

BARRINGTON YOUTH BASEBALL & SOFTBALL
2009 AAA4G House Rules
Revised April 1, 2009

1. League Season

The league season will begin on April 18, 2009 and will continue until playoffs are concluded by the end of June.

2. Use of Players

- A. All players on a team's roster will bat in consecutive order. A player arriving after the start of a game is added to the end of the order. The opposing manager must be notified.
- B. All players must play a minimum of four innings. Unless games are shortened due to weather, time limit or darkness.
- C. Except for reasons of physical ailment, a player cannot be on the bench for consecutive innings.
- D. Any violations of the use of players should be reported to a division commissioner. All violations of player use rules will be noted on the Official Game Record for that game. Any manager violating a player use rule is subject to discipline by the league commissioner, which may include suspension for one game for the first violation. A second violation of this rule will result in an automatic suspension of the manager for the next game. A third violation will result in managerial suspension for the rest of the current season and managerial and / or coaching disqualification for the next season.
- E. No player can sit two innings until all players have sat at least one inning. Similarly, no player can sit three innings until all players have sat at least two innings.
- F. All players must play an infield position at least twice and an outfield position at least once during a game.
- G. No player may play the same position (except pitcher) more than twice during a regulation (6 inning) game. This rule will not apply during extra inning games.

**Any violations of the use of players should be reported to the AAA4G commissioner.

3. Replacements

- A. If a team loses a player for the season, the manager must notify the AAA4G Commissioner. The league, at its discretion, will provide a permanent substitute player.
- B. If less than 9 players are available at the start time of a game, the AAA4G team can recruit substitute players from any team(s) within the AA3G division or borrow from the opposing team at the opposing team's Manager's discretion.
- C. If a team falls below 9 players after the start of the game, that team Rule 4.B. applies.
- D. A substitute player must play. A substitute player must bat last and can only play in the outfield.
- E. Substitute players cannot be used if their House Team is playing at the same time (except if from the opposing team). This would be considered an illegal player and would result in a forfeit.
- F. If the team which recruits a substitute player is able to field 9 rostered players by the end of the top half of the first inning, the substitute player can no longer play. After this, the substitute player is able to play the whole game.

4. Base Running

- A. For this rules section, a "batter" is a player who has hit the ball in play and play is still active. A "stationary base runner" is a player who is positioned on a base while the batter is at bat.
- B. Once the batter hits the ball in play, the ball is "live" until the umpire calls time out or the play has stopped – at which time the umpire should call timeout.
- C. Once a ball is hit into play, the batter and base runners may advance to bases at will. Neither the batter nor the base runner(s) must stop at third base, even in an overthrow situation.
- D. No lead offs. A base runner must stay on the base until the ball is hit or has crossed the plate. Leaving early will result in the runner being called out.
- E. A pinch-runner must be used if the catcher is on base with 2 outs. The courtesy runner shall be the last batted out.
- F. A stationary runner on third base can only score on a ball being put in play by the batter or on a hit batter with the bases loaded. Example: If the catcher throws to second base as the base runner on first base attempts to steal second base, the stationary base runner at third base cannot advance home.

- G. A base runner may only steal one base per pitch, and may not advance an additional base regardless of whether an overthrow has occurred during the steal attempt.

5. Batting / Run Limits

- A. Strike zone shall be arm pits to knees, and the width of the plate plus a ball width.
- B. The barrel width of the bat may not exceed 2 1/4 inches.
- C. There is no dropped 3rd strike.
- D. Intentional bunting is not permitted.
- E. A pitch that hits the ground and then hits the batter is considered a hit by pitch. The batter is awarded first base and the ball is dead.
- F. If a player leaves the game for any reason and the team is left with only eight players, his / her absence will not be counted as an "out".
- G. All batters must wear an approved batting helmet at all times when they are out of the dugout. This includes the time approaching the plate, the full time at bat, time spent on the bases or in the baselines, and returning to the dugout. Helmets shall not be removed until a player is safely in the dugout.
- H. There may be not more than one on-deck batter outside the dugout at any time.
- I. All bats and equipment shall be removed immediately from the field so as not to pose a safety hazard to fielders
- J. No batter or fielder may display his / her temper by throwing any piece of equipment either on the field or in the dugout, or by arguing with the umpire. The umpire in charge, at his discretion, may issue a team warning for the first violation of any of the above rules. Subsequent violations may result in a player being ejected and / or the violating team being assessed an out.
- K. A batter may not throw his / her bat intentionally in the process of batting. No warning shall be needed before the umpire may declare a batter "out" for intentionally throwing a bat.
- L. Runs Per Inning Limit:
 - a. Each team will be permitted a maximum of 6 runs per inning in the first through fifth inning.
 - i. 6 runs will conclude a team's at bat.
 - ii. Unlimited runs will be allowed in the sixth inning,
 - iii. Unlimited runs will be allowed in the sixth inning and any extra innings during the playoffs.
 - b. If prior to the start of the fifth inning, both managers and umpire agree that the sixth inning will not be able to be played (due to time, light, etc), and both managers and umpire agree, the fifth inning may be played as the last inning with unlimited runs. In this case, no additional innings after the conclusion of the fifth inning may be played.

6. Pitching

- A. New pitchers get as many warm-ups as the umpire feels are needed with a maximum of 10 pitches.
- B. After throwing one pitch to a batter, the pitcher shall be considered as having pitched in one inning.
- C. Once a pitcher has been removed from the game, he may not be reinstated to pitch again in the game.
- D. Players cannot pitch consecutive days
- E. The pitcher will use the 46 foot rubber.
- F. Pitchers are not allowed to wear long white sleeves.
- G. There is no penalty for a balk.
- H. A pitcher must be removed if he hits 2 batters in an inning or 3 batters in a game, but may continue the game in another position.
- I. For the following rules section, a week is considered (7) consecutive days starting from the date of first pitch.
 - a. Pitch limit per game: 55
 - b. Pitch limit per week: 80
 - c. Maximum innings pitched per game: 3 innings
 - d. Maximum innings pitched per week: 6 innings
 - e. 1-29 pitches per game requires 1 days of rest before the player can pitch again. A day of rest is the full day following the game pitched, so if a player throws between 1-29 pitches on Monday, he may not pitch again until Wednesday.

- f. 30-39 pitches per game requires 2 days of rest before the player can pitch again. A day of rest is the full day following the game pitched, so if a player throws between 30-39 pitches on Monday, he may not pitch again until Thursday.
- g. 40-49 pitches per game requires 3 days of rest. A day of rest is the full day following the game pitched, so if a player throws between 40-49 pitches on Monday, he may not pitch again until Friday.
- h. 50-55 pitches per game requires 4 days of rest. A day of rest is the full day following the game pitched, so if a player throws between 50-55 pitches on Monday, he may not pitch again until Saturday.
- i. A pitcher who has thrown 52 or fewer pitches when he begins pitching to a new batter may complete pitching to that batter even if he exceeds 55 pitches during the at-bat. A pitcher who has thrown 53 or 54 pitches may begin pitching to a new batter, but must be removed from the game after he throws his 55th pitch

Pitches thrown	Days rest	Pitch limits	Inning limits	Hit By Pitch (HBP) removals
1-29	1	55 per game	3 per game	2 HBP per inning – pitcher removed
30-39	2	80 per week	6 per week	
40-49	3			
50-55	4			

- J. Players in violation of any of the pitching rules will be considered an ineligible player for the rest of the game and suspended for the next playable game along with the team's manager.
- K. Any violations to the pitching rules will result in an automatic game forfeiture for the offending team for the game to which the violation applies and a one-game suspension for the offending manager. Such violation will be noted on the Official Game Record. This will also apply to a second pitching violation.
- L. A third violation will result in the automatic forfeiture of the game, suspension of the manager for the rest of the season, and ineligibility for managing and / or coaching for the next season.
- M. Upon completion of the season, all such suspensions will be forwarded to the secretary of the BYB/S Executive Board.
- N. Send your league commissioner your game report. This can be done by logging in to the coaches' site selecting Game Report. Please include the score and a complete pitching report for both teams. The report must be submitted by the Monday following the game.
- O. Send your league commissioner your game/lineup report. The purpose of the Official Game Record is threefold:
 - a. Record the innings pitched by individual pitchers for both teams.
 - b. Provide a record of lineup rotation for the game.
 - c. Provide a record of any and all warnings, forfeits, and / or suspensions issued by the game umpire.
- Q. No player may walk. Once a player pitcher throws ball four, the batter's coach enters the game and may throw up to three additional pitches. A foul ball on the third and last pitch entitles the batter to an additional pitch. .

7. Game Time

- A. Except during the playoffs - No full inning will begin after 1 hour and 45 minutes unless four innings have not been completed (3 1/2 if the home team is ahead).
- B. Except during the playoffs - if the following day is a school day, no full inning may start after 9:45pm.
- C. Except during the playoffs- Tie games will not be resumed.
- D. All games will begin at the published start time, unless the game before has exceeded it's allotted time.
- E. Home team is required to take the third base dugout and initial use of the infield. Visiting team uses the first base dugout and is entitled to a pre-game warm-up off the infield. Since game time will be strictly adhered to, managers must provide discretion and fairness in the usage of warm-up time. Due to field time restraints, the amount of pre-game warm-up will be determined by the plate umpire.
- F. No games will exceed six full innings during the regular season unless the game is tied. A game may continue after the sixth inning only if it will not infringe upon the scheduled start time of the next game.

- G. If a game is called due to rain, it is an official game if 4 completed innings have been played (3 ½ innings if the home team is ahead).
- H. If a game is called due to rain and it is an official game, the score for the game will revert back to the score of the last completed inning.
- I. If a game is called due to rain and it is not an official game, the game will not be counted for either team.
- J. First Aid Kits will be located in the concession stands both at F.O.D. and Langendorf Park, should you need one.
- K. All team players are encouraged to wear supporters, sliding pants and a protective cup. All catchers must wear a protective cup.
- L. Players are not allowed to wear metal cleats. Baseball shoes with rubber cleats are strongly recommended; although athletic shoes without cleats are allowed.
- M. Any manager or coach suspended and / or ejected from any game or who causes his / her team to forfeit a game due to rules violations, may appeal the BYB/S Executive Board of a hearing. All such appeals will be presented in writing to the Division Commissioner who will forward it to the secretary of the BYB/S Executive Board.

Specific game situations:

- A. Sliding: Sliding or avoiding contact is required at all bases in all potential play situations. All runners slide straight to all bases. There will be no attempt at breaking up a double play. Violation of this rule will result in the base runner being called “out”.

8. Playoffs

All teams will qualify for the playoffs. There will be no seeding for playoffs. A random draw will determine playoff match-ups. The playoffs will use a double elimination format. Playoffs will start in early to mid June. All regular season rules will remain in effect except as noted below:

- A. A team may play with 8 or more players only. A team with less than 8 players at game time will be forced to forfeit. During the playoffs, where required to avoid a forfeit, a team may use a substitute player from the AA3G division; however, a team may not utilize the same substitute player for more than one game. A substitute player may only be utilized as a team’s eighth player to avoid a forfeit. If a team has 8 or more active players from their roster in attendance – a substitute player is not allowed. A substitute player may only play in the outfield and hit last in the batting order.
- B. At the beginning of the playoffs all pitchers will start with a “clean slate” – that is, all pitchers will start with zero pitches thrown in the previous 7 days. All other pitch limits and days off are still in effect.
- C. Home team will be determined by a coin flip.
- D. Managers of both teams are required to send playoff game data to the AAA4G commissioner by 9:00am CT the following day of a game. The following should be confirmed at every half inning and at the end of the game: pitcher names, pitches thrown and runs scored. You may use the Official Game Report form to ensure consistency across both teams. Managers are asked to use the Manager Report to Commissioner spreadsheet when sending in game data. This spreadsheet should be updated after every game and reflect all games that a team has played during the playoffs. Game data includes:
 - a. Date of game & game number (refer to playoff bracket)
 - b. Winner
 - c. Opponent
 - d. Runs scored
 - e. Pitcher names and pitch counts
 - f. Any game notes (including issues/concerns)
 - g. The name of any AA3G substitute player used

9. Suspension and Forfeitures

- A. A team must have a minimum of 6 players from a team’s roster and a minimum of 8 players including substitute players by game time. Failure to have the required minimum number of players by game time may result in forfeiture. Game time is determined by the umpire.

- B. Any manager or coach ejected from the game will automatically be suspended for the next game. A second ejection will result in review by the BYB Executive Board who will determine the coach/manager's status for the balance of the season. Please review the new BYB code of conduct.
- C. A manager is responsible for the conduct of his team and fans. If team members or fans engage in un-sportsmanlike conduct, the umpire shall warn the team's manager. If there is a second incident of un-sportsmanlike conduct, the umpire shall, after notifying the manager, inform BYB Executive Board. Such conduct can result in an ejection.
- D. No smoking or drinking of alcoholic beverages by any manager or coach while on the field or in the dugout during a game.
- E. The use of profanity by players, parents, coaches/managers is prohibited. The use of profanity by anyone should be reported to the league commissioner and can result in ejection.
- F. There will be no discussion, comments, or objection of a judgment call. Such conduct will receive a warning. Subsequent game violations will result in an ejection.

10. Miscellaneous

- A. When your team is batting you are only allowed two (2) coaches on the field - the first and third base coaches
- B. When your team is in the field, you are not allowed to have coaches on the field of play, unless you have requested the umpire to call out and receive a time out or there is an injured player. During play, managers and coaches are not allowed outside the dugouts at Field of Dreams, or on the home plate side of the dugout entrance at Langendorf, except to retrieve a bat left in foul territory
- C. A manager and/or coach may visit with the individual pitchers two (2) times per inning, but on the second visit the pitcher must be removed to play another position or to the bench. Umpires are responsible for keeping track of visits to the mound or conferences whereby the pitcher comes over to the base path which counts as a visit.
- D. If you have any complaints regarding umpires, coaches, etc. report it to the league commissioner. Do not create a situation that would jeopardize the integrity of Barrington Youth Baseball.
- E. Respect all umpires decisions. If you need to question the umpire, in regards to rule interpretation, you must discuss it in a respectful way. Vehement disagreement with the umpire will be noted on the Official Game Record. The umpire at his discretion may eject the offending manager or coach.
- F. All teams are responsible for picking up everything in the dugouts after every game.
- G. Occasionally, BYB will have conflicts with the High School. We try to communicate with the best of our ability. Barrington High School will have priority in any conflict. Please try to understand and act accordingly.
- H. If there is a problem with a parent that appears to be out of control, you may go into the concession stand and call the local authorities. Please remain calm at all times.
- I. First Aid Kits will be located in the concession stands both at FOD and Langendorf Park, should you need it.
- J. No soft toss allowed.
- K. Have any player who warms-up a pitcher wear protective gear.
- L. Any manager or coach ejected from the game will automatically be suspended for the next game. A third ejection will result in an automatic suspension for the rest of the season and ineligibility for a manager and / or coach position for next season. All ejections will be noted on the Official Game Record.
- M. If you have any complaints regarding umpires, coaches, etc., notate it on the Official Game Record and report it to the League Commissioner. Do not create a situation that would jeopardize the integrity of Barrington Youth Baseball / Softball.
- N. The third base coach must not be positioned or move down the third-base line at a time or in a position to distract either the pitcher or the hitter. The umpire will issue a single warning. Thereafter, the batter will be declared out if the third base coach is improperly positioned or moves inappropriately.
- O. There is no slaughter rule.

11. Weather

- A. **LIGHTENING:** If lightning is seen or the weather horn is sounded, all games are cancelled immediately. The activation of a lightning detector regardless of existing weather conditions or a visual sighting of lightning will end the game or practice session at that point. Due to the lack of lightning safe, enclosed structures, the Station Fields (Lines Station), the FOD facility or Park District (Langendorf or Beese) will be cleared of all persons in lightning conditions. All players, spectators, coaches and managers are to

move to an area of safety i.e. Langendorf Park Field House, High School Gym (if available) or a motor vehicle with a metal roof. Areas around the concession stands are not considered safe areas. No one will be allowed into the Station Fields, FOD Facility or Park District field area while a lightning detector is activated. Games scheduled to start while a lightning detector is activated will be cancelled as a rain out if the delay due to the activation exceeds fifteen minutes past the games posted starting time. Practice sessions will be delayed until the lightning detector or condition has cleared. No one will be allowed to practice until a detector has cleared. No one will be allowed into the Station/Lines Fields, FOD Facility or Park District field area while a lightning detector is activated. Dropping off players by parents or guardians will not be permitted until the activation has cleared. For safety considerations, everyone shall remain in their cars while a lightning detector is activated or lightning conditions exist.

- B. RAIN: Rain does not automatically suspend play. It is up to the umpire to conference with the team's managers to determine if play should continue. Guidance for this rule includes ensuring safe play and preventing damage to the ballfield.
- C. OTHER: Dangerous weather situations can occur suddenly. If a serious weather situation occurs, play must be stopped and a conference among the umpire and managers must be called to determine proper safety precautions are taken. Examples are high winds, hail, and threatening cloud formations.