

LUCAS LEAGUE 2013

4/1/2013

Latest Version Available at: wittenmyer.net/baseball

1. We will use NFHS and Ohio HS rules with the following changes.
2. **Mercy rule:** If a team is ahead by 12+ runs at the end of the 4th inning, 10+ runs after the 5th inning or 8+ runs after the 6th inning the game is over.
3. **Continuous Batting:** All players on the roster will be in the batting rotation. Free defensive substitution will be allowed.
4. **Minimum Play Time:** All players present must play a minimum of 2 innings (6 defensive outs). The penalty for non-compliance of mandatory play, intentional or unintentional, is that the player shall start the next scheduled game he attends, play any previously requirement not completed and the requirement for this game before being removed.
5. **Minimum Team Size** - Teams may not play with less than 8 players. There is no penalty for playing with 8 players. The open spot in the batting order is skipped without penalty. If a player arrives late, he is may enter the game without penalty. He will be added to the bottom of the batting order. If a player is removed due to injury, ejection or other emergency the vacant spot is skipped without penalty as long as 8 players remain in the lineup.
6. **Borrowed Players** - When a team knows it will be short players, players from other community's teams Junior Division (U14), Senior Division (U16) and Big Divisions (U18) may be used. Players from the same league or older must bat last in the lineup and play outfield on defense. Players from a younger league (i.e. a 16 year old player that is playing up to a U18 game or a 14 year old player that is playing up to a U16 game) must bat last in the lineup and may play any position on defense except pitcher. U14 players may use bats legal from their league. No borrowed players are allowed during tournament games.
7. **Courtesy/Pinch Runners:** Courtesy or pinch runners are not allowed.
8. **Pitching Substitution:** The pitcher must be removed on the third trip to the mound. Any player who pitches to at least one batter may return to the mound once per GAME. The pitcher does NOT need to remain on defense in order to return to the mound (may return from the bench). A player may not return to the mound if he was removed due to the charged conference rule.
9. **Pitching Restrictions:** In order to help protect our players mandatory rest is required depending on the number of innings pitched. Any part of an inning counts as one inning. Although Sunday starts a new week for the weekly limits, pitchers must still have the required days of rest. For example, a pitcher who pitches in 6 innings on Sat. cannot pitch again until Wed. If double headers are played, a pitcher who pitches in the first game may pitch in the second game provided he does not exceed the maximum number of innings per day or week. The penalty for using an ineligible pitcher is forfeiture of the game.

League Age	Innings/Week	Innings/Day	Mandatory Rest
14-16	10	7	1 Inning = 0 Days 2-3 Innings = 1 Day 4-5 Innings = 2 Days 6+ Innings = 3 Days
17-18	12	9	1 Inning = 0 Days 2-3 Innings = 1 Day 4-5 Innings = 2 Days 6+ Innings = 3 Days

10. **Balks:** One warning per pitcher per game until June 7. After June 7 no warnings.
12. **Umpires:** Home field team is responsible for obtaining umpires. Each team pays half the umpires fees (cash, before the game starts). If a game is cancelled in advance a game for non-weather related reasons, the

team canceling the game must call the umpires. If a team cancels a game for non-weather related reasons and notifies the umpire with 24 hour notice, no fee is due. If the umpire is notified less than 24 hours before game time the late fee is half the umpire fees. If a game is suspended before it becomes a regulation game, managers should request that umpires return half of the money to each manager.

13. **Baseballs:** Each team will supply 1 new baseball and 2 slightly used baseball for each game.
14. **League Age:** A player's league age is determined by his age on May 1, 2012.
15. **Cleats:** Metal cleats are allowed.
16. **Malicious Contact:** Malicious contact always supersedes obstruction. This is NFHS rule. If the runner initiates malicious contact against a player blocking the base while not in possession of the ball, the runner is out.
17. **Lucas League Ejection Rule:** A player ejected must sit out the next game. When player is ejected from a game the UMPIRE shall note it in both scorebooks. A player ejected for illegal substitution or illegal equipment does not have to sit out the next game. Ejected managers, coaches, etc. may not be in the dugout or on the field during the next game (except to attend to an injury). **Confinement:** Umpires may confine players (managers and coaches also) to the bench area in lieu of ejection. The person ejected or confined may not come on the field (except to attend to an injury). A person confined may play in the next scheduled game.
18. **Time Limit:** No top of an inning can start more than 2:00 after the first pitch. The top of an inning starts at the moment the third out is made completing the preceding inning. (Gateway Field: No inning may start after 11:00 PM)
19. **Rainouts:** A game is complete if 4 innings are completed. Revert to the score of the last complete inning or half inning if the home team is ahead. Home team manager will arrange for make-up of games. Check schedule for field availability and check with visiting team for use of visitor's field. Home field team to arrange for umpires.
20. **Bats:** Maximum 2-5/8" diameter barrel, minus 3. U14 call-ups may use bats from their own league up to 2-5/8" diameter with no weight restriction. Please inform the umpires and other manager if you have a call-up. Any 14's on the regular season roster must follow league bat rule and use a drop 3 bat. **BATS MUST BE BBCOR CERTIFIED.** All wood bats are allowed.
21. **Athletic cups** are mandatory for all male catchers and recommended for all players.
22. **Clean Up:** Teams will clean out dugout and bleachers, no matter where you are playing.
23. **Good sportsmanship** is not just encouraged, it is mandatory. These rules are not perfect; common sense should be used in applying them to Lucas League games.