

Bellingham Youth Baseball Inc.

2008 Major League Exceptions:

Major will follow the basic playing rules of the Little League Organization of Williamsport, Pennsylvania. The following rules are **Exceptions** that are adopted in an attempt to enhance play in the town of Bellingham.

- 1.) **Participation:** Every attending player on the team roster will participate in each game for a minimum of three (3) innings and bat at least once. If a player does not meet this requirement in an official game then that player will be scheduled to be a starter in the next game. (NOTE: The League Director is to be notified in such a case.)
- 2.) **Batting Order:** **Continuous Batting Order:** It will be mandatory for all teams to use the continuous batting order during the regular season. In the event that a player is injured or becomes ill and is removed from the game his/her position in the batting order is removed with NO outs recorded. If a player is removed from the game for UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT an out will be recorded each time his/her position is due to bat.
- 3.) **Substitution:** Coaches are allowed free defensive substitution with the following restriction. A coach cannot make a defensive substitution after the first out of their defensive inning unless due to illness or injury.
- 4.) **Injuries:** Injuries of any significance must be reported to the League Director.
- 5.) **Disciplinary Action:** If a coach feels that a player should not play for disciplinary reasons, the coach must report action to the League Director within (24) hours or BEFORE the next game, whichever comes first. The director will dispose of the matter and no league action will take place (as long as the reason and the penalty are reasonable. The League Director will notify the Vice President and President of this matter.
- 6.) **Undermanned Teams:** A team must have (8) players to start a game. In the event a team cannot get a player from it's brother team, a player must be borrowed from the opposing team. At the end of (3) innings, the borrowed player will be returned to his team and a new player is loaned. The loaned player(s) must play the required 3 innings with his/her own team. Players showing up late for games can be inserted into the line-up as long as the replacement requirement have been met for player being replaced. The Head Coach DOES NOT have to start the **tardy** player the next game if the player does not meet the (3) inning requirement. Coaches DO NOT have to insert a tardy player into the line-up, but should use good judgment.
EXCEPTION: A team with only 8 players may use any International league player at the field not involved with another game.
NOTE: only International league players ages 10-12 can be used as replacement players.
- 7.) **Mercy Rule:** A Ten run mercy rule will be in effect once a game is called official. However if the visiting team is up by 10 the home team must bat.
- 8.) **Pitching Rules:** A player once removed, as a pitcher may NOT pitch in the same game. There is No limit on the number of (12) year olds pitched in a week. Any pitcher hitting 3 batters during the course of the game must be removed as a pitcher.
- 9.) **Appeals:** Coaches can only appeal Umpire calls regarding a specific Little League rule. No appeal can be made on an umpire's judgment. i.e. runner is out or safe, balls and strikes. A

written appeal explaining the situation must be made within 24 hours or before the next scheduled game to BYBI's board.

10.) Game Times: No inning shall start after 7:45 at night except those games scheduled to be played at Tuttle under the lights. No inning shall start after the 1:45 time limit on double headers played under the lights at Tuttle field will be held to the 2 hr. time limit. In games played under the lights no inning shall start after 9:15. Umpires discretion on calling a game due to darkness, weather conditions etc.

11.) Throwing the Bat: Batter throwing the bat will result in the following actions.

There will be two warnings per team for throwing the bat. The umpire will rule the batter out for each additional violation.

Exception: If in the umpires opinion the batter intentionally throws the bat but does not strike another player, coach, or umpire with the bat he will use his own judgment as to the extent of the disciplinary action. However, if the batter intentionally throwing the bat strikes another player, coach or umpire the batter will be removed from the game for unsportsmanlike conduct. In either case of intentionally throwing the bat, the umpire shall report the incident to the League Director for further disciplinary action.

12.) Offensive Time Out: Each team will be allowed two offensive time outs called by the coach for the purpose of having a conference with one of his players.

13.) Substitution Runner: If a player who has earned a base cannot run due to injury or illness he will be replaced by the last batter to make an out.

14.) Substitution Batter: If a batter is injured during his at bat and cannot continue the last batter who made an out will complete his at bat.

15.) Slap bunt/Swinging bunt: NOT ALLOWED IN INTOWN PLAY. If a player turns to bunt and takes a full swing he shall be ruled out by the umpire and giving a warning for unsportsmanlike conduct. If the same player does this a second time he shall be ruled out and removed from the game.

16.) UNIFORMS: Players must be in full uniform in order to play in a game. This includes gray baseball pants, vest & t-shirt (tucked in), socks and league provided team hat.

EXCEPTION: Replacement players are exempt from rule (16)

17.) Head Coach: The Head Coach is responsible for the team's actions on the field and to represent the team in communications with the umpire and opposing team. The head coach shall always be responsible for the teams conduct, observance of the official rules and deference to the umpire. If the Head Coach is not present he or she shall designate an assistant coach to substitute as head coach, the substitute head coach shall have the same duties, rights and responsibilities as the head coach.

Disciplinary actions: Any coach found in violation of official playing rules and the B.Y.B.I. exception rules will be subject to any one of the following actions.

- 1.) A verbal reprimand.
- 2.) A written warning.
- 3.) Suspension of one or more games.
- 4.) Suspension for the remainder of season.

18.) CORI: All coaches (including parents who assist practices) must be CORI'd. If a coach or assistant, interacts with a child in a BYBI event (practice or game) and is not CORI'd they will be subject to the longer of a 2 game suspension or becoming CORI'd and recognized by BYBI as having been CORI'd. 2nd offense or violation of the first infraction will result in a one-year suspension. The HEAD coach will also be subject to a written warning should the 1st offense occur w/ one of his assistants or parents and a 2 game suspension with the 2nd. 3rd offense results in a one-year suspension.