



Humble Atascocita Baseball Association

General Rules

1. If for any reason a team cannot field 8 uniformed players no later than 15 minutes after scheduled game start time, that team shall forfeit by a score of 7-0. Teams that play with only 8 players will suffer 1 out in the 9th batter position every time through the lineup. The Official Game Start Time will remain. *Example: Official game time 6:00. Actual start time 6:15, the clock will start at 6:00. You will lose actual playing time.*
2. Each manager shall complete a lineup form with player last name, uniform number, and batting order. He/she shall present a copy to the following: opposing manager, official scorekeeper and umpire 10 minutes prior to game time.
3. All substitutions during the game will be given first to the plate umpire and then to the official scorekeeper.
4. Late-arriving players may be added to the end of the batting order at the manager's discretion, **only if the lineup has not completed one full rotation.**

The manager must notify the opposing coach, scorekeeper, and umpire if a late player is being placed at the end of the lineup. Once a lineup has been submitted to the opposing team, it is considered official and may not be changed. The only exception is to scratch a player who is absent or must leave due to injury. No other lineup changes are permitted, including altering the order prior to a player's first at-bat.

If the player does not arrive before their position in the batting order is reached, the player must be **removed (scratched) from the lineup.**
5. The official score card must be signed by the plate umpire and the head coach, complete with date, time and score.
6. Players may not be benched or have reduced playing time due to missed practices, and no player shall sit more than one consecutive inning unless prior Board approval is granted for disciplinary reasons. Exceptions may be made in cases of injury or if a player refuses to participate; in such cases, the coach must inform the opposing team, umpire, and the player's parents of the reason the player is not participating.
7. Incomplete or postponed games will be rescheduled. Games not made up by the end of the season may be canceled, due to scheduling problems.
8. Team meetings (games and practice) shall be limited to five times per week (Monday through Sunday). Sunday practice is permitted but not encouraged.
9. Coaches, players and umpires are not allowed to use tobacco, alcohol or cell phones on the playing field or in the dugout areas.

10. At no time shall a manager or coach leave the dugout or playing field to discuss (or argue) with any spectator the rules, plays or umpire decisions. Violation will be ejection from game and disciplinary action from the Board of Directors.
11. No metal cleats are permitted.
12. Run rules are in effect for every age group - please see specific rules.
13. Only the manager, coaches (2) and team players will be allowed in the dugout during the game. This applies to all age groups except 6U, 7U and 8U, when an additional adult assistant will be permitted to assist with player supervision.
14. The home team is responsible to keep the official score.
15. The away team is responsible for running the scoreboard.
16. Each team (parents and players) is responsible for litter pick-up on their respective half of the field and bleachers area and in the dugout.
17. Litter left in the dugout could result in a forfeit of your next game.
18. All teams shall be out of the dugout within 5 minutes after the game.
19. Uniforms are to be worn to all scheduled league games. No changes may be made to the uniforms without Board approval.
20. A defensive player fielding a ball which leaves the field of play, such as over the fence, under the fence or enters any predetermined dead ball area (dugout or stands) shall hold up both hands and wait for the umpire's discretion. Runners may continue to advance at their own risk until time is called.
21. Catchers are required to use a regulation catcher's mitt and all regulation catchers' equipment.
22. All batters, base runners and players in the on-deck circle shall be required to wear approved protective headgear.
23. All league play shall adhere to the preceding HABA general or local league rules. For any rule, regulation or procedure not addressed in the preceding, first see MLB rules.
24. DIVISION / LEAGUE PLAYOFFS
Division champions will be determined by team standings at the conclusion of regular season play and will receive awards accordingly.
In the event of a tie in the final standings, ties will be broken in the following order:
 1. Head-to-head
 2. Fewest runs allowed
 3. Run differential
 4. Coin flip
25. Play will be suspended for **lightning or severe weather**.
Games resume only when conditions are deemed safe by umpires or league officials.

