**PERRYSBURG AMATEUR BASEBALL/SOFTBALL COMMISSION**

**PW7 BASEBALL LEAGUE RULES**

When determining rule priority, PABSC baseball follows each age group’s rules first, followed by the general baseball league rules, followed by Major League Baseball rules.

**League**

* *Philosophy*
	+ The PW7 league is designed to introduce beginning players to the game of baseball. It is the intent of this commission to make the PW7 program an arena for learning the basic FUNdamentals in a non-competitive atmosphere. PW7 is an instructional league designed to concentrate on player skills development while also introducing the players to competition and good sportsmanship; therefore two coaches will be permitted on the field to provide instruction and encouragement to the players. Sportsmanship, citizenship, and teamwork should be the foundation upon which coaches should focus while providing instruction on fundamentals of skill and game play. Keep in mind – this game is for the kids and should be kept FUN while getting ready for the next level!
* *Ages*
	+ PW7 shall consist of players currently in 1st grade.

**General Playing Rules**

* *Playing Time*
	+ PW7 will abide by a 1 ½ hour time limit. The inning that is being played when the time limit is reached will be the last inning, with the home team batting last.
* *Batting Order*
	+ Each member of the team will bat in rotation. This rotation will change from game to game giving all players an equal opportunity to have an equal number of at bats.
	+ Once three outs are made, the bases will be cleared and that team will continue batting until the rotation has been completed. If three outs are not made by the time the entire rotation has had an at bat, then the teams will switch places.
	+ Any late arriving player(s) will be added to the bottom of the batting order.
	+ Each team will be limited to one rotation of batters per inning.
	+ At any time, the team at bat may use a courtesy runner for the catcher. This will help speed up play by allowing the catcher to change into the protective gear. The courtesy runner should be the player who made the last out.
* *Pitching Restrictions*
	+ Each team shall have their coach or assistant coach pitch.
* *No Walks*
	+ After 7 pitches, the player will be required to hit from a tee. If the batter is fouling off the pitches, they will continue without the tee until they no longer make contact. There will be no walks. The player will either be on base or be called out.
* *Hit Batsman*
	+ If a player is hit by a pitch, it is a no pitch.
* *Infield Fly*
	+ There is no infield fly rule.
* *Defense*
	+ Every player on the team will play somewhere on defense. The regular infield positions, including a catcher, will be filled with extra players positioned in the outfield (on the grass). A coach or parent (designated by the coach) will stand behind home plate (if needed) to retrieve all balls which pass the catcher.
	+ Player positions on defense will be rotated, so that each player has the opportunity to play all the positions. The defense positions shall continue to be rotated throughout the season. Player safety is the number one priority when it comes to fielding each position.
	+ The player playing the pitcher position must stand to either side of the coach for fielding purposes.
* *General Info*
	+ If the ball is hit to the outfield, the play will stop when an infielder gains and maintains secure possession. Runners halfway between bases go to the next base. No running on overthrows.
	+ All games will be umpired by a coach or a person designated by the coaches.
	+ No matter how many players from the teams attend the game, the game will be played. If a team is short players, players from the opposing team will help fill empty positions in the outfield and will bat with that team.
	+ The PW7 league shall be a non-competitive league. No one shall keep score. This is an instructional league and the main goal is teaching the kids to play the game and have fun!
* *Field Dimensions*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Pitching Mound | Bases |
| 39 feet | 60 feet |

* *Lead Offs and Stealing*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| When | Stealing Home | Dropped 3rd Strike |
| None | No | No |

* + If a runner leaves early, the runner will be given a warning. This warning consists of the ball being declared dead and the runners being sent back to their original bases. On the next occurrence in the same inning, the runner will be called out and the ball will be declared dead.
* *Equipment*
	+ Maximum bat diameter: 2 ¼”
	+ Maximum length: 30”
	+ Maximum drop: -12 (i.e. -10, -11, -12; for example, a 26in. 14oz bat is allowed)