

# TYBA Local Rules Addendum

## Safety

Practice batting is NOT allowed outside of the playing field at any time before, during or after games with the exception of scheduled practice inside of the League's batting cages. Teams may contact a board member regarding use of the batting cages. **The use of "Hit Sticks" is not permitted inside the playing field once the game has started.**

Between innings, the "at bat" and "on deck" batters may warm up between innings in the designated areas.

Dugout and bull pen gates shall remain closed at all times during games. **WE REQUEST THAT SIBLINGS AND OR YOUTH FAMILY MEMBERS NOT BE IN THE DUGOUT AT ANY TIME DURING THE GAMES UNLESS THE COACH/PARENT HAS NO OTHER SUPERVISION FOR THE SIBLING.**

In situations dealing with the safety of players, coaches and spectators, the Umpire-In-Charge or Field Director may make rulings not specifically identified within these Local Rules or the USSSA Rules and Regulations.

There is no "must slide" rule. However, a runner must: slide, go around, retreat, or give up when a play is being made on him/her. This rule is in effect to help prevent collisions. Intentional player collisions will not be tolerated and can result in both ejection and suspension. **Head first sliding is NOT allowed in T-ball, Coach Pitch, or 10U and under leagues. Head first sliding is only allowed when a player is returning to a base in the 9U/10U age division. Players in ages 11U and up are allowed to slide head first, but TYBA recommends proper practice and instruction for this age group.**

**No slash bunting is allowed at any level of TYBA play. A slash bunt may be characterized as the batter faking a bunt to draw then infield in, then pulling the bat back and taking a full swing.**

**Soft toss is NOT allowed into the fences at any time. League batting cages are available for this.**

All offensive players must wear helmets at all times when on the playing field. A batter/runner shall be declared out for removing their helmet while in the field of play.

## **Good Sportsmanship**

Managers and players are to be above reproach and expected to display proper field decorum and good sportsmanship. Umpires may eject such offenders from a game and the TYBA Complex.

Managers, players and fans displaying poor sportsmanship, in any manner, may be removed from the game and TYBA Complex by a Field Director or Board Member at anytime. **Managers may be held liable for actions of their team's fans.**

## **Player, Coach and Fan Suspension**

**Managers, Coaches and Spectators may be suspended, for any period of time, from Texoma Youth Baseball Association by the Board of Directors for improper conduct during any Texoma Youth Baseball Association activity.**

## **Field Preparation**

The League shall make every effort to prepare all fields for the first games of the day. However, it is the responsibility of each team's Managers to inspect the field before each subsequent game and insure it is in playable condition prior to the start of their team's game. Following the final game of the day, it is the VISITING TEAM'S responsibility to pull up the bases and place the foam plugs into the base receivers so that the field can be properly drug by a Field Director. Also, following the final game of the day, the HOME TEAM will be responsible for raking the home plate area and replacing the turf covers over the batter's boxes and catcher's area.

**Failure of a team to perform the field work they are responsible for will lead to manager suspension for a first offense, and forfeiture of future games for each subsequent offense.**

## **Warm Ups and Start Times**

To ensure that the infield is in the best possible condition for the start of each game, it is mandatory, that warm ups be conducted in the outfield to give the prior games representatives adequate time to restore the field to proper playing condition. It is the sole responsibility of each Manager, not the umpires, to insure that their team has had adequate warm up time prior to start of game. First games of each day shall promptly start at their scheduled times, and each subsequent game shall start at their scheduled time.

All Recreation Division Games are on a firm time limit that coincides with current USSSA rules. Ties are allowed, however the inning will be completed whenever the visiting team has started a new inning prior to the assigned time limit expiring. No inning will be started following the expiration of the assigned time limit.

## **Team Uniforms**

All teams shall wear TYBA provided uniform jerseys and caps. Any alternate uniforms must be approved by the Executive Board prior to use. Players will not be allowed to participate

in any game wearing shorts.

### **Minimum Players to Begin a Game**

An official game can begin with 8 players. Any team with less than 8 players, 5 minutes after the scheduled game time will forfeit the game. A team with only 8 players will be allowed to play with no penalty, unless the 9<sup>th</sup> player was ejected from the game. In such a case, an out shall be recorded each time that the ejected players' position comes to bat. For T-Ball games, if a team has less than 8 players, both team Managers shall decide if the game will be played.

### **Rescheduling Games**

A concerted effort has been made to create game schedules that take into account all conflicts with local school functions and particular dates submitted by Managers. Games may only be rescheduled with the approval of the Player Agent and Umpire-In-Chief. If a team is able to place 8 players in a lineup with at least 1 manager/coach in the dugout, their game must be played.

Games will not be rescheduled due to illnesses, vacations or other sport activities. Only official school functions which affects multiple players may be reason to reschedule games. The Executive Board may reschedule games as necessary.

### **Official Scorekeepers**

The home team shall provide the official scorekeeper. The official scorekeeper is a proper game official, just as the umpires are for a game. **Scorekeepers may only speak to the plate umpire regarding scorekeeping statistics during a game, with the plate umpire's consent. Official Scorekeepers shall not provide any score keeping information to anyone else, at any time during a game, with the exception of the current score and count.** Example: If the official scorekeeper discovers that a team is batting out of order, he/she may NOT share this information with anyone. The penalty for such a violation would be a reprimand for the scorekeeper and the umpire would nullify the batting out of order. Exception: Official scores/standing **are not** kept in T-Ball during regular season play.

### **Run Rules**

All run rules will adhere to USSSA rules as published on USSSA.com, with the exception of the 10U recreation league.

There is a maximum of 7 runs per half inning in 10U recreation league.

### **Clean Up**

All teams shall police their dugouts during their game. At the end of each game, teams shall promptly clean their respective dugout and bleacher area and dispose of trash properly. All Managers are responsible for making sure that their dugout is cleared at the end of each game.

**Failure of a team to clean up their respective dugout and bleacher area will lead to manager suspension for a first offense, and forfeiture of future games for each subsequent offense.**

### **Miscellaneous Games or Activities**

No miscellaneous games or activities are allowed on the TYBA premises at any time, which may include Wall Ball, football games, or playing catch. These activities can endanger spectators actively walking through the TYBA complex or currently watching TYBA sanctioned games or practices.

Any spectator participating in any activity deemed to be possibly hazardous to the spectator, or others, shall be asked to refrain from such activities by any member of the Board of Directors of TYBA. These activities shall include hanging from or playing on field equipment such as fences and batting cages, performing acrobatic maneuvers off of stands, or any other such activity deemed hazardous by a member of the Board of Directors of TYBA.

The member of the Board of Directors is asked to be as courteous as possible while informing the spectator that such activities are not allowed. However, if the offender does not comply with the Board of Directors member's request, the spectator/spectators parents may be asked to remove themselves from TYBA premises.

### **Field Lights**

Only Field Directors are authorized to turn on the field lights.

### **Parking**

For games scheduled to be played on fields 1, 2, 3, 4 or 8 please park in Memorial Stadium's parking lot. For games scheduled on fields 5, 6, and 7 parking will **NOT** be allowed in the lot north of fields 5 & 6. There is "NO PARKING" anywhere other than in the parking lot designated as such by the WFISD. **ANY PERSONS VEHICLE OCCUPIED OR NON-OCCUPIED WILL BE FIRST ASKED TO PROMPTLY MOVE TO THE DESIGNATED PARKING AREA. IF STILL NON COMPLIANT, THE VEHICLE WILL BE TOWED AT THE OWNERS EXPENSE.**

### **Team Practice on TYBA Fields**

Teams may earn practice time on the TYBA fields provided that team coaches, parents and/or players come out and put time in working on the fields. It will be the Field Director's and Vice President's responsibility to determine practice times and dates, based on each team's total man hours spent working on the fields prior to the start of the season. Unscheduled practices will not be tolerated and can lead to manager suspension. For every 9 man hours of work done on the fields, a team earns 1.5 hours of practice time on the fields. (Ex. 3 coaches/dads from the Tigers team come out and work Saturday morning from 9-noon...they have worked a combined 9 hours, and have earned a 1.5 hour practice on the fields.)

### **Games Called Due To Rain / Lightening**

In the event of rain/lightening during a game; a minimum of 15 minutes will be allotted prior to receiving the all clear signal from the field director before games can resume. If 20 minutes pass and the all clear signal has not come from the field director, then the game is called. In the event of rain, it will be up to the appointed field director to determine if the field is safe to continue play.

If the game is over the ½ way point of your game time (based on your division), the game will be considered complete, no matter which team is up or where you are in the batting line-up. If the game is less than ½ over, the game will resume with everyone back in place where they were when the game was called. The game will be rescheduled for the soonest available time slot in the schedule.

If there is lightening inside 10 miles of the TYBA fields where games are being held, we must stop play. The field director for that day's game will let the umpires know, and they in turn will notify the teams.

### **Smoking and Tobacco Use**

Texoma Youth Baseball Association leases our current facility from the Wichita Falls Independent School District, and we must comply with their Smoking and Tobacco policies. No one is permitted to smoke or use tobacco, including "Vapor" devices, on TYBA premises; which include the corresponding parking lots adjacent to the TYBA facility and Memorial Stadium.

#### Rules Posted at Complex

The rules included in this addendum are in addition to and in conjunction with the rules currently posted on signage at the TYBA complex. The current rules posted at the entrance to the complex are:

1. No Alcohol, Smoking, or Tobacco products are allowed inside the park.
2. No skateboards, bicycles, or scooters on sidewalks.
3. No swinging bats outside of the field at any time or soft toss into the fence.
4. No PETS.
5. Please NO LITTERING. Use Trash Receptacles. Each team is expected to CLEAN UP their dugout and bleacher area after their game.
6. Supervise your children, no climbing fences, bleacher covers, screens, etc...
7. These fields are for use by Texoma Youth Baseball Association and NO PRACTICE or games allowed at any time except as scheduled and approved by the Board of Directors. NO EXCEPTIONS.
8. Trespassing and vandalism will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

### **Failure to Comply with Requests from Field Directors or Board of Director's Member**

All spectators, participants, and others must comply with requests given by a Field Director or a member of the Board of Directors. If the spectator, participant, or any other person at the Texoma Youth Baseball Association Complex does not comply with any request, that person shall be asked to leave the Texoma Youth Baseball Association Complex for the remainder of that day. If the person refuses to leave the Texoma Youth Baseball Association Complex when instructed, the Wichita Falls Police Department shall be notified and a permanent trespass warning shall be issued to that person. A permanent trespass warning will effectively ban such person from entering the Texoma Youth Baseball Association Complex and/or any related activities of Texoma Youth Baseball Association. This would be a lifetime ban, until such ban is lifted by vote of the Board of Directors of Texoma Youth Baseball Association.

----- End of general local rules -----