

# PBI BASEBALL LEAGUE BASIC RULES

(current as of august 30, 2016)

**COACHES & UMPIRES ARE EXPECTED TO BE FAMILIAR WITH THE PBI BASEBALL LEAGUE'S RULES. PLEASE NOTE THAT THE PBI BASEBALL LEAGUE DOES NOT DEFAULT TO ANY OTHER ORGANIZATION'S RULE SET AT ANY TIME FROM 8U THROUGH 14U. ALL HIGH SCHOOL DIVISIONS WILL FOLLOW NFHS RULES.**

These are some of the more common rules for the convenience of coaches and umpires. Please refer to the full rule set for complete details.

**GAME LENGTH** – 6 innings for games on the 40/60 & 46/60 fields, 7 innings for games on 50/70 & 60/90 fields (high school fall games are 9 innings at 16U & 18U levels)

**TIME LIMITS** – there is **NO time limit** on PBI Baseball League games unless there is another game booked on the same field

**BAT RULES** – the PBI Baseball League follows the Little League/Babe Ruth rules for 9U through 14U, and the standard high school rules for 16U and 18U. HS 18U fall uses wood bats.

**PITCH COUNT** – the PBI Baseball League follows the Little League pitch count rules for ages 9U through 14U. 8U is 2 innings (6 outs) maximum. There are NO pitch count rules for 16U or 18U.

**UMPIRES** – one umpire per game on the 40/60 & 46/60 fields, two umpires for games on 50/70 & 60/90 fields. The **HOME** team is responsible for booking umpires; the cost is split by both teams prior to the game.

**COURTESY RUNNER** – teams may run for the catcher with two outs to speed up the game.

**DROPPED 3<sup>rd</sup> STRIKE** – only in effect on the 50/70 & 60/90 fields.

**HEAD-FIRST SLIDING** – allowed only going back to a base, not going forward. The runner is out if he slides head-first going toward a new base from 8U through 14U. Head-first is allowed in 16U & 18U.

**INFIELD FLY RULE** – in effect at ALL levels of the PBI Baseball League.

**LEADING/STEALING** – 40/60 & 46/60 runners may lead when ball gets to plate. Unlimited stealing 9U through HS divisions for ALL bases. 8U – only steals of 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> are allowed.

**MERCY RULE** – If one team is ahead of the other by 10 or more runs at the end of regulation time (4 innings for the team that trails for a 6-inning game, 5 innings for a 7-inning game, or 7 innings for a 9-inning game), the team in the lead is declared the winner.

**PROTESTS** – if a game is being protested, the protesting coach **MUST IMMEDIATELY** inform the opposing team and umpire(s) at that time and the umpire should sign **BOTH** scorebooks noting inning, score & count on the batter. The League **MUST** be notified of any protest within 24 hours.

**SCORE REPORTING** – the **HOME** team is to report the score via the GameChanger app

**SUBSTITUTION** – open substitution, but the integrity of the batting order must be maintained. Teams may bat 9 players or more, up to the entire roster.