

**ARLINGTON YOUTH
BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL
ASSOCIATION
Major League By-Laws
Spring 2026**

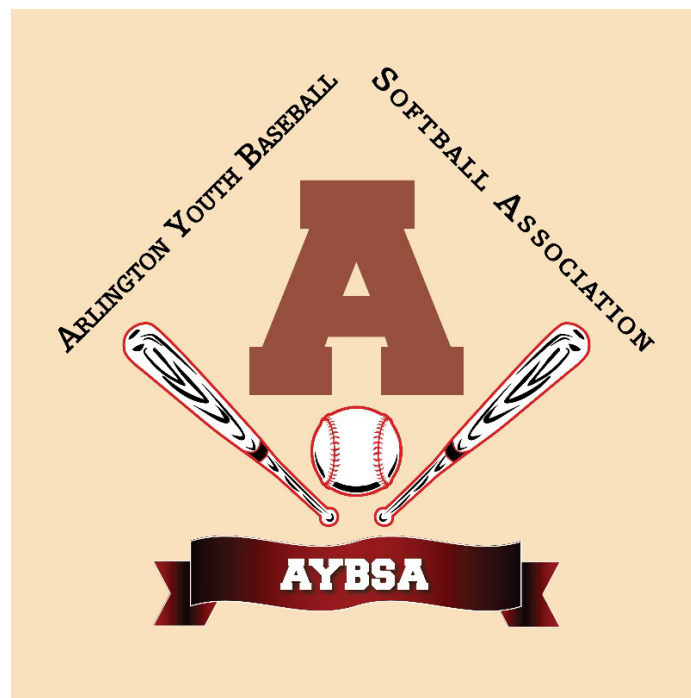


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ARLINGTON BASEBALL MAJOR LEAGUE BY-LAWS

SECTION 1: Rules & Regulations

Unless noted within this document, the By-Laws of Arlington Youth Baseball are governed by the rules and regulations of Cal Ripken Baseball as defined in the Cal Ripken Baseball Official Regulations and Playing Rules.

SECTION 2: Geographical Boundaries – Town of Arlington

- (a) Players who attend Arlington schools from other towns are eligible.

SECTION 3: Manager and Coaches

- (a) A team will have the option to bring the managers child on the team only.
- (b) Managers will be appointed by the President with the approval of the Board of Directors. All coaches will be approved by the board.
- (c) The manager child will be placed in the draft order in the second round.
- (e) Managers and coaches must file a CORI and complete the Adult Child Abuse Training prior to coaching any child. They must comply with any additional mandates or requirements requested by Cal Ripken or AYBSA.
- (f) A team may have up to two adults (manager or coach) coaching the bases. However, at least one adult (manager or coach) must always be in the bench area. No more than 5 coaches can be on the bench at a time.

SECTION 4: Rosters

- (a) Roster sizes are 11 players per team. The Board of Directors reserves the right to change this number, when the number of registered players dictates it.
- (b) Players whose league age is 10-12 are permitted to play in the Major League.
- (c) If a team is missing players for a game and needs a substitution, you must contact the league director and inform him of the player issue. The manager in need of players contacts a AAA player to fill the needed player slot. You may not interfere with a AAA scheduled game while searching for a player.
You will seek a AAA 10 – 12-year-old. ONLY with approval from the League Director nine-year-old players can be contacted. If other players (other the 10 – 12) are used without approval of the major league director, first offense will result in a forfeit and manager one game suspension, and they must meet with the BOD before coaching a game again.

If the Manager contacts the League Director, follows proper protocols, and cannot field a team within 48 hours of the scheduled game, by this ruling, the game can be rescheduled at another time per Board approval.

SECTION 5: Tryouts

Major League Players are not required to try out if they have a position on a team's roster from the previous season.

SECTION 6: Draft System

- (a) Teams draft in reverse order as to their finish the previous year. Playoff rules to decide placement in case of ties.
- (b) Brother/sister option - if a team has a brother/sister of a boy/girl trying out who is already on that team from a previous year, the sibling must be drafted by the end of:
 - Round 5 if Age 10
 - Round 4 if Age 11
 - Round 3 if Age 12
- (c) Brothers/sisters trying out not on any team - If brother/sister is chosen in draft order, the brother/sister option is only good until the following round of draft. If brother/sister is not chosen on next round, he/she is open for any team to draft.
- (d) In the case of two additional brothers/sisters trying out, the team making selection has the option to take the second brother/sister on the next round from option round.
- (e) Any brother/sister options to be selected must be done prior to filling of roster.
- (f) A manager must take their child in the respective round that has been predetermined by the board of directors.
- (i) Teams can draft only the required number of players to fill the roster. Teams cannot overdraft.
- (j) Teams are allowed no more the 5 players from each respective age group through their tenure to keep teams consistent and prevent over-drafting in future years.

SECTION 7: Replacements

- (a) First Half of Season - From the date the rosters are required up to and including the mid-point of the season:
 - (1) Player loss due to relocation of the family out of Arlington. Player loss due to physical injury. Replacement of an injured player, the director will be notified immediately.
 - (3) Other, Voluntary, or Involuntary: This vacancy must be filled within seven days. It is the Manager's responsibility to notify the League Director if a player misses 3 or more games in succession without an excuse or communication to the Manager.
- (c) Method of Replacement
 - (1) The team may obtain a replacement from any AAA team league age 10 –12.

SECTION 8: Trades

- (a) No trades are allowed.

SECTION 9: Weather

- (a) Monday -Friday, the Town of Arlington will determine whether the fields are in playable condition up to one and a half (1 1/2) hours prior to the scheduled start time and will indicate the decision on the A.Y.B.S.A. website. Should conditions worsen between one and a half (1 1/2) hours prior to the scheduled start time and game time, both managers will decide whether to start the game. The League President will resolve disputes. On weekends, Arlington Youth Baseball will determine whether the fields are playable up to one and a half hours prior to the scheduled start time and will indicate the decision. Once the game is started, the Umpire will decide whether to continue.
- (b) Rained out games must be played during the same week whenever possible, preferably the first Saturday or Sunday following the rained-out game. The League Director has the responsibility of rescheduling games.
- (c) If a Cal Ripken Division game fails to reach the regulation minimum limit of 3 1/2 or 4 innings played, it's not a regulation game and MUST be REPLAYED as a new game. If it is declared "No Game" by the umpire, no records (pitching or otherwise) are kept and pitching eligibility, etc., is intact as it was prior to the beginning of the "NO Game" situation. It is as if no pitch was thrown, no ball hit or caught. Note: This applies to local league games only. REST RULES CANNOT BE WAIVED FOR ANY REASON

SECTION 10: Forfeits

Per Cal Ripken Rules, teams must have a minimum of nine (9) players to play a game or the game will result in a forfeit and a loss for the forfeiting team. Under special circumstances by petition of the manager of the losing team, the Board of Directors may authorize the playing of a forfeited game.

A game can continue to finish if a team has at least 8 players remaining through the end of the game. If an injury occurs and the player's "at bat" has passed the injured player may not come back into the game at all.

The Major League Director MUST be notified of a team asking for AAA players to fill a roster ASAP. Also, he will be notified if a team drops below 8 players during a game, email will be acceptable.

NOTE: The "at bat" will be an out.

SECTION 11: Player, Coach and Manager Conduct

- (b) If an umpire throws out a ball player, the player is automatically suspended for one game. The player MUST dress and be on bench but may not participate. The Disciplinary Committee will review all suspensions of players.
- (c) If an umpire throws out a coach or manager, the coach or manager is automatically suspended. The Disciplinary Committee (Board President, Secretary, Vice President, and League Director) will review all suspensions of coaches and managers within 48 hours. A coach or manager is suspended until this review.
- (d) Managers are responsible for grooming the field after every practice.
- (e) If a player does not play the minimum playing time per Section 21 below, said player shall be required to play the full game the next game said player is in attendance. The penalty for the manager of said player will be as follows:
 - "The manager shall for the:

- A. First Offense – receive a written warning.
- B. Second Offense – a suspension for the next scheduled game.
- C. Third Offense – a suspension for the rest of the season.

Note 1: if the violation is determined to have been intentional, the Board of Directors may assess a more severe penalty.

SECTION 12: Dress Code for Players

Ball players must be in full uniform, including jerseys tucked in.

SECTION 13: Starting Times

- (a) No game can start after 6:15 PM unless it is scheduled for a lighted field.
- (b) An inning in progress is to be completed unless umpire calls because of darkness or weather.
- (c) Weekend games are to be played to completion.
- (d) There is no time limit on Major League games except for the 1st game of a “double header” at Buck Field. These games must be completed by 7:45 PM so that there is enough time for the 2nd game to be completed prior to the lights having to be shut off at 10:00 PM.
- (e) If the patched Umpire runs late or does not show at all, both teams will agree on a substitute “Coach Umpire” and will play the game to finish. Failure to start the game or refusal to play due to a no-show Patched Umpire will result in a forfeit to the team(s) who refuses to play the scheduled game. In the interest of time the game must start at the scheduled game time with or without the scheduled Patched Umpire!

SECTION 14: Standard Ground Rules

- (a) Home team is to have 1st base bench, visiting team to have 3rd base bench.
- (b) Visiting team takes the field 25 minutes prior to the start of the game and must leave the field 5 minutes prior to the start of the game.
- (c) Home team is responsible for grooming the field after the game.

SECTION 15: Tie Games

- (a) Regular Season – After the completion of six innings you **must** immediately go into the International Tiebreaker rule (runner starting on second). If the game does not directly go into the International Tiebreaker rule, both teams forfeit the game.
- (b) If after playing you cannot break a tie game, it will be entered as a tie score and will not be continued later. A game ending in a tie will score 1 point for each team in the scoring. (Note: A win for a team will result with 2 points for scoring.)
- (c) Playoff Ties - All ties will be played to completion unless darkness or weather is the factor. Tie games will be completed separate from other playoff games.
- (d) * Buck Field Rule: A game cannot exceed the 7:45 PM start time or continue after 10:00 PM lights out curfew.
- (e) The League Director and President must be notified of all Tie issues.

SECTION 16: Playoffs

Top six teams in the league will make the playoffs. Places one and two will receive a first-round bye. Teams 3,4,5,6 will have a play-in game to determine who moves on.

The top seed will play the lowest remaining seed. The highest seeding team will be the home team in the first game of playoffs.

After the elimination rounds all series will be a two out of three series. Playoffs are always played consecutively regardless of weather-interruption.

- (a) Ties - The team with the best head-to-head record finishes ahead in the standings. If still tied, we will use a coin flip to determine the winner. In the event of a tie for sixth place, a one game playoff would be the next tiebreaker. Ties for all other positions would be decided by coin flip with the team winning the flip selecting which place they wish to finish. In the event more than two teams are tied for a position, the above rules will be applied cumulatively to the teams involved. If no clear winner can be determined, the Board of Directors will decide how to proceed.
- (b) All games are to be played to completion and we will NOT use the international tie breaker rules.
- (c) When tiebreaker applies to more than two teams, to determine draft order for the following year we will apply the following: Head to head and if no clear decision can be made we will go to a coin flip to decide the order of the draft.

SECTION 17: PITCHING RULES

AYBSA Pitchers league age 12 and under must adhere to the following rest requirements:

If a player pitches 1-35 pitches in a day, one (1) calendar day of rest is required.

If a player pitches 36-65 pitches in a day, three (3) calendar days of rest must be observed.

If a player pitches 65-85 or more pitches in a day, four (4) calendar days of rest must be observed.

At 85 pitches the player comes out of the game after the at bat is completed.

Exception: If a pitcher reaches a day(s) of rest threshold while facing a batter, the pitcher may continue to pitch until any one of the following conditions occurs: (1) that batter reaches base; (2) that batter is retired; or (3) the third out is made to complete the half-inning or the game. The pitcher will only be required to observe the calendar day(s) of rest for the threshold he/she reached during that at-bat, provided that pitcher is removed, or the game is completed before delivering a pitch to another batter.

REST RULES CANNOT BE WAIVED FOR ANY REASON

- A pitcher must be removed if a manager makes 2 trips in an inning and or 3 in a game.
- Each team must enter their team's pitching results ASAP on the website no later than the close of the day's game.
- The home team will enter the score for the game.

SECTION 18: All Stars

- (a) The Board will select the managers based on defined criteria designed by and approved by the board. The managers will be selected prior to the nomination voting.
- (b) Selection of Players:
 - (1) Each manager will nominate players from their team in the respect age group (10-11-12). They will provide their selections to the directors prior to the meeting.
 - (2) At the meeting each manager will provide a summary of each player in the respect age group.
 - (3) Manager will then vote having 10 players to select from for that respect age group to the All-Star team.
 - (4) The top 10 vote getters automatically make the team.
 - (5) All nominated players with at least one vote become eligible.
 - (6) Re-voting will occur in the event of ties.
 - (7) League directors will conduct the meeting and tally votes.
 - (8) All teams do not have to be represented as one of the 10 or as an alternate.
- (c) Managers select the last two players amongst the top votes for All Stars. They must have been nominated and received a minimum of 2 votes or more! The Final roster size would be 12 total. If a manager would like to carry a larger roster, no more than 14 will be permitted and the BOD will approve.
- (d) All Star play takes precedence over summer league play.
- (e) If a player cannot accept an All-Star nomination for any reason a replacement player will be selected from the voting list (according to the number of votes) as the next eligible All Star. The President and League Director MUST approve this appointment.
- (f) Cal Ripken rules.
- (g) There will be a **\$85.00 fee** for each All-Star player chosen.
- (h) Final rosters are subject to BOD approval.

SECTION 19: Playing Time

- (a) Every player listed on a game roster and ready to play MUST play a minimum of 9 defensive outs including, at a minimum, one time at bat.
- (b) All teams will have a starting line up with a minimum of 9 players.

A player must be present at a game by the fourth inning to be eligible to play in the game. The player must be announced ASAP to the opposing team when he shows up late. The late entering player must be on the roster, in the batting order and in the field before an official pitch is thrown in the fourth inning.

A starter may be removed from the starting line-up provided that the starter:

- (a) Has batted at least once and
- (b) Has played defensively for a minimum of 6 consecutive outs.

If the visiting team is losing going into the last half of the 6th inning and, therefore, does not take the field, then there is no violation to this rule if some players only play 6 outs in the field. The manager must make a *best effort* to try to have the player play the minimum 9 outs in the field. This means that the player cannot be hit for in the top half of the 6th inning in case the visiting team comes back, either ties the score or takes the lead, and the player can then play their required outs in the field.

- (f) In the event a player is injured during the game and cannot play, a courtesy runner will be allowed. The courtesy runner will be chosen by the injured player's Team Manager from the player/s who is not in the lineup at the time of the injury.

Starters may re-enter the game one time. However, a player in the starting lineup who has been removed for a substitute for any reason may re-enter the game for another starting player, in any position in the batting order, provided the substitute (that entered for the starting player about to re-enter):

- (a) Has batted at least once before the re-entering player comes to bat and
- (b) Has played defensively for a minimum of 6 outs.

This rule will also not apply for any game that is shortened due to weather, darkness or any other factor.

SECTION 20: Player Voluntary Resignations

Any player, who voluntarily resigns from a Major League team during the season, must play a full season in the AAA League or must resign from Arlington Youth Baseball for a full season in order to move to a different team and be eligible for the Major League Draft. Per the Board of Directors, the original team maintains the "rights" to this player. The Board of Directors will review and make exceptions to this rule only in special situations.

SECTION 21: Safety rules – Equipment

Bats

Per Cal Ripken rules, USA bats only are required.

Catcher's Mask, Helmet and Throat Protector

Any player, warming up a pitcher at home plate shall wear a mask. A throat protector is considered part of the catcher's mask.

Protective Cup, Athletic Supporter

Catchers must always wear this equipment while behind the plate during a game or practice.

If the catcher refuses to wear this equipment, he shall be removed from the game.

There will be NO “slash bunting” allowed in the game. There will be one warning provided per team if an attempt is made. If contact is made or if there are further violations of the rule the batter will be called out.

Intentionally obstructing the catcher or the pitcher is forbidden such as waving or rolling of a bat during the pitch. There will be one warning provided per team. Any further violations of the rule will result in the batter being called out.

On deck warming will be permitted for the batter at the plate and the “on deck” batter. The only place a player should be swinging a bat is at the designated batter’s area/ box and next to the plate for the batter that is up.

THERE WILL BE NO WARMING IN ANY OTHER LOCATION BY ANY OTHER PLAYER AT THE BALL PARK! The “on deck” batter will return to the dugout before an official pitch has been thrown in the inning.

SECTION 22: Protests

Protests must be done at time of game before leaving the field. If a manager chooses to protest a game, he must do so at the time the incident occurs. The umpire and opposing manager must be notified after the rule infraction has occurred.

Protest committee will be the League President, Vice- President and Director of the League.