



MAYBA

Mankato Area Youth Baseball Association

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Greater Mankato Area
United Way



MAYBA 7 YEAR OLD IN-HOUSE RULES

(REVISED January 19, 2014)

TORNADO WARNING SIREN: STOP ALL PLAY – GAMES ARE CANCELLED

1.00 THE LEAGUE

- (a) The league shall be governed by an elected Board of Directors and administered by team managers, coaches, umpires and other volunteers.
- (b) **LEAGUE BOUNDARIES:** The League will have boundaries set by the Board of Directors. The present league boundaries shall be identical to area and boundaries of School District # 77. Players from outside the league's boundaries will be admitted only under the Team Concept, except for a player attending a school within District # 77 boundaries but living outside District #77 boundaries may play.
- (c) The Board of Directors has the authority to withdraw a team from a coach. The Board of Directors will conduct a hearing and will accept input from coach, parents and General Manager prior to removal of a coach.
- (d) The Board of Directors shall have the authority to rule on any situation not covered specifically in the official MAYBA Rules.
- (e) The Official Baseball Rules Book, as published by the National Federation of High Schools (NFHS) is in effect, except where MAYBA approved modifications are stated in the MAYBA rules. NFHS rules can be found online at www.nfhs.org

2.00 INSURANCE

The Mankato Area Youth Baseball Association does NOT carry any medical insurance coverage on program participants. It is the responsibility of the individual players to provide whatever coverage is desired.

3.00 PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

League age is determined as of any birth date prior to May 1st. Any child who will attain the age of 7 before May 1st of the current season and who has not attained the age of 8 years before May 1st is eligible to play in the 7 year old league. However, MAYBA will allow a younger age to play up, if doing so allows that player to play with peers from their own grade level.

4.00 TEAM DEVELOPMENT

- (a) Each player registering for the league will be placed on a team by the Organizational Manager; at registration, parent/guardian will be able to rank their preferences as follows:
 - 1 - By school attending
 - 2 - School nearest home
 - 3 - Neighborhood/city area**Special Requests may be honored whenever possible.*
- (b) Any player registering late will be placed on the appropriate team by the Organizational Manager.
- (c) Any use of an illegal player will bring about forfeiture of all games in which that player participated.
- (d) Head Coaches will be approved by the Board of Directors.

5.00 PLAYOFFS - AND AWARDS

There will be no play-off conducted in the 7 year old league.
At this level, the emphasis is on learning.

6.00 TEAM COMPOSITION

- (a) The league shall establish the number of players on each team, but no team may have less than 7 or more than 10 players. Team rosters will be filled in accordance with the Team Development rules (section 4.00) as prescribed by the Board.
- (b) Brothers/Sisters will be placed on the same team if they are the same age. UNLESS A WRITTEN REQUEST is received from the parents; then the brother/sister may be placed on different teams.

7.00 PLAYERS

- (a) Head Coach's child will automatically be placed on the team of the head coach.
- (b) Coaches who determine that certain players are unable to compete with their peers will petition the General Manager and Board of Directors to transfer that player to another MAYBA program. Movement will only be to an area requiring less skill. This will be done only after consultation with both the players and his/her parent/guardians. Coaches have until the first game of the season to implement this rule.

8.00 SCHEDULES

- (a) There will be NO make-up or rescheduling of games in event of rainouts.
- (b) All games that are cancelled due to weather will be announced prior to 4:30 pm on www.mayba.com, by email to MAYBA News subscribers, and on all Radio Mankato stations, and Z99. Please do not call the Community Services recreation department office or the MAYBA office. Please do not call the radio stations – they are very cooperative on announcing the cancellations as soon as they are notified. All coaches are instructed to listen to the radio at this time. Please check the MAYBA website, contact your coach or other players if you miss the broadcast.

*Radio Stations: KEEZ 99.1; KDOG 96.7; KXLP 94.1; KXAC 100.5; KATO 93.1; KRRW 101.5;
KTOE 1420 AM and The Fan 1230 AM.*

9.00 FIELD DECORUM

- (a) It shall be the coaches' responsibility and obligation to keep his/her players under control at all times. A good example can teach more than just how to play baseball.
- (b) The actions of players, coaches and league officials **MUST** be above reproach.
- (c) Uniform players, coaches and bat boys/girls **ONLY** shall be permitted within the confines of the playing field just prior to and during the game. All players shall be on their benches, in their dugouts or in the bull pen area when the team is at bat, with the exception of the batter, base runners, the player "on deck", the coaches at first and third base and the coach pitching. When the team is on defense, all reserve players must be in the dugout or in the bullpen.
- (d) A coach will **NOT** be allowed behind the backstop during the ball game.
- (e) Smoking and tobacco products will **NOT** be allowed by the coaches during the game. One warning will be allowed. The second infraction of this rule will result in ejection from the game.
- (f) There will be no heckling of the opposing team. If the situation occurs, the coaches should speak to the players and/or fans. **THE INTENT IS TO MAINTAIN GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP.**
- (g) There will be no profanity or off-color language used by players or coaches at any time. Penalty is team warning up to ejection.
- (h) **NO** throwing of equipment, helmets or bats. **PENALTY:** Player is out and no runners may advance. This will be a judgment call by the home plate umpire/coach.

10.00 PLAYING EQUIPMENT

- (a) **NO METAL SPIKES** of any kind will be allowed in this league.
- (b) It is mandatory for all batters, bat boys/girls, runners, and the on-deck batter to wear a head protector; it is the responsibility of all players and coaches to notify them. No penalty results.
- (c) It is mandatory for all male catchers to wear a protective cup when catching.
- (d) It is mandatory for all catchers to wear a mask with protective helmet and throat protector when catching or warming up a pitcher.
- (e) All bats must be approved according to NFHS Bat Rules, Individual League Rules, Specific Tournament Rules or MAYBA Approved Equipment Rules.

MAYBA supplies the necessary equipment (bats, balls, helmets, tees, catcher's equipment, etc) to play baseball. If you choose to purchase your own equipment (i.e. bat) below are MAYBA approved requirements on bats.

General specifications applying to all bats:

A bat shall be a smooth cylinder made of wood, aluminum, magnesium or graphite-composite with a knob permanently & securely fastened. Bats with a one-piece rubber grip and knob combination shall be considered illegal.

MAYBA In-House specifications on bats

Ages 6-12

In diameter at thickest part.....wood: 2-3/4 inches or less

In diameter at thickest part.....non-wood: 2-1/4 inches or less

11.00 THE GAME – GENERAL

- (a) A team may field as little as 4 players to start or finish a game. (1st, 2nd, 3rd, SS)
- (b) Each game will start promptly at 6:00 pm or 7:15 pm
Please have your players at the game 15 minutes prior to start.
Game time limit is one hour.
- (c) The home team, as designated on the schedule, will occupy the first base dugout.
- (d) A regulation game will be five (5) full innings.

NO GAME STATISTICS ARE KEPT. No Score is kept.
Fair Play, Teamwork, fun and fitness will be stressed.

TIME LIMIT – There is a 1 hour time limit for starting a new inning. No NEW Inning will start after 1 hour. Games can and will last longer than 1 hours, coaches should determine if a new inning should be started prior to the 1 hour time limit. Once an inning is started, both teams will be giving the same number of at bats. Only in the event of inclement weather, or darkness will a game end without both teams receiving the same number of at bats.

- (e) A full roster batting order will be in effect.
RE-ENTRY - Free substitution is allowed in this league.
- (f) ALL PLAYERS MUST PLAY IN EVERY GAME. Only for disciplinary reasons should a player be held out. If a player is held out, the other team must be notified prior to the start of the game. Non-Compliance will result in forfeiture of the game.
- (g) All players must be in full uniform during the game. Full uniform includes the MAYBA issued cap. Shirt tails must be tucked inside of pants.
- (h) All players and coaches will shake hands after the game.

12.00 THE GAME – BATTING

- (a) ALL HITTERS WILL HIT THE BALL FROM A BATTING TEE FOR THE FIRST TWO WEEKS OF GAMES. The Tee should be adjusted to such a height that the batter will be able to swing level.

Starting the 3rd week of games, pitching in the 7 year old league will be done by an ADULT member of the offensive team's coaching staff. The pitching coach will be positioned on a bucket, pitching underhand only for all players from behind a screen at a distance of 15 feet. Play begins when the offensive coach pitches the ball.

- (b) There will be no walks.
- (c) Each batter will have a maximum of five (5) pitches to hit the ball. If after five (5) pitches, or if the

- player is deemed unable to hit an underhand pitch, the batting tee will be used for that player.
- (d) A runner is out when: (1) he/she does not legally slide and causes illegal contact and/or illegally alters the actions of the fielder in the immediate act of making a play on him/her. PENALTY: Runner is out, the ball is dead immediately and interference is called. (2) he/she does not legally attempt to avoid a fielder in the immediate act of making a play on him/her. PENALTY: Runner is out; the ball is alive unless interference is called.

NOTE: RUNNERS ARE NOT REQUIRED TO SLIDE, BUT IF A RUNNER ELECTS TO SLIDE THE SLIDE MUST BE LEGAL.

MALICIOUS CONTACT PROHIBITED

Runners should be instructed to slide or attempt to avoid making contact with any defensive player. A player who maliciously runs into another player is automatically ejected, and is declared out, unless he/she scored prior to committing the infraction. Contact or a collision is considered malicious if (1) the contact is the result of intentional excess force and/or (2) there is intent to injure.

NOTE: Malicious contact is penalized whether committed by an offensive or defensive player.

- (e) 3 outs DO NOT constitute an inning.
All team members present will bat every inning, in the same order.

The final batter of each inning should only advance as far as would normally be expected during regular game play. They should NOT be encouraged to “keep running”.

- (f) A base runner may not leave the base until the ball reaches the batter. If a base runner leaves base early, the runner will be sent back to the original base.
- (g) No stealing or leading off is allowed in this league.
- (h) **Base runners may not advance on an overthrow at any time.**
- (i) A batted ball must travel at least 15 feet. Fly balls caught in the 15 foot arc are outs; if dropped it is a dead ball. If hitting from a tee and the player does not hit the ball, but rather only the batting tee, it is a foul ball, regardless of the distance traveled by the ball.
- (j) **Any batted ball hit past the last outfielder (or infielder if playing with fewer players) will be a GROUND RULE DOUBLE.**
- (k) Any batted ball hit into the pitching screen will be considered a dead ball and the batter will be awarded another swing.

13.00 THE GAME – FIELDING

- (a) All players must play in the field every inning.
- (b) Each player must play a minimum of two (2) defensive positions per game.
- (c) Two defensive coaches will serve as base umpires and position themselves between 1st-2nd base and 2nd-3rd base. These coaches may also give instructions to their team. At no time can they physically participate in the play (by participating, we mean to touch a player or touch the ball when it is in play)
- (d) Each team will field all players.

- A defensive player will play the pitcher's position but must be within 3 feet to the side or in back of the pitching rubber, (not in front) positioned so as to see the pitch to the batter. Coaches will use proper judgment to ensure players at the pitching position are positioned appropriately in relation to the pitching screen.
- The outfielders must play behind an arc approximately 10 feet behind each base.
- The catcher will position him/her self 6-8 feet behind home plate.

14:00 FIELD DIMENSIONS

- (a) The base paths shall be 55 feet.
- (b) The pitching distance shall be 43 feet.