



Warren Park Youth Baseball Rules

Basic Ball and Basic Ball Plus Divisions

I. GENERAL RULES

1. All coaches, parents, and players are expected to adhere to the Sportsmanship Codes of Conduct available on the WPYBL website. The Board may suspend or expel any player, coach or parent for abuses of safety, sportsmanship and league rules.
2. Regular season standings and seeds for tournament are based on winning percentage, with ties counting as half of a win. The tiebreaker for identical records is first decided by results of head-to-head play. A tie in that category sends it to a run differential in head-to-head play. Another tie results in a coin toss officiated by the Division Coordinator.
3. All players are expected to play in their league-approved uniforms. No lettering or insignia may be added to the league-approved uniforms without board approval. Players wearing inappropriate or unsafe attire will not be allowed to play.
4. No metal cleats are allowed.
5. Basic Ball Division will use the Grey DriveLine Plyo Ball (3.5oz) and the Basic Ball Plus Division will use the Yellow DriveLine Plyo Ball (5.3oz).

II. PLAYING FIELD

1. The front edge of the pitcher's plate shall be 27 feet from the back of home plate.
2. The back edge of first and third bases shall be 40 feet from the back of home plate.
3. Second base shall be equidistant from first and third base.
4. A Safety base should be used at 1st base and be placed 3 feet into foul territory.
5. Positions zone discs shall be placed on the field to demarcate the defensive zone for each of the fielders.
6. There are no on-deck circles at the fields that safely separate the players from spectators, so players waiting to bat must remain in the dugout.
7. Players waiting to bat shall NOT take any practice swings until they enter the field of play.
8. The Home team is responsible for setting up the field prior to the start of the game.
9. The Away team is responsible for picking up the field upon completion of the game, unless there is another WPYBL game immediately following.
10. The field of play shall be kept clear of bats and unused equipment.
11. An adult coach will play first base and assist the batter-runner.

12. Two adult coaches, from either team, will be positioned in the outfield to assist the fielders and runners.

III. STARTING AND ENDING A GAME

1. Games are played at the times and locations shown on the schedule.
2. Basic Ball and Basic Ball Plus games are scheduled for three innings.
3. Basic Ball and Basic Ball Plus games have a time limit of 30 hours minutes from the scheduled game time.
4. Each half inning ends after 7 offensive players have batted.
5. A minimum of four (4) players on each team are required to play a game. Players can be borrowed from another Basic Ball/Basic Ball Plus team, including the opposing team.
6. All games, without exception, shall be stopped upon the umpire seeing lightning. Upon a game being stopped for lightning, all players, coaches, and spectators must leave the field and go to the fieldhouse, their cars, or other safe areas. The game can resume once there has been a period of 15 consecutive minutes without any lightning. If the game cannot be resumed the same day due to field conditions, weather or darkness it will be considered a suspended game.

IV. FIELDING

1. Four players shall be positioned in the field of play when a team is on defense in the following positions:
 - a. Pitcher
 - b. Second Baseman
 - c. Third Baseman
 - d. Shortstop
2. At the time of the pitch all players should be positioned on their player position disc.
3. Up to two players will be assistant bench coaches (AC) one inning per game.
4. Each inning, the defensive team will rotate positions:
 - a. 3B to SS
 - b. SS to 2B
 - c. 2B to P
 - d. P to AC #1
 - e. AC #2 to AC #1
 - f. Bench to AC #2
5. Rotate the starting defensive positions every game.

V. BATTING

1. All available players at the start of the game shall be included in the lineup.
2. Seven batters will bat each inning. If the offensive team does not have 7 available players, some batters will bat twice in the inning.
3. Each inning will have a different leadoff hitter corresponding with the original batting order. (1st Inning = 1, 2nd Inning = 2, 3rd Inning = 3)
4. All bats shall feature the USA Baseball mark and text which reads "ONLY FOR USE WITH APPROVED TEE BALLS".
5. For Basic Ball Division, each at bat starts with the batter using the tee. The batter gets as many swings as necessary to hit the ball. Beginning in the second half of the season, at bats can start with the coach doing soft toss. If the batter does not put the ball in play after three soft tosses, the batter can hit the ball off the tee.
6. For Basic Ball Plus Division, each at bat starts with the batter with the coach doing soft toss. Beginning in the second half of the season, at bats can start with the coach pitching overhand from the pitcher's plate. If the batter does not put the ball in play after three soft tosses or overhand pitches, they can hit the ball off the tee.
7. Batters shall drop their bat immediately around home plate after making contact with the ball.
8. Parents/guardians may walk their player up to the plate and greet their player when they cross home plate.

VI. BASERUNNING

1. Runners must remain in contact with the base until the ball has been hit.
2. Base runners, including the batter-runner, can advance only 1 base per ball put in play, including balls hit to the outfield.
3. When the 7th batter of the inning hits the ball, runners must only advance 1 base. You cannot 'clear the bases' on the last batter of the inning.
4. Batter-runners and base runners shall wear their helmet at all times when the ball is in play.

VII. PITCHING

1. When soft-tossing, a coach should be on one knee, approximately 10 feet from the batter at an angle towards the opposite field (i.e.; when a lefty batter the coach should be just inside the third base foul line).
2. When pitching overhand, the coach should pitch with their throwing foot in contact with the pitcher's plate.

