



Front Range Baseball

RULES OF PLAY

2008 Season

These rules are the official CHSAA High School rules except for the section changes below.

Section -- Objectives of the Game

The Playing Field.

1. Base Distances

8 year olds -- 50'

9 and 10 year olds -- 65'

11 and 12 year olds -- 70'

13 year olds -- 80'

14 year olds -- 90'

2. Pitching distance

8 year olds -- 40'

9 and 10 year olds -- 46'

11 and 12 year olds -- 50' 6"

13 year olds -- 54'

14 year olds -- 60' .6"

Definition of terms

No changes

Game preliminaries

The home team shall supply baseballs to the umpire-in-chief for each game as follows:

8 thru 12 year olds -- 2 baseballs

13 and up -- 3 baseballs

Re-entry of a player, in which a team is batting nine (9), (major division) will be permitted for starters only, except in the case of an injury to, or ejection of, a player and a team does not have any players left to substitute. An injured player may not return.

Major League Only - A courtesy runner will be allowed for pitchers and catchers. A player off of the bench, who has not played in the game, or, if that option is not available, the runner will be that player that was last put out.

MINOR LEAGUE (AAA and AA) only - A courtesy runner will be allowed for pitchers, catchers and injured players. The runner will be that player that was last put out unless the injured player was the last out, then the runner will be the player who was the previous out.

Ground rules

Ground rules and batting order selection

[a] Major league teams shall have the option of batting their line up with free substitution or bat a line up of nine (9) players and shall present their line up to the opposing coach prior to the start of the game.

[b] Minor league teams (AAA and AA) will bat their line up and will play each player a minimum of two (2) innings, IF POSSIBLE.

(a) No manager, player, substitute, coach, trainer or batboy shall at any time, whether from the bench, the coach's box or on the playing field, or elsewhere -

(5) Use language that is considered to be foul, vulgar or offensive in accordance with the concepts of this being a youth, and family oriented, league.

PENALTY: The offender shall be removed from the game and shall leave the playing field, and, if a balk is made, it shall be nullified, and, if the removal involves a player which would penalize the team to where there are less than nine (9) players left to play the game, then the team shall be allowed to continue to play without risk of forfeiture except that whenever it is the ejected player's turn to bat a strike out shall be recorded in the scorebook for their at bat.

Any manager, coach, assistant coach or player, who is ejected in the first game of a scheduled double header, may return to participate in the second game. All other persons are prohibited from participating on the playing field.

Time limits are imposed as follows:

8, 9 and 10 year olds -- 1 hour and 45 minutes

11 and up -- 2 hours

No new inning will be started if less than five (5) minutes remain of regulation time and the score is not tied. Any inning started will be completed to the end or until the home team goes ahead.

[b] Regulation games shall be as follows:

8 and under, Major League

1. Five (5) innings or
2. Any game called for time limit that has completed at least one (1) inning and is not tied or
3. Any game called for weather, darkness or curfew that has completed at least three (3) innings, and is not tied or
4. Any game called for weather, darkness or curfew that has completed three (3) or more innings and the home team is batting and they are ahead by one (1) or more runs or
5. If after three and one half (3 ½) innings the home team is ahead by eight (8) or more runs or
6. If after four (4) or more complete innings either team is ahead by eight (8) or more runs.

9 through 14 A

- 1 Six (6) innings or
2. Any game called for time limit that has completed at least one (1) inning and is not tied or
3. Any game called for weather, darkness or curfew that has completed at least three (3) innings, and is not tied or
- 4. Any game called for weather, darkness or curfew that has completed three (3) or more innings and the home team is batting and they are ahead by one (1) or more runs or**
- 5. If after three and one half (3 ½) innings the home team is ahead by eight (8) or more runs or**
- 6. If after four (4) or more complete innings either team is ahead by eight (8) or more runs.**

9 and 10 year olds AA, AAA and Majors

1. Six (6) innings or
2. Any game called for time limit that has completed at least one (1) inning and is not tied or
3. Any game called for weather, darkness or curfew that has completed at least three (3) innings, and is not tied or
4. Any game called for weather, darkness or curfew that has completed three (3) or more innings and the home team is batting and they are ahead by one (1) or more runs or
5. If after four (4) or more complete innings either team is ahead by ten (10) or more runs.

6. If after five (5) or more complete innings either team is ahead by eight (8) or more runs.

11 years and up AA, AAA and Majors

1. Seven (7) innings or
2. Any game called for time limit that has completed at least one (1) inning and is not tied or
3. Any game called for weather, darkness or curfew that has completed at least four (4) innings, and is not tied or
4. Any game called for weather, darkness or curfew that has completed four (4) or more innings and the home team is batting and they are ahead by one (1) or more runs or
5. If after four (4) or more complete innings either team is ahead by ten (10) or more runs.
6. If after five (5) or more complete innings either team is ahead by eight (8) or more runs.

Any game that is called for weather, darkness or curfew and that has completed at least one and one half (1 ½) innings shall be considered to be suspended. If less than one and one half (1 ½) innings have been completed it shall be a postponed game.

The Batter

[b] Dropped third strike is applied as follows:

9 thru 10 year olds -- Batter is out Minor A Leagues only

9 and up -- Official rules apply for both Majors and Minor AAA and AA leagues.

Designated Hitter Rule is not applied for league play.

The Runner

This is a special rule for 9 and 10 Minor A League teams only.

- a. **No runner may advance from third base to home on a wild pitch or passed ball.**
- b. **No base runners are allowed to lead off from any base until the pitcher has pitched the ball to the batter.**

Any runner is out when -

(There are no changes to paragraphs a to k)

(l) In attempting to advance to second, third or home base the runner must slide into the base if any fielder has possession of the ball at the base in which the runner is advancing to. It will be the judgment of the umpire as to whether the runner was attempting to slide.

Note: If, in the umpire's judgment, the runner deliberately ran into the fielder who has possession of the ball then the runner will be called out and will be ejected from the game for unsportsmanlike conduct, otherwise the runner will only be called out for not sliding into the base.

NOTE: The catcher, without the ball in his possession, has no right to block the pathway of the runner attempting to score, nor does any fielder, without the ball in their possession, have the right to block the pathway of the runner attempting to advance to second or third base. The baseline belongs to the runner and the catcher or any other fielder should be there only if they are fielding a ball or already have the ball in their possession. It shall be the umpire's judgment if the fielder was trying to field the ball or obstruct the runner from advancing. In the event there is a collision between the fielder and the runner it shall be the umpire's judgment to call obstruction or interference and as to whether it was intentional by the runner.

The Pitcher

Pitching restrictions for AA and AAA are as follows:

Pitchers are restricted to pitching no more than 4 innings per game. Re-entry rule applies.

Balk rule is applied as follows:

Major League

9 thru 10 year olds -- 2 warnings per game

11 and up -- no warnings

Minor League

9 thru 12 year olds -- 2 warnings per game

13 and up -- No warnings

The Umpire

- (a) The umpire shall report to their league President within forty-eight (48) hours after the end of a game, or, to the President of FRABA within seventy-two (72) hours after the end of a game all violations of rules and incidents worthy of comment, including the disqualification of any trainer, manager, coach, assistant coach, player or spectator, and the reasons thereof.
- (b) When any trainer, manager, coach, assistant coach or player is disqualified for a flagrant offense such as the use of obscene or indecent language, or an assault upon an umpire, trainer, manager, coach, assistant coach or player, the umpire shall forward full particulars to their league President, or, the President of FRABA, within twenty-four (24) hours after the end of the game.
- (c) After receiving the umpire's report that a trainer, manager, coach, assistant coach or player has been disqualified, the league President shall notify the President of FRABA of the report.

(d) Upon receiving a report of an ejection or disqualification of a trainer, manager, coach, assistant coach, player or spectator, the President of FRABA shall verify the report and impose such penalty as outlined if he deems it to be justified. If the ejected or disqualified person is represented by a league or area then the president of the league or area shall be notified of the penalty imposed and they shall notify the person being penalized. If the person ejected or disqualified is from an independent team then the FRABA president shall notify the person being penalized and the manager or coach of the team if the person is other than the manager or coach of the team. Failure to comply with the penalty shall result in the forfeiture of all games played in which the penalized person took part.

(e) Any manager, coach, assistant coach, trainer or player who

(1) Is ejected for the inadvertent use of obscene or indecent language shall

(i) on the first offense not be further penalized.

(ii) on the second and any further offenses be subject to suspension of play or participation in further games.

(2) Is ejected for arguing with an umpire about any judgment call after having been warned shall

(i) on the first offense not be further penalized.

(ii) on the second and any further offenses of the same nature be subject to suspension of play or participation in further games.

(3) By their action causes a game to be forfeited shall be suspended from play or participation for at least one game as directed by the president of FRABA.

(4) Makes intentional contact with an umpire, but causes no physical harm, shall be suspended from play or participation for one game as directed by the president of FRABA.

(5) By their action causes an umpire to feel intimidated or threatened may be subject to suspension of play or participation for one (1) or more games.

(6) Has had three (3) or more reports turned into the Association of unsportsmanlike action and or behavior by the umpires or other teams may be subject to removal as a manager, coach, assistant coach or player in the Association.

(7) Causes or threatens to cause physical harm to any umpire, manager, coach, assistant coach or player shall be prohibited from playing or participating in any further games sanctioned by FRABA and associated sanctioned tournaments