

## AJAA BASEBALL RULES FOR 9, 10, AND 11-12 LEAGUES

All games are played using Cal Ripken rules with the following exceptions:

1. Every effort shall be made to keep the teams to a maximum of twelve (12) players. The Director of Baseball may authorize exceptions to this rule.
2. All players will bat in the batting order.
3. SUBSTITUTION POLICY - NO PLAYER MAY SIT OUT MORE THAN 2 INNINGS IN ANY GAME (UNLESS THE GAME GOES INTO EXTRA INNINGS) AND THOSE INNINGS MAY NOT BE CONSECUTIVE.
4. Pitchers (league age 10, 11, 12) may pitch six innings in any two consecutive games no matter when the games take place. In the 9 yr old league no player can pitch more than three (3) innings in any game.
5. Any pitcher can be removed and returned (game or tournament) as many times as necessary, as long as he does not exceed his allotted innings. If a pitcher is removed during an inning, he may not return as a pitcher in the same inning.  
**Coaches please remember the Cal Ripkin/baseball rule:** If a coach visits a pitcher twice in the same inning, the pitcher is removed for the entire game.
6. A player pitching one pitch from the mound will be charged with pitching one inning.
7. In the 9 year old league, umpires, coaches and players should all be advised that the strike zone will be "liberal." The goals of the liberal strike zone are to (1) encourage aggressive swinging; (2) confident pitching; and (3) to keep down the number of walks.
8. A slide or avoidance of contact is required on all close plays at home. This is a judgment call by the umpire. No headfirst slides forward into a base are permitted. A headfirst slide returning to base is permitted.
9. A runner may not steal on the return throw to the pitcher unless he was making a steal attempt before the throw was made or the pitcher does not catch the ball.
10. In tournament play, teams must have at least eight players or a forfeit is declared. All other times coaches should attempt to determine a way to play the games using replacement players. Replacement players must be registered AJAA baseball or softball players in the same league or the league one year below, except only 12 year olds may play up in the 13-15 year old league. Substitute players must bat at the end of the order and play in the outfield.

11. In the 9-year-old league, stealing is allowed only when there is a passed ball or wild pitch and the ball makes contact with the fence/backstop. There are no lead-offs, and the player cannot begin his steal attempt until the ball has hit the backstop/fence.
12. In the 10 year old league, stealing is allowed only when a pitched ball is dropped by the catcher or a wild pitch is thrown. There are no lead-offs.
13. The 11-12 year old league will be played using modified High School rules, to include lead-offs and base stealing.
14. All games will be considered over if the visiting team is ahead by (10) runs at the end of (5) innings or (4 1/2) innings if the home team is ahead by (10) runs.
15. A team may score a maximum of 10 runs per inning. This rule shall not apply to the last inning of the game for either team, or the fifth inning for a team which is behind, if the game would be shortened by the ten run rule.
16. In the 9-year-old league, time will be called by the umpire when the defense has stopped the advancement of the lead runner. All other plays will be stopped at the umpire's discretion.
17. No new inning may start after one hour and forty five minutes unless the game is tied **and it is a tournament game.**
18. The Infield Fly Rule will be in effect for the 11-12 year old league. The Infield Fly Rule will NOT be in effect for the 9 year old and 10 year old leagues.
19. The number of games in the AJAA league may vary due to the number of teams organized in the league. The maximum number of games that shall be permitted for the regular season is fourteen (14). This maximum limit does not include tournament games.
20. Field Dimensions. The 9 and 10 year old leagues will play 46' pitching rubber and 60' bases. The 11-12 year old league will play 50' pitching rubber and 70' bases.