



## **11/12 BOYS BASEBALL RULES 2016**

1. All players will be entered in the batting order and every player will play at least two innings in the field. Nine (9) players will play in the field. If a player who is dressed for the game will not play for disciplinary reasons the coach must notify the opposing coach before the game begins. \*\* if a player has missed practices or games, the coach does not have to apply this rule to those players.
2. If 2 games are scheduled that evening the first game will begin at 5:45, and no new inning will begin after 7:15. The second game will begin no later than 7:30, and be limited to 1 hour and 30 minutes from the time it started. If one game is scheduled on that field that evening it will be limited to a 2 hour time limit, with no inning starting after 1 hour and 45 minutes of play from the start time. The umpire or field supervisor may stop a game at anytime he/she believes conditions are unsafe for play.
3. The batter may not advance on a dropped third strike. Infield Fly rule will be enforced.
4. Regulation game will consist of six (6) innings. A 10 run mercy rule will apply after 4 complete innings, or 3.5 if the home team is ahead. A game called due to darkness or weather is considered complete after 4 innings or 3.5 if the home team is ahead.
5. Each team will have 5 minutes of infield practice. There will be no infield practice for the second game when two games are scheduled. All games will start promptly at the scheduled starting time.
6. There is a five run per inning rule. As soon as a team scores their fifth run in an inning the umpire will call time and the inning will end. The five run rule does not apply in the sixth inning. If the score is tied at the end of six innings, no extra innings will be played.
7. There are no appeal plays on failure to touch a base or tag up on a fly ball. The umpire will make the call without appeal.
8. Pitchers may pitch nine outs per game. The coach must remove the pitcher from the pitching position on his second and each subsequent trip to the mound during an inning. A pitcher must pitch to at least one batter before he is removed from the pitching position. A pitcher may return to the pitching position one time later in the game.
9. Beginning on May 30, coaches must use eleven year-old pitchers for at least six outs per game. Age is determined by date of birth on or before April 30 of current year.
10. Coaches are encouraged to use a courtesy runner for the catcher.
11. Fake tags are not allowed. The fielder will be warned and the runner will be awarded an extra base.
12. If a fielder has possession of the ball and is in a position to tag a runner, the runner must slide or attempt to avoid the tag. If the fielder blocks the base path without the ball the runner is awarded the base or bases by judgment of the umpire.
- 13. Stealing is permitted, but a runner may not leave the base until the ball has crossed home plate. If a runner leaves before the pitch is thrown the ball will be called dead immediately, and is ruled a no pitch—runners may not advance, and must return to the base occupied before the pitch. The runner that left early will be called "out"**

- 14. Players must wear their full uniform (hat, shirt, and gray pants—for Berrien teams). No jewelry is allowed. Coaches are encouraged to wear the team hat and shirt provided by the GBSRD.**
- 15. If a player throws his bat the ball will be dead immediately. A strike will be called, and all runners must return to their base before the pitch. If this is the 3rd strike the batter is out. The first occurrence of throwing a bat will also serve as a team warning. If any other player on that team throws his bat he will be called "out" immediately--- one warning per team. This is an umpire judgment call.**
16. Bats must be 2 ¼ inch barrel diameter (no more than 2 ¼ inch) No tee ball bats or softball bats.
17. No composite bats are allowed. Only exception to this rule is with bats with a composite handle and aluminum barrel, which are legal for play.
18. If necessary, a coach may be asked to umpire a game

#### **RULES AND GUIDELINES FOR COACHES**

1. Be organized. Have your line-up ready and your players prepared to play when it is time for the game to begin. Have your catcher ready each inning when it is time for your team to take the field. Require your players to hustle on and off the field between innings
2. Coaches should not smoke on the field or in proximity to the field during games and practice. **Smoking is not allowed on the GBSRD premises.**
3. Coaches are responsible for the conduct of themselves, their players, their team parents, and fans. If there is a problem with a parent or fan you should warn them and/or get assistance from the field supervisor.
4. Set the tone. Make the game fun for everyone involved. Applaud good plays and good effort by your own players and opponents. Encourage boys who are discouraged. Have fun!
5. \*\*\*\* Only coaches and scorekeepers are allowed in the dugout during the game. Coaches must attempt to maintain an orderly and safe dugout environment at all times.

\*\*\*Please make sure dugout is cleaned up after each game. Also, encourage your fans to pick up after themselves at all times.