

Pinckney Hamburg Baseball & Softball Association

2011 PONY LEAGUE (11-12 YEAR OLDS) BASEBALL RULES

Field Dimensions: 70 ft. base length (1st and 3rd from the back point of home to outfield side of bases)
50 ft. 6 in. pitching distance (from the back point of home plate to front of pitcher's plate)
Standard A.A.B.C. field dimensions for 12 & under

ABSOLUTELY NO TRADING OF PLAYERS, ANY COACH VIOLATING THIS RULE WILL BE TERMINATED FROM COACHING.

With the following exceptions, official High School rules will be used as the rules of the Pony League.

1. Eligibility is determined by the player's age on April 30, 2011.
2. All games will be started at 6:30 p.m. Forfeit time is 6:45 p.m. No inning may start after 2 hours of play. Time is determined by the home plate umpire's watch.
3. The length of the game shall be seven (7) innings.
 - a. If a game is stopped due to weather or darkness, five (5) innings (4 1/2 if the home team is ahead) will constitute a legal game.
 - b. If the game is too short to be a legal game, a new game will be scheduled and play will begin with the first inning and no score, unless the game has ended in a tie at the end of the last complete inning, in which case the game will be continued from the exact point at which it was halted in the original game.
4. All missed or stopped games must be made up within two weeks. It will be considered a forfeit for any team that does not offer the opposing team two (2) make-up dates. If either team does not accept a date, it will be considered a double forfeit.
5. Teams may play with a minimum of seven (7) players. If the minimum is not present for one team, the game will be forfeited if the other team has the minimum of seven (7) players.
 - a. Games may be rescheduled with the complete agreement of both coaches and umpire commissioner.
6. There will be a maximum of nine (9) defensive players on the field. Each player must play a minimum of 2 full defensive innings in the infield. No player will sit out more than 2 innings in a game and these innings may not be consecutive. Violations will be assessed as an out during the next at bat for that team.
7. Seven (7) run limit per inning, except for the seventh (7th) inning, which is open.
 - a. If the last batter hits for extra bases, all runs will count.
 - b. Holding runners on base to prolong the inning constitutes the third out, except in the 7th inning.
8. The fifteen (15) run mercy rule will be enforced after five (5) innings.
9. Each team furnishes (1) one new game ball approved per PHBSA rules.
10. All ballplayers must be in complete uniform as issued by the league. All shirts must be tucked in. No jewelry will be allowed.
11. The roster will be submitted to the opposing scorekeeper before game time. All players present at the start of the game must be listed on the batting roster and bat in their designated slot. The batting order may not be changed after the start of the game.
 - a. Rosters must show players first or last name and player number.
 - b. Any player showing up after the start of the game cannot be put in the game until the next defensive turn and must be added to the bottom of the batting order.
12. Any player who has a disability shall be placed where they are able to compete. Placement will be with the consent of the player, coach, and parents of the player.
13. Batters, base runners, players on deck, and any players coaching a base must wear protective helmets. Teams in violation will receive one warning. The second infraction will be an automatic out.

14. All catchers must wear a protective cup. All players should wear a protective cup.
15. All players who are not playing must be on the bench or out of bounds. The only people on the field are defensive players, offensive players on base, umpires, base coaches, batter, and the player in the on-deck circle.
16. All equipment must be in back of the out-of-play line.
16. Only a coach or player may be in the coach's box. If a player, the player must wear a helmet. Coaches must remain behind the fence unless they are a base coach.
17. The infield fly rule does not apply.
 - a. The dropped third strike rule does not apply.

BATTERS

18. If a bat or helmet is thrown, the batter will be called out after one warning. No runners will advance.
19. All bats must have tape or rubber on the handle.

RUNNERS

20. No lead-offs. A runner must be in contact with the base until the pitched ball crosses home plate. Infractions are outs.
21. A runner can steal any base except home, whenever the ball is in play.
17. The ball is dead (not in play) when the catcher is throwing the ball back to the pitcher.
18. If a legitimate throw is made to a base, the ball is considered live.
19. On a walk, the ball is not in play so the runner may not steal any base. This includes the batter stealing second base.
22. Umpires will automatically call a runner out for missing a base while running. The call will be made after the play has been completed whenever the umpire sees such infraction of the rules. There can be no appeal.
23. If a runner does not tag up on a caught fly ball, an appeal must be made before the next pitch.
24. Runners must slide into any base that a play is being made to. Infractions will constitute in the umpire calling the runner out.
25. If the ball goes through, under, or gets caught in any fence, the ball is dead. Each runner may advance only to the base to which the player is going.

PITCHERS

26. Any player may pitch.
27. The balk rule will be enforced after one (1) warning per inning.
28. Any pitcher who hits two (2) batters in the same inning or three (3) batters total must be removed as a pitcher. This rule is in effect only if, in the umpire's opinion, the batter made a sufficient attempt to avoid being hit.
29. A player may pitch for a maximum of four (4) innings per game.
30. A pitcher who has been removed as a pitcher may not pitch again in the same game, regardless of #29 above.
31. No intentional walks. If in the umpire's opinion the batter was intentionally walked, the pitcher will be deemed ineligible to pitch for the rest of the game.

CONDUCT

32. Umpires have complete control prior to, during and after the game, and may dismiss any player or coach for unsportsmanlike conduct. Coaches are not allowed to comment on an Umpires' judgment calls.
33. Only coaches are allowed to have a discussion with the umpires. Coaches are expected to control their fans.
34. No arguing is allowed on the field. Any person using profane language may be ejected from the game after one warning.
35. No player may be called by name, as harassment, by the opposing team.

- a. Penalty against the offensive team - charged an out.
 - b. Penalty against the defensive team - award one base to runners.
36. Coaches may not smoke while coaching the bases or sitting on the benches. No alcoholic beverages will be allowed on the premises. No glass containers will be allowed on any field
37. Spectators will be controlled by:
- a. Umpire conference with coaches.
 - b. One warning to the individual.
 - c. Individual is told to leave the field.
 - d. If individual does not leave, his/her team forfeits.
38. No coach, player or spectator is allowed to watch the game from behind the backstop at any time.
39. No spectator is allowed on or by the player bench.
40. No spectator is allowed on the playing area of the field. The ball is dead if any spectator touches the ball on the field.