

First Baptist Church

Boys 12-15 Baseball League Rules

Regulation Little League Rules will be used unless stated otherwise below.

Home Team and Guest Team

- Teams will lead their own pre-game devotion and prayer, 3-5 minutes.

Length of Game

- Games will be limited to **6 innings or 1 hour and 30 minutes**. A new inning shall not start after 1 hour and 15 minutes, and any inning in progress at the expiration of time will be completed. 45 minutes played or 4 innings (3 1/2 if home team is ahead) will constitute a legal game in the case of rain or other emergency condition.

Eligible Players

- Each team must have a minimum of seven players to begin the game. If seven players cannot be fielded, a forfeit shall be declared.

Run Rules

- There will be a limit of 5 runs the first 3 innings, with unlimited scoring thereafter. The game will be called if a team is ahead by 15 after 3 innings, 12 after 4 innings.

Base Distance and Pitching Distance

- Base distances will be 70 feet.
- Pitching distance will be 50 feet

Number of Players and Substitutions

- 9 players will play in the field. Each player must play in the field at least every other inning. In other words, **no player shall remain on the bench for consecutive innings**. It is recommended that the coach prepare a player substitution schedule prior to the game to ensure that each player plays his allotted time. Within these guidelines, the coach may substitute and change player's positions in the field freely. There is no re-entry limitation.
- In order to avoid unnecessary delays, a courtesy runner may be used for the catcher if there are two outs. The courtesy runner **must** be the last player to have made an out.

Batting Order

- The batting order shall include every player present, and will not change at any time, unless a player becomes sick or injured. For example, if 12 players are present, the batting order will be 1-12, and will not change regardless of where individuals are playing in the field. Players arriving after the beginning of the game shall be added to the bottom of the batting order.
- If a player is forced to leave the game due to sickness or injury, and his turn at bat comes up, he will be skipped over with no out penalty.
- Should a player become injured while on base, a courtesy runner may be used for him, subject to the same rules as the courtesy runner for the catcher. However, if there is a

second occurrence of an injury to the same player, that player must be permanently removed from the game.

Stealing

- There is stealing. **On a dropped third strike the batter will be considered out and cannot advance to first base.**

Collisions

- Any base runner that intentionally collides with a defensive player in an attempt to dislodge the ball will be called out and ejected from the game. It is the runner's responsibility to slide or attempt to avoid contact. This is a judgment call by the umpire. Additionally, defensive players may not block bases including home plate, with or without the ball. Contact initiated by defensive players also result in ejection. All unsportsmanlike conduct ejections are subject to the umpire.

