



SPBL Fall Tournament Rules

All IHSA (Federation) baseball rules apply, except for the following:

- 1) Birth certificates must be at the Field – the League Director may ask to see them.
- 2) Coin toss will determine home team for all games.
- 3) 9 inning games. 150 minute time limit and no new inning can start after the 150 minute time limit. The game announcer will mark the time at the beginning of the game and the umpire will have the sole discretion over the time limit rule. Team Managers should mark the time at the beginning of each game. Time may be allotted at the discretion of the game announcer or the umpire to attend to injuries on the field.
- 4) Games will be 9 innings / mercy rule of 15 runs after 5 innings, 12 runs after 6 innings and 10 runs after 7 innings. This is in effect in all games without exception.
- 5) Games that end in a tie after 9 innings or after the time limit shall be allowed to go into additional innings to determine a winner at the discretion of the League Director or umpire. If the game remains tied after 9 full innings or after extra innings past the time limit the game will end in a tie depending upon weather conditions, light, and scheduling issues, and the impact of the results on the standings. If it is determined to be warranted by the League Director, games ending in a tie will be played out on a subsequent game date. Games will be considered complete after 5 innings of play in the event of rain or other conditions impacting play.
- 6) Pitchers can pitch a maximum of 4 innings per game. One pitch does not equal an inning. A pitcher can throw 12 consecutive outs in a game. One balk warning per game.
- 7) One trip to pitcher's mound or visit to any defensive player *per inning*.
- 8) Any player or manager ejected from a game may not participate in the next game.
- 9) Team Managers are responsible for their fans. If any fan becomes abusive and is asked to leave by the umpire or League Director, they will have two minutes to leave the field. If they don't the offending team will forfeit.
- 10) Before game time, both teams shall deliver their respective batting orders to the opposing team. Each team's lineup card shall list a minimum of nine players (*or 10 batters with an EH if there is one*) to start the game. (Teams can bat 9, 10 or the line-up.) The EH is an extra hitter and may play in the field. A game shall be forfeited to the offended team by the umpire when a team is unable to provide at least nine players to start the game or cannot provide eight players to finish the game. An out will be called each time that spot in the batting order comes to bat.
- 11) **COURTESY RUNNER** for the pitcher or catcher any time (*must replace catcher when there are two outs*). The courtesy runner is to be a player not in the lineup. However, if batting the entire roster or if the team does not have a runner on the bench, the last out must be the courtesy runner. The pitcher or catcher who is being substituted on the base must be the player at that position of record and may not be the pitcher or catcher for the next inning.
- 12) **BALKS:** One warning per game. (60 ft. Mound) and all games will be played on a full dimension field. All bases are 90 ft.
- 13) All Umpires' or League Director Rulings are final. No Protests.
- 14) Everything will be done to play the entire fall schedule in the event of inclement weather. The League Director and Umpires have the authority to shorten games or revise rules if inclement weather throws off the original schedule.
- 15) There will be no refunds if rain alters the format of the Fall League schedule.
- 16) All eight teams will make the Playoffs from Pool Play. The top team with the best record will advance to the # 1 Seed. The # 1 Seed will play the # 8 Seed. A coin toss will determine Home Team.

- 17) Flip for Home Field in the League Championship Game. Trophies will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Place teams.
- 18) **“TIE-BREAKERS” AFTER WINS:** (1.) Head to Head vs. opponent, (2.) Runs allowed, (3.) Runs scored, (4.) Runs allowed in first inning of each game, (5.) Runs scored in first inning of each game.

Have a Great Tournament! Good Luck to All Teams!

