

CENTERVILLE BASEBALL & SOFTBALL LEAGUE 2026 RULE BOOK



e-mail: cblstaff@woh.rr.com

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**2026 CENTERVILLE BASEBALL & SOFTBALL LEAGUE
EXECUTIVE BOARD, BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS,
COORDINATORS AND SELECT BASEBALL COACHES**

Executive Board

- President – John Doll
- Vice President – Jim Ehrensberger
- Treasurer – Mark Schutter
- Communications/Secretary – Scott Lieberman

Board of Commissioners

- Girls Softball (Rec and Select) – Matt Stillwell
- Boys Select – TBD
- Boys Rec – Lucas Wilder
- Rules – Lucas Wilder

League Coordinators

- Picture day – Jim Ehrensberger
- Dayton Dragons – Scott Lieberman
- Registration – Jim Ehrensberger
- Scheduling – Scott Lieberman
- Umpire Scheduling & Training – Lucas Wilder
- Equipment – Scott Wacker & Matt Stillwell
- Uniforms - Jim Ehrensberger (Rec) & TBD (Select)
- Pants / Shorts / Jerseys – Jim Ehrensberger
- Trophies – Scott Wacker
- Registration Signs – TBD
- Concessions – TBD
- Golf Outing Committee – John Doll & Ezra Vance
- Boys T-Ball – Bill Kroger
- Boys CP 1 – Nick Redlin
- Boys CP 2 – Paul Day & Ty French
- Boys Rookie – Bill Kroger
- Boys Minors – Jason Blehm
- Boys Majors – Jonathan Silverman
- Boys High School – Lucas Wilder
- Girls 6U (t-ball) - TBD
- Girls 8U (coach pitch) - TBD
- Girls 10U (rookie) - TBD
- Girls 12U (minors) - TBD
- Girls 14U (majors) - TBD
- Girls 18U (HS) - TBD

2026 CENTERVILLE BASEBALL LEAGUE RULES & REGULATIONS

PREFACE

This handbook contains the rules and regulations for the 2026 season of the CENTERVILLE BASEBALL & SOFTBALL LEAGUE (“CBSL”). Every attempt has been made to minimize the number of rules and to make them fair for all participants. We urge everyone to take the time to read these rules and regulations so that there is a clear understanding of the rules and regulations. We encourage each head coach to have a copy of these rules at every game.

This CBSL rule book governs the leagues with Centerville-only teams (T-Ball, CP, CP2 and Rookie). Any league which contains both Centerville and non-Centerville communities (Minors, Majors and HS) is governed by the South Dayton Baseball League (SDBL) rule book. All rules books can be found at www.cblltoday.org. For Girls Softball, please see South Dayton Community Softball League Rulebook at www.cblltoday.org. The CBSL reserves the right to amend, change, delete or add a rule if in the best interests of the CBSL.

I. PURPOSES and OBJECTIVES

The purposes of the CBSL are to provide a baseball and softball league for as many boys and girls as possible in our community, to teach basic knowledge of the game, to develop character by teaching players to play together fairly, abide by the rules and to win and lose in a sportsmanlike manner.

II. ELIGIBILITY RULES

A. Residency requirement: All boys and girls who are residents of, or are attending school in, Washington Township or Centerville are eligible to play in the Centerville Baseball & Softball League. Boys and girls residing outside of Centerville and Washington Township will be considered based upon team vacancies up to a maximum of 15% of the players in each league.

B. Registration: No player will be assigned to a team until that player is approved by the league. To be approved, the player must complete all registration forms, submit any payment required and be added to the league roster. Late registration may be accepted subject to the approval of the league commissioner, CBSL Executive board and/or Board of Commissioners. Any late registration will be assessed a 50% late fee due to the extra order costs incurred for late uniforms.

C. Acknowledgements, Releases and Waivers: As part of the registration process players, parents and/or guardians may be required to sign an acknowledgement, release and waiver concerning the COVID-19 virus, player and parent code of conduct, etc.

III. UNAUTHORIZED USE OF CBSL NAME AND LOGO

The name of the CBSL, its equipment, uniforms, logo or other property may not be used or associated with non-league activities unless authorized in writing by the CBSL Executive Board.

IV. AUTHORITY TO ADAPT, AMEND OR ALTER RULES

The Executive Board and/or the Rules Commissioner has the authority to adapt, amend or alter any rule contained herein to facilitate the game for any particular situation for the benefit of their league.

V. LEAGUE STRUCTURE

- A. Leagues
- | | | |
|----|---------------|---------------------|
| 1. | T-ball | ages 4 ½ to 7 |
| 2. | Coach Pitch 1 | grades K & 1 |
| 3. | Coach Pitch 2 | grade 2 |
| 4. | Rookie | grades 3 & 4 |
| 5. | Minors | grades 5 & 6 |
| 6. | Majors | grades 7 & 8 |
| 7. | High School | grades 9 through 12 |

[Note: grade and age determination is made as of the date of registration]

B. Draft: All league rosters will be set via a draft system or other process as determined by the league's coordinator and/or rec league commissioner. If a draft is held the rules, procedures and manner in which the draft is held shall be determined by the league's coordinator and/or rec league commissioner. When a draft is used, requests to be on a certain team, with a certain coach or rostered with a certain player are not guaranteed and may not be honored. The determination of rosters for leagues with no draft shall be made by league coordinators and/or rec league commissioner. All league coordinators and/or rec league commissioner and coaches shall strive to create rosters that will create a competitive balance amongst the teams and each league.

C. Number of games: There is no set number of games guaranteed in any of the league's seasons and games that are rained out are not required to be made up or rescheduled.

D. Roster size: Exact team roster size and number of participants from each team will be determined by the league coordinator, rec league commissioners and/or CBSL Board.

E. Trophies: Trophies, medals or like awards will be determined by the CBSL board, league coordinator and/or rec league commissioner.

F. League structure: The rec league commissioner and/or league coordinator, based on the analysis of registration and upon approval of the CBSL Board, may make recommendations to restructure any league as required. The above descriptions for the leagues apply in general. League assignments will be made in the best interest of the particular child as determined by league commissioners based on his or her playing ability.

VI. RESPONSIBILITIES AND ELIGIBILITY OF COACHES

All individuals who request to be a head or assistant coach for the CBSL in any league will be screened to determine if he/she is a registered sex offender. No individual may coach in the CBSL if he/she is determined to be a present (or past) registered sex offender. The CBSL also reserves the right to deny an individual the opportunity to coach in any capacity if he/she has a past criminal conviction, is under a criminal investigation or has a criminal charge or indictment pending. The CBSL may institute a policy to perform a public records search or criminal background check on all individuals who volunteer to be a head coach or an assistant coach for the CBSL.

Every effort has been made by the league coordinator and/or rec league commissioner of each program to select managers with the ability to teach the children good sportsmanship, develop character and develop basic knowledge of the game. Managers and their coaches shall do everything possible to encourage the participation and enjoyment of each registered player; teach and develop baseball or softball skills; be in complete charge of his/her coaches and players at all times; be responsible for the instruction and enforcement of all CBSL rules and protection of equipment; protect the players from permanent injury frequently caused by improper playing and throwing techniques (e.g., curve balls, knuckleballs, etc); and be aware and abide by concussion protocol procedures.

Head coaches and assistant coaches must complete training on concussions and/or use of medical devices (including AEDs). If so, any coach must have such training completed before the team's first practice.

VII. VIOLATION OF RULES, CONDUCT and TREATMENT OF UMPIRES

A. Any coach, CBSL Board member, commissioner or coordinator who violates a CBSL rule will be subject to review by the CBSL Executive Board and/or Board of Commissioners and may be removed from his/her position, role or duty. Players who violate a league rule are subject to suspension or removal from the league by the League Commissioner and/or CBSL Executive Board. Any player suspended or removed for a rule violation will not be entitled to a refund.

B. A player may be disciplined by being benched for any scheduled game. The opposing coach must be notified before the game begins or the player must play in the game.

C. Coaches, players, parents, and spectators must not argue with, or be abusive toward, umpires before, during or after games. Any person can/should report any inappropriate behavior towards an umpire to the umpire trainer (lucaswilder44@gmail.com). Coaches may question the interpretation of a rule by an umpire (example: run rule, time limit, forfeit, etc.) but not a judgment call (example: fair/foul, strike/ball, safe/out, etc.). The head coach must also ensure that abusive language and unsportsmanlike conduct directed at umpires and other teams is completely eliminated on the part of his or her players, coaches, and parents/spectators. An umpire may remove from the game and park any manager, player, coach, parent or spectator for use of abusive language or unsportsmanlike conduct. Profanity by any person or player will not be tolerated and will be cause for immediate ejection from the game. Any person or player who is

abusive toward an umpire can cause his/her team to forfeit the game if not controlled by the head coach after the first warning from the umpire.

1. Any player ejected from a game for his or her own behavior shall be suspended for the next scheduled game. The CBSL reserves the right to determine if circumstances warrant an ejected player not being suspended the next game or if the player shall be suspended longer or removed from the league.
2. Any coach ejected from a game will be suspended for the next game and may not be allowed to coach the remainder of the season or the following season subject to determination by CBSL Executive Board and Board of Commissioners. Any coach ejected may not be able to coach the following year in the CBSL.
3. Any player or coach ejected shall be reported to the CBSL (cblstaff@woh.rr.com) by the head coach within 12 hours of the game being completed.

VIII. PLAYER PARTICIPATION, ROSTER BATTING and IN GAME SUBSTITUTIONS

A. Every player who shows must participate in each game unless injured, sick or ejected by the umpire. No player will sit the bench for two (2) consecutive innings. No player will sit twice before all players have sat one (1) inning. In addition, each player must play two (2) innings in the infield within the first five (5) innings during each game. Only one (1) inning in the infield in the first five is acceptable if (a) a game is shortened to four innings or (b) a large roster size (13+) is present for a particular game and prevents adherence to the rule. If a player or player's parent/guardian expresses exception to playing in the infield, or if safety of the player is a concern, the manager shall get written consent (eg, email, text message, handwritten letter) from a parent/guardian and tell the opposing coach before the game begins and email the consent to the rec league commissioner within 24 hours after the game is completed.

B. A violation of this rule during the regular season will not be subject to a protest. However, a warning shall be given to the manager for the first rule violation. A second violation may result in the removal of the manager for the rest of the year. A violation in tournament play is subject to protest to the rules committee who has the authority to remove the team from the tournament, if so warranted. The protest must be reported to the umpire and then shall be reported in writing to the league commissioner.

C. Substitutions must be made prior to the start of new innings on defense. However, pitchers may be substituted from the bench or the field at any time. Once a player is removed from the pitching position, the player may not return to the pitching position in the game. Penalty for violating this rule shall be forfeiting that game.

D. All teams must "roster bat" meaning each team is required to bat each and every player who is at the game.

IX. SUBS and FORFEITS

- A. "Subs" from other teams may be used only when there are less than 10 roster players available in Coach Pitch 1, Coach Pitch 2 and Rookie. If a sub is being used the head coach shall notify the opposing head coach and umpire before the start of the game. The sub shall be identified by name, his/her league of play and his/her rostered team
- B. Subs may only come from other rec teams in the same community and/or from a team in the next lower league as needed. [Example: if a Centerville rec Rookie team has less than 10 roster players available any sub must come from another Centerville rec Rookie team or CP2 team.] No subs from outside the CBSL will be allowed. A sub must be registered with the CBSL recreation league. No CP1 players may be used as a sub in a Rookie game.
- C. A maximum of three subs may be used. A player can sub for a team only if (a) he is not solely rostered on a select, travel or tournament only team, (b) he has his own team uniform (not one borrowed from another player), and (c) he is registered with the CBSL or community's recreation league.
- D. Any sub can only be used defensively in the outfield and cannot play in the infield. Any sub has to bat in the last spot in the lineup. Any sub cannot pitch under any circumstances.
- E. All teams must have at least 7 roster members **and** a total of 9 players (eg, 7 roster and 2 subs = 9) present to start a game in CP1, CP2 and Rookie. If a team does not have the requisite roster **and** team total that team forfeits and the opposing team shall record a win of 1-0. In the event of a forfeit the game shall be played and teams should borrow players from the opposing team to play or use subs. The borrowed players for each inning will be the player who made the last out from the previous inning; then the player who made the second to last out from the previous inning, etc.
- F. A player who is on a select or travel team roster cannot be used as a substitute in the CBSL recreation league unless that player is also a registered CBSL player on a recreation league roster. A player can be on a CBSL recreation roster and a select (or travel) roster if and only if the player is registered with the CBSL recreation league and has paid the recreation league fee.
- G. If the rule regarding subs is violated, the CBSL reserves the right to sanction a team's coach and/or team. Possible sanctions may include but are not limited to: a verbal or written warning, suspension, changing a win to a forfeit, elimination from the tournament, etc.

X. PARK / FIELD MAINTENANCE and GAME BALLS

- A. The use of tobacco, alcohol or controlled substances, as well as vaping or e-cigarettes, is prohibited by anyone on the playing area or in the dugouts.
- B. The manager has the responsibility to see that the players clean up trash from the dugouts after the game. The winning team's manager is responsible for returning the bases to the field box and making sure the box is organized and locked after each game unless another

team is waiting to play. The winning manager is also responsible for raking and tamping holes dug into pitchers mounds and batters boxes before the next game or if the last game of the day. The home team is responsible for lining the fields with chalk (including the pitchers' circle and halfway marks in CP2).

C. The home team shall provide at least one new game ball and one minimally worn baseball to the umpire before the start of the game. The visiting team shall also be willing to provide a game ball if necessary or a minimally worn baseball.

XI. EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

If a player is injured and requires professional assistance, immediately contact 911 and the child's parent or guardian. If a player is injured and requires professional assistance the head coach is responsible for notifying the CBSL by email within 24 hours after the emergency occurs. All reports must be kept on file as a record of injuries by the CBSL. A player injured or who otherwise cannot participate after the game starts will not be considered an out when his/her at-bat occurs. His/her spot will be simply skipped.

XII. PROTESTS

If a head coach desires to protest a rule interpretation (and not a judgment call on the part of the umpire), the protest must be made known to the umpire prior to the next pitch. The protest shall also be filed in an email to the CBSL (cbstaff@woh.rr.com & lucaswilder44@gmail.com) within 24 hours of the completion of the game. The league commissioner, rules commissioner, a member (or members) of the CBSL Executive Board and/or the league coordinator shall review the protest and strive to return a decision within one week from the date of the protest. If the protest is upheld, the game will be restarted from the point of the protest. Any decision on the protest is final and is not subject to appeal or reconsideration.

XIII. EQUIPMENT, PROTECTION and SAFETY

A. Head coaches must turn in all CBSL equipment to the equipment shed or league commissioner by the date designated by the CBSL. Failure to do so in a timely manner will eliminate that person from coaching in any capacity the next year.

B. No metal spikes will be allowed. Sliding into another player with spikes up (high sliding) is not allowed and may subject a player to ejection. Rubber spikes are recommended for all leagues. Tennis shoes are acceptable but only recommended for T-Ball.

C. It is required that all boys wear athletic supporters and cups for practices, scrimmages and games. It is required that all girls wear masks when playing the infield in softball. It is required that all catchers wear a catcher's helmet, mask with throat protector, chest protector, shin guards, athletic supporter and protective cup in all leagues. A player is required to wear a mask to warm up a pitcher in all leagues.

- D. Batters are required to wear the full helmet as furnished by the league at all practices, scrimmages and games. Players may wear their own helmet, but only if it is "NOCSEA approved". This designation will be molded inside the helmet. The same helmet is to be worn on the bases.
- E. There will be no limitation on bat size or weight of bats in the CBSL.
- F. No hitting sticks of any size or type will be allowed to be used by any team at any CBSL game or practice or near any Centerville Washington Township Park District baseball or softball field. This rule was adopted as a safety rule to prevent injuries due to the use or misuse of hitting sticks.
- G. When a defensive player has the ball and is waiting for the runner, and the runner remains on his feet and crashes into the defensive player, the runner will be declared out. If in the umpire's judgment, contact was made deliberately, the player shall be ejected from the game. Any player or coach ejected from a game shall be suspended for the next played game. The intention of this rule is to encourage the players to slide.
- H. When a defensive player blocks the runner from the base without the ball and the runner slides, he will be awarded the base due to obstruction. If the ball and the runner arrive simultaneously, the call will be based on the umpire's judgment. If the runner fails to slide and contact is made, other than incidental, the runner will be called out. There is no violation of this rule when there is no slide and there is no contact. This rule does not apply at first base. There is no requirement to slide at first base. Malicious contact at first base will still be grounds to be called out, ejected, or both.
- I. For any field using a safety base (two first bases), the batter/runner should use the base in foul territory when running through the base in an attempt to beat out a close play at first base. When running out an extra base hit, the batter/runner should use the base in fair territory. No runners should be called out for touching the wrong base. This safety base is added for safety purposes only.
- J. In all leagues, when a player is injured or unable to continue playing and is removed from the game, another player can come in off the bench and take the injured player's place in the field. If a player is injured or unable to continue during his or her bat and removed from the game, the batter who made the last out comes to the plate and assumes the injured batter's count. The injured batter from that point on is skipped in the batting order unless he or she is later able to participate, when he or she shall assume his or her prior batting order position. A player unable to bat due will not be declared an out.
- K. Players are not allowed to wear rings, earrings or watches. Necklaces should be tucked under a player's jersey.

XIV. REPORTING GAME INFORMATION

The winning head coach is responsible for reporting game scores to cblstaff@woh.rr.com and the league commissioner. It is recommended that the winning head coach also copy the opposing head coach on this email for verification.

XV. PLAYING AREA, FIELD CONDITIONS

A. Playing Area

The official playing area shall be bounded by the backstop and imaginary lines extended from the ends of the backstop and running parallel to the foul lines. In fields without fences, the relation of the ball, not the fielder, to the imaginary line will determine it being judged in play.

B. On deck circle

In all leagues, the on deck circle shall be marked clearly and used by the on deck batter. Managers chalking the field shall create an on deck circle. If there is no on deck circle marked, the on deck batter shall stay a reasonable and safe distance from the batting area.

C. Field Status/Conditions

The following websites or phone numbers shall be used to determine field status decisions: <https://rainoutline.com/search/dnis/9372652001>. NOTE: If the Park District posts "game time decision", the decision to start the game will be made by the two managers. If they cannot agree then the game is canceled. The umpire will not make the call whether to start the game but is allowed to stop play if conditions are poor and safety is an issue.

D. Hazardous Conditions

When hazardous weather conditions threaten the safety of the participants or spectators, the game shall be suspended until the conditions have subsided. Any tournament or playoff game stopped by rain, darkness or any other reason will be considered postponed/suspended, and resumed at the point of delay.

1. "Thirty-minute rule": From the time thunder or a lightning flash is detected, play should be suspended for thirty (30) minutes from the last sound of thunder or observed lightning flash. Any subsequent lightning or thunder shall reset the 30-minute clock. Any game which is suspended for more than 45 continuous minutes or after two non-continuous 60 minute suspensions may be called (i.e., stopped and not continued) by the umpire. The umpire has the authority to make this call and his/her call is final and not subject to protest. The CBSL will then determine if the game will be resumed or considered a final. Umpires will be encouraged, but not required, to call (or text) the rules commissioner and umpire trainer (Lucas Wilder) before calling a game.

2. Evacuation: While play is suspended under the Thirty-minute Rule, all participants and spectators shall evacuate to available safe structures, vehicles or shelters. A list of the closest safe structures shall be announced and posted at all athletic venues.

3. When the safety of the players is involved, ground rules may be changed if agreed to by the umpires and managers prior to the start of the game.

XVI. RUN RULE

A. In Rookie, the game will end if a team is winning by 15 or more runs after 4 complete innings (3 ½ innings if the home team is winning) or 10 runs or more after 5 complete innings (4 ½ innings if the home team is winning). There is no run rule for T-Ball, Coach Pitch 1 or Coach Pitch 2.

B. If there are 30 or more minutes left in a game when a run rule is established, teams will stop keeping score, consider the game official and allow the game to continue until time has expired. In this scenario only, the time limit will be “drop dead” - meaning the game will end at the expiration of the time limit. If a batter is mid count at the expiration of the time limit the at-bat will continue until the batter completes the at-bat.

XVII. GAME TIME LIMITS

A. The following are game time limits for scrimmages and regular season games.

Coach Pitch 1	1 hour, 30 minutes
Coach Pitch 2	1 hour, 30 minutes
Rookie	1 hour, 50 minutes

All Star games shall have a time limit of 2 hours.

CP1 and CP2 tournament games shall have a time limit as set for in A. above. Tournament finals shall not have a time limit. Rookie tournament games have no time limit. If a tournament game ends due to weather or darkness after 4 innings are complete, it will not be resumed and the winner will be determined by the score of the previously completed inning. For example: After five complete innings the home team is winning 10-8. In the top of the 6th inning the visitors take the lead 11-10. The game ends because it becomes too dark to play or weather. The home team wins because at the end of the last completed inning (the 5th), the home team was winning. Any tournament game which has not completed 4 innings and is stopped for weather or darkness shall be resumed at a later date from the point of stop.

B. A new inning shall be started if there is any time remaining in the time limit. For purposes of determining the time limit, a new inning will be considered to have started upon the execution of the third out of the previous inning, or the sixth run crossing the plate in those leagues with a six run per inning rule. The umpire's watch will be the official time. [Example for clarification:

Home team finishes its at-bat in a Rookie game with 5 minutes left before the 2 hour time limit hits. A new inning shall start unless the run rule has been established or the coaches mutually agree to end the game.]

XVIII. COMPLETE GAME, TIES, and FIELD ACCESS

A. A complete game is as follows for each league:

Coach Pitch 1:	6 innings
Coach Pitch 2:	6 innings
Rookie:	6 innings

B. In a game called for any reason other than time limit or run rule, four innings shall constitute a legal game and the losing team must have completed four times at bat. In case of a time limit the game is completed after the losing team has had its turn at bat. A completed game that ends in a tie will only be continued at a later date if that game will break a tie in the final league standings and any such game will be continued from the point at which it was stopped.

C. If the game is called (eg, weather, lightning, darkness, etc.) when the teams have not had an equal number of completed turns at bat, the score shall be the same as it was at the end of the last completed inning; except that if the home team in its half of the incomplete inning, scores a run (or runs) which equals or exceeds the opponent's score, the final score shall be as recorded when the game is called. *NFHS rule book (Sec. 2, Article 3)*

D. If the scheduled umpire(s) fail to appear, the game will only be an official game if both managers agree prior to the start on how the game is to be umpired.

E. Scheduled teams shall have access to the playing field one (1) hour prior to the start of the first game unless the field is being prepared for the game by the field maintenance personnel. For safety reasons, no batting practice shall be held anywhere in the park twenty (20) minutes prior to game time. A manager shall have up to fifteen (15) minutes after the scheduled time of his game to field a team of eligible players or forfeit the game.

F. An incomplete game, which has been called because of weather or other reasons except time limit, and has not attained sufficient innings to be declared a legal game, will be considered a rain-out.

XIX. ADDITIONAL LEAGUE / GAME RULES

A. Maximum runs per inning; "last inning": The batting team may only score (and record) a maximum of 6 runs per inning with the exception of the last inning (see "last inning" below). Once 6 runs have been scored in one inning, all play is stopped and the fielding team becomes the batting team. In the last inning there is no limit on runs except for Coach Pitch 1 and 2 (which do not have a last inning unlimited run exception). ***The "last inning" for Rookie it is the 6th inning.*** [For clarification: the "last inning" is never the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th or 5th inning in a Rookie game]

B. Dropped Third Strike: This rule is not in effect for CP, CP2 or Rookie.

C. Stealing: In Coach Pitch 1 and 2 there is no stealing. In Rookie, base runners can steal but are not permitted to lead off and cannot leave the base until the ball crosses the plate. The base runner shall be called out for violating this rule subject to the umpire's discretion. Any base runner in Rookie on third base at the start of a pitch cannot steal home under any circumstances (even on attempts to other bases including overthrows).

D. Advancing on a batted ball:

1. Rookie: On a batted ball, a base runner can continue to advance until the ball has been returned to an infielder who has possession and calls time out and time out is granted by the umpire. The game remains live until the umpire has called time or has declared the ball out of play. There is no halfway rule in Rookie (as there is in Coach Pitch).

A. Calling time - Time can be granted when the ball is in an infielder's possession and calls time out and time out is granted by the umpire. The game remains live until the umpire has called time. If an infielder tries to call time and a runner is already off the base heading to the next base then time is not awarded until the player stops at the next base. A player/team should not be able to try and use "time out" to stop a runner who is already off the base. It is the defense's job to get the runners to stay on the base, then ask for time. Time will not be granted until a runner is stopped at the next bag after "time" was called.

2. Coach Pitch 1 and 2: On a batted ball a base runner can only continue to advance more than one base if the ball travels out of the infield and into the outfield area. "Outfield area" is the grass. If an outfielder fields a ball in the dirt that is not considered the "outfield area". A runner shall stop if he/she is not more than halfway to the next base when the ball enters the infield area on the ground or in the air. "Infield area" for purposes of this rule is the basepath and towards home plate.

A ball thrown into the infield area does not have to be caught to determine if the runner is halfway but players should be encouraged to throw the ball to an infielder. All runners who are not half way will be returned to the prior base *after* the ball is dead. It is not required that an infield player call time. Play will *not* be interrupted while there is a live ball in the grass or when a ball is being thrown into the infield area after a ball is batted to the grass. If a runner is tagged out advancing more than one base on a ball batted to the grass the runner will be out even if it is determined that the runner was not able to advance on the ball batted to the grass. If a runner advances safely to the extra base, is not tagged out but was not halfway when the ball entered the infield area the runner(s) will be sent to the prior base after play has stopped. Coaches shall chalk a short line halfway between 1B and 2B, 2B and 3B and 3B and Home to help umpires determine if a runner is more than halfway.

E. Advancing on overthrows: In Coach Pitch 1 and 2 a runner cannot advance on an overthrow to a base. A runner can only advance more than one base if a ball is batted to the outfield area. There will be no advancement to the next base if a ball is thrown out of play (eg, ball overthrown to 1B travels into the spectator seating section, a thrown ball ends up rolling into

a dugout, etc.). A runner on third in Rookie cannot advance home upon a catcher's attempt to throw out a baserunner at first, second or third.

F. Base on balls (walks): No walks are allowed in Coach Pitch 1, Coach Pitch 2 or Rookie. If a batter is hit by a machine pitched ball in Rookie, the batter shall not be awarded first base and a "ball" will be called. There are no intentional walks allowed in CP1, CP2 or Rookie.

G. Bunting: Bunting is allowed in Rookie. It is not allowed in Coach Pitch 1 or 2.

I. Infield Fly Rule: The infield fly rule is in effect in Rookie only. *[Definition of the rule: The rule applies only when there are fewer than two outs, and there is a force play at third base (i.e., when there are runners at first and second base, or the bases are loaded). In these situations, if a fair fly ball is in play, and in the umpire's judgment is catchable by an infielder with ordinary effort, the umpire shall call "infield fly" (or more often, "infield fly, batter's out" or "infield fly if fair" when there is a chance of the ball drifting foul). When in effect, the batter will be out regardless of whether the ball is actually caught. If "infield fly" is called and the fly ball is caught, it is treated exactly as an ordinary caught fly ball; the batter is out, there is no force, and the runners must tag up. On the other hand, if "infield fly" is called and the ball lands fair without being caught, the batter is still out, there is still no force, but the runners are not required to tag up. In either case, the ball is live, and the runners may advance on the play, at their own peril.]*

J. Pitching machines:

1. Beginning in 2018, the CBSL voted to eliminate player pitching in Rookie. Pitching machines are now used for the entirety of the game. The intention of this change was to increase the enjoyment of the game experience for the players, coaches and parents. The CBSL found that the speed and flow of the game has improved and the hitting and fielding opportunities have increased.

2. In Rookie games, umpires will not call balls and strikes. There will be no walks allowed. A batter will be allowed 7 pitches to hit the ball unless the batter swings and misses on a third swinging (and missed) strike before pitch number 7. Batted balls that directly strike, or contact, the pitching machine without first being touched by a fielder will be ruled a dead ball single and runners will advance one base. Throws from any fielder that hit the pitching machine during play will be ruled a live ball, and runners will advance at their own risk. The only exception is when the catcher is merely returning the ball to the pitcher, and no base runner is stealing. In this case a dead ball shall be ruled.

K. Coach Pitch 1 and Coach Pitch 2 miscellaneous rules

1. Batting tee

In Coach Pitch 1 batters shall be allowed to use a tee on the last pitch if the batter has not hit a fair ball by the 6th pitch. Caution: coaches are warned not to abuse this rule by having batters miss pitches (or having the coach throw bad pitches) in order to get to use the tee on the 7th pitch. This is not the intention of the use of the tee. The tee is in use for those players who have difficulty hitting.

In Coach Pitch 2 no tee shall be used.

2. Seven pitch limit

a. A maximum of seven pitches may be thrown to a batter. There are no walks. If a batter fails to make contact on the seventh pitch the batter will be called out (except as provided in the batting tee rule above). An at-bat will continue beyond a seventh pitch if the following occurs on the seventh pitch: the batter fouls the ball, the coach pitcher hits the batter with the pitch, there is some form of interference by a defensive player on a batter (eg, the bat hits the catcher's mitt on a swing), the batter is using a tee or the batted ball does not travel beyond the 10 foot arc (see 5. below).

b. No balls or strikes will be called in Coach Pitch 1 or Coach Pitch 2.

3. The coach pitcher shall remain in the eight foot pitchers circle. He/she will make every attempt to avoid touching a ball or interfering with a player. If a batted ball hits the coach pitcher the ball is dead and the pitch is to be taken over and the pitch is not counted as one of the seven maximum pitches. If a coach pitcher interferes with a fielding play the ball is dead and the batter is out and the runners cannot advance.

4. Any ball batted to the outfield must be thrown to an infielder. Outfielders are not allowed to run and tag a base (or runner) for an out. [Example: The CF fields a ball close to 2B cannot get an out by running to touch the bag. He must throw or toss the ball to an infielder covering the bag.] The purpose of this rule is to encourage outfielders to throw the ball to the infield.

5. There shall be a 10 foot arc lined on the field in fair territory around home plate. Any batted ball that does not travel past this line is considered a "dead ball", does count towards the seven pitch limit, no runners shall advance and the batter gets another pitch to hit.

L. Number of outfielders: In Coach Pitch and Coach Pitch 2 teams may use 4 or more Outfielders. No player shall sit the bench on defense in CP or CP2. In Rookie teams may use up to 4 outfielders.

M. Coach position during live play (Rookie): The only coaches allowed on the field during live play are the coach feeding the machine and the two base coaches. Coaches who are not involved with these jobs should remain in the dugout OR can stand outside the dugout but within 6 feet of the dugout entrance. No coach should be close to the foul line in the dirt or grass foul territory area.

XX. ALL STAR GAMES

League coordinators are encouraged to have all star games for their respective league. The league commissioner shall determine all aspects of the all star game including but not limited to: the date

for the game, the game's format, roster selection process, all star coaches determination, rules, etc. All Star games shall have a 2 hour time limit with no new inning after 2 hours. The run rule is in effect. The All Star game is an exhibition game.

XXI. TOURNAMENTS

League commissioners will set up tournaments, determine seedings, bracket style, etc. For tournaments, all aforementioned rules for each respective league are in effect (including but not limited to: run rule, sub rule, forfeit rule, etc.). The lone rule exception is that tournament games shall have no time limit.

XXII. RATING FORMS

CBSL managers must turn in their rating forms to their league commissioner before the first game of their postseason tournament or his/her team will not be eligible to play in the postseason tournament. The deadline is July 10th for turning in player ratings forms for leagues without a postseason tournament.

XXIII. COVID-19

All players, coaches, umpires, and spectators shall follow any COVID (or other health emergency) rules, mandates or orders implemented by the Ohio Department of Health, Montgomery County Health Department and/or the Ohio Governor.

XXIV. Select / Rec Teams

CBSL may allow the formation of select / rec teams composed of players who are allowed to play in the rec league during the season and play with a Centerville select team during the rec season and/or after the rec season concludes. Any players who are on such a team shall be spread amongst the rec teams during the rec season and rec play to create a competitive balance.

XXV. CBSL BOYS T-BALL

The purpose of this league is to introduce players to the fundamentals of the game. T-Ball is for players aged 4 ½ to 7 years old. Beginning with the 2014 season, we have separate programs for girls and boys. Both will continue to play their games on Sunday afternoons.

Everyone bats in order and every player who shows shall play in the field on defense regardless of the number of outfielders. Teams change from hitting to fielding after each and every player bats in an inning. When the last batter in the order hits the ball he shall advance every base until he scores. All baserunners shall advance to home on the last batter's batted ball.

Outs are not recorded but if the defense makes an "out" the runner shall return to the dugout. Even if a team gets three "outs" before the last batter hits the hitting team continues to hit until each batter has hit. No scorebook is maintained or recorded. There is no tournament for T-Ball.

Any ball batted off the tee shall travel at least 8 feet to be considered a live ball. Coaches should place a white line arc 8 feet from the plate. Any ball that does not pass this line shall be considered "dead" and another ball shall be batted.

XXVI. CBSL BOYS SELECT BASEBALL PROGRAM

The purpose and objectives of the CBSL Select Baseball Program are:

1. To provide boys select baseball for as many boys as possible in our community;
2. To teach basic knowledge of the game of baseball and to develop character by teaching children to play together fairly, abide by the rules, to win and lose like sportsmen, and;
3. To accomplish each of the above in a fun, productive, and positive environment.

In pursuit of these goals, the CBSL program strives to have 2 select teams in each age group of boys ages, 8 thru 15, based on interest and coach availability. The CBSL may have a 7U select/developmental team.

Open tryouts are granted each year for all select teams. Eligible players must be Centerville residents.

CBSL Select teams normally compete in the Midwest Ohio Baseball League (“MOBL”) or Action Sports League and abide by the MOBL or Action League rules. CBSL select teams also may elect to be “tournament only” and/or may participate in other leagues.

Select coaches and/or select players are subject to sanction by the CBSL for violating any rule herein, any code of conduct signed by the player or coach and/or failing to pay his/her team fees. Any coach and/or player who is removed from his/her select team shall not be entitled to a refund of team fees paid.

XXVII. CBSL GIRLS FAST PITCH SOFTBALL

The purpose and objectives of the CBSL fast pitch softball program are:

1. To provide girls softball for as many children as possible in our community;
2. To teach basic knowledge of the game of softball and to develop character in the children by teaching them to play together fairly, abide by the rules, and to win and lose like sportsmen; and
3. To accomplish each of the above in a fun, productive, and positive environment.

In pursuit of these goals, the CBSL softball program offers both “Recreation” and “All Star” level playing opportunities based on a players’ interest and skill level.

CBSL recreation softball teams compete in the South Dayton Community Softball League against recreation teams from the neighboring communities of Bellbrook, Kettering, Miamisburg, Springboro, Waynesville and West Carrollton. If interest exists, the CBSL will offer “All Star” skill level playing

opportunities. All Star teams will compete in a regional All Star league and also participate in All Star level tournaments.

Since CBSL softball teams compete in the South Dayton Softball League, the CBSL softball program abides by the South Dayton Community Softball League Rule Book. The South Dayton Softball League has made every attempt to align its rules with that of the Amateur Softball Association (ASA) rules with exceptions deemed appropriate based on the skill level of each age-based league.

The league rulebook can be found on the CBSL website. www.cbltoday.org.

Any rule not covered by the South Dayton Softball League Rulebook will be governed by the ASA Official Rules of Softball Rule Book (www.asasoftball.com).

For more information contact Girls Softball Director Matt Stillwell (matt.stillwell@centerville.k12.oh.us).

Rule “Cheat Sheet”

	Time	Number	Max Runs	Unlimit	Run	Advance	Roster #	Total	Steal	Bunt
	Limit	Pitches AB	Per Inn	Runs Inn	Rule	Overthrow	Needed	Needed	Home	
CP2	1:30	7	6	n/a	n/a	no	7	9	no	no
Rookie	1:50	7	6	6th	15/4, 10/5	yes	7	9	no	yes