A baseball bat can be dangerous if used carelessly. Care must be demonstrated while using a baseball bat and no bats should be swung outside of the batter's box or on-deck circle. Players must know their bat safety zone when preparing to use a bat. Coaches are encouraged to establish and enforce proper bat safety. Do not swing if others are nearby. Players must wear a helmet while using a bat.

**14. Throwing of Bats** - Players should refrain and learn to not throw bats. A warning may be issued by the umpire and/or additional offense will result in an out.

**15. Base Running** - Base runners are required to avoid contact with fielders in possession of the ball by sliding, avoiding the tag, or giving himself up. Any intentional contact initiated by a base runner or batter will be called out on the play and may be ejected from the game if determined by the umpire. Deliberate action by any Player to unnecessarily run over, knock down, step on, or otherwise interfere with a defending player will be cause for ejection from the game and suspension from the next two games. To reduce the potential for lower leg or ankle injury, players must slide into bases where there is a chance for a play. If there is doubt on a play, slide. Base coaches are there to assist the runner in making the decision. Listen to base coaches and do as they say. If there is a play at a base and they runner does not slide, they may be called out by the umpire as stated above.

**16. Fielders** - Defensive fielders and the catcher must allow a path to the base, that the baserunner is advancing to if there is no throw to the base that the fielder is covering. Catchers should allow runners to pass through home plate if no play is being made at home. Fake tags can lead to possible injury and should be avoided. Intentional fakes that lead to base runner injury may lead to the player being awarded the base, offender ejection from the game, and suspension from the next two games.

# Player disqualification

Any Manager may disqualify, for disciplinary reasons, any player that does not conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner or follow the **Code of Conduct**. The Manager must inform the League Director after the game in which the incident occurred, but no later than his next game. If this situation occurs a second time in any one season, the Player will not be allowed to further participate in an ROSL game until a meeting is held including the Player, the parents, the Manager, and the League Director to resolve the problem.

## **Umpires are instructed to eject from the game:**

1. Any Coach, Assistant, Spectator or Player who does not conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner.
2. Any Player that is ejected from a game will be restricted to the bench for the remainder of the game. Exception: An ejected Player may leave the field accompanied by a parent. Any additional unsportsmanlike conduct by the ejected Player may result in an additional suspension.
3. Any Player who talks back, throws equipment, or in any way does not conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner.
4. A defensive player making fake tags and obstructing the base runner will result in the defensive Player making the illegal action to be ejected from the game. The first offense requires a warning from the umpire and the second offense ejection of the player. The base runner will be awarded the base he was going to and one additional base.
5. Any deliberate action by any Player to unnecessarily run over, knock down, step on, or otherwise interfere with a defending player will be cause for ejection from the game and suspension from the next two games
6. Any Coach or Assistant that is ejected from a game will be required to leave the vicinity of the playing field and may not in any way communicate with players, coaches, Umpires or spectators. Exception: An injury or medical emergency.

A Player, Coach, or Assistant that is ejected from a game is ineligible to participate in the next game played. The suspended player must attend the next game in uniform and sit on the bench. Any Player ejected from more than two games in as season will not be eligible to participate in league all-star games, playoffs, or World Series.

The league will review each player case individually to determine any longer-term suspension for players who cannot abide by the rules of the league and follow the signed Code of Conduct.

# Injury procedure

If a player, coach, assistant, or umpire is injured during a ROSL authorized practice, clinic, pre-game warm-up or game and the injury results in the injured person being removed from the play/field the following actions shall be taken:

**Serious Injury** - If it is apparent to the player's parent or guardian, coach and/or umpire that the injured player is in immediate need of medical attention, the player's parent or guardian shall decide how the player should be transported to a medical treatment facility. If the player's parent or guardian are not present at the event or activity, the player's manager shall contact the Royal Oak Fire Department to respond and transport the player to the nearest Emergency Medical Facility. If an assistant coach is available, a coach should accompany the player to the Medical Facility if a parent is not available.

**Moderate Injury** – If the injured player is not in immediate need of medical treatment but the player needs to be removed from the game, practice or event, the coach shall notify the parent or guardian as soon as reasonably possible. It shall be the parent's responsibility to seek the appropriate medical attention for their child.

**Undetermined Injury** - If an injury takes place and the player continues in the game but later determines that the injury is of a nature that needs medical attention it shall be the responsibility of the parent to notify the coach and ROSL as soon as reasonably possible.

**Injury Report** - In all injury cases, the team manager must complete an injury report and submit it to the league Director. The report will be reviewed by the Board of Directors.

# Protests

The following protocol must be used to consider game protests:

1. Protests can be made on rule infractions only.
2. Protests must be brought to the attention of an Umpire at the time of the play and before the next pitch.
3. If the play in question is the last play of the game, the protest must be made to the Umpire before he leaves the field.
4. The point of interest will be noted on both score sheets and signed by both managers and the umpire.
5. A written protest, including the rule infraction, must be submitted to the League Director within two days of the game's conclusion.
6. The Umpire will submit a signed report to the League Director stating all the facts pertaining to the protest within three days of the game's conclusion.