

Fontana Baseball League

Rules & Regulations

English

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Anyone participating in this league is doing so at his or her own risk. No liability is assumed nor implied.

Teams or individual players who fail to follow league rules may be asked to leave our league.

All teams are under the authority of the Fontana Baseball League.

The Fontana Baseball League follows The "Major League American Baseball rules" with the following exceptions:

I. Alcohol

It is strictly forbidden and against the law, to drink, be in possession of, or under the influence of any alcoholic beverage(s) on any Fontana Baseball League fields or school property. Any Player(s) or Manager(s) caught drinking or under the influence will be suspended and fined \$50. Teams are also subject to suspension and fines if team fans or relatives are in possession of any alcoholic beverages.

II. Umpires

Umpires have full authority on the field. Players and Managers are expected to respect and obey all decisions. ONLY Managers and Team Captains may dispute calls. If no Umpire(s) shows up to a game, both Managers may agree on someone else to umpire the game until the Umpire(s) shows up or until the game is over. The result will be official. If an umpire shows up late, he should be deducted \$5 per any portion of an inning not completely worked. Umpires should be paid in full before the completion of the 5th inning. If after regulation the score is still tied, **and if time permits**, teams MUST play xtra innings, but no more than 2 innings, or forfeit the game. Umpires must be paid \$5 per every extra inning played per team in advance. Any umpire that fails to show up to any game that they are scheduled for will be fined \$50. If you have any complaints about the Umpiring Crew, please let us know.

III. Protests

Protests MUST be mailed to the league address along with a copy of the Umpire signed scorebook sheet and a short explanation for the protest. The protest must be mailed no later than 48 hours after the conclusion of that game. The protest must be mailed with a \$50 money order. The \$50 money order will be returned if the protest is upheld. League officials will base decisions on Major League rules and Fontana Baseball League rules.

All decisions are final.

Note: Protests may only be about rules and regulations and not umpire judgment calls.

IV. Time Limits

All games should start at their scheduled time or at which time the Umpire(s) and playing field are prepared to start. The game should last 9 innings or 2 hours and 45 minutes whichever comes first. The home plate umpire is the official game time keeper. No new inning shall start after 2 hours and 35 minutes. If either team does not have at least 9 legitimate players, a 15-minute grace period shall be granted out of the 2 hours and 45 minute game time. The "mercy rule" shall be in effect in every league game, which is the following: if after 5 innings there is a 13 run difference, the game will be stopped. If after regulation the score is still tied and if time permits teams MUST play extra innings, but no more than 2 innings, or forfeit game.

V. Game Balls

Prior to the start of each league game, both teams must provide two (2) new, signed and league approved baseballs. Failure to do so may result in the forfeiture of the game and a league fine of \$25.00

VI. Player ID's

Teams will have a copy of all teams' players in their respective divisions. If players are in question, the game can/may be protested but continued. No new players will be added to the roster after game 13 (for 18 game season), & game 12 (for 16 game season). All players MUST sign their respective rosters in order to be on a team.

VII. Uniforms

All players must wear a complete baseball uniforms. A complete baseball uniform consists of a baseball hat, baseball jersey with a number on the back and a team name on the front, baseball pants (piping is ok, color needs to be the same), and socks. All team uniforms must be the same. Failure to wear a complete uniform as indicated above when batting for the first time, will be called out when protested by opposing Manager. If after the first at-bat no uniform protest was made then no uniform protest may be called for that player for the rest of the game. Cleats are not mandatory, but some type of baseball shoes must be worn or be called out. No sweats are allowed.

VIII. Helmets

All batters must wear a batting helmet with at least one earflap on the side facing the pitcher when at-bat and while running the bases. Failure to do so will result in an automatic out.

IX. League Meetings

All teams are required to send a team representative to all league meetings. Failure to do so will result in a \$50 fine.

X. Tie Games

Any game that ends in a tie during the 1st half of the season will count as two when they play the next time. If a game ends in a tie and no other games will be scheduled against that team during the regular season, the game will not be replayed and be considered a tie game for the standings.

XI. Forfeits

All games should start at their designated starting time. If one or both teams do not have at least 9 eligible players, teams are to be granted a 15-minute grace period out of the 2 hours and 45 minute game time to allow for enough player(s) to show up. If after the 15-minute grace period one or both teams still do not have enough players, a forfeit shall be called. If a double forfeit is called, both teams will receive losses. If the forfeiting team does not have at least 7 eligible players, the forfeiting team is liable for both umpire fees. If a practice game is played each team must pay their respective umpire fee. A practice game may be played with the remaining time left of the 2 hours and 45 minutes. **Any team that accumulates 3 forfeits during a season, will be removed from our league for that season and will not be entitled to any refund.**

XII. Abusive Fans

If an umpire feels that fans are being disruptive and the game may turn confrontational, he may either suspend or forfeit the game at his discretion.

XIII. Altercations/Fighting

If there is any fighting before, during or after any league game, all participants are subject to an immediate ejection and suspension. Any person holding a bat during any incident/fight will be subject to an additional suspension. All teams involved may be subject to expulsion from the league. *All teams involved will at the very minimum be subject to a double forfeit, meaning both teams will have the loss. If the 2 teams that were involved are to play each other again during the regular season they will be subject to a double forfeit again. League President may add to consequences as he sees fit to the severity of the altercation

XIV. Player Ejection

Any player that is ejected from a league game must not only leave the field but also leave the property within 5 minutes or risk his team forfeiting the game. Player will be subjected to a minimum 1 game suspension.

XV. Tie Breaking Rules

If at the end of the season teams end up in a tie the following tie breaking rules will apply:

If three or more teams finish in a tie:

1st the team with the fewest runs allowed is seeded the highest.

2nd the team with the most runs scored.

3rd is the team with the highest run differential.

If two teams finish in a tie:

1st is the team with the best head to head record.

2nd is the team with the fewest runs allowed.

3rd is the team with the most runs scored.

XVI. Teams with Home Field

Teams that are assigned a home field must keep their home field free of trash and the field dragged/raked. Any team that fails to comply will have their home field privileges revoked.

XVII. Initiation Fees

The entire initiation fee balance must be paid before the start of the season.

XVIII. Umpire Deposit

Teams that failed to pay umpire fees at any league game, will have the fees deducted from their umpire deposit fund. No new games will be rescheduled until the umpire deposit is replenished.

XIX. Misc. Rules

A. If the league is forced to remove a team for any reason, the team will not be entitled to any refund whatsoever.

B. Official league games will take precedent over any practice games to be scheduled.

C. The Manager or Coach will be notified if a game is to be canceled as soon as possible and it's the managers/coach's responsibility to notify their players. Therefore, it's very important to provide the League with the most current phone numbers at all times.

D. Players under the age of 18 years of age must have in their possession a written release to play from a parent or legal guardian along with a signed release of league liability. A consenting parent present at the game may suffice as permission. It is the responsibility of the team Manager to have parental permission at all times.

E. Players are to be registered and may only play on one team per season. The only exception is if a team disbands and will no longer continue playing prior to the start of the second half of the season. The new team must be of the same division or higher. If a team disbands after the start of the second half players may not play until the following season. Any player found to be playing in violation of this rule will be suspended for up to 1 full year.

F. Any player registered under an fake name will be suspended.

G. Games scheduled against teams that have since disbanded or forfeited, will be considered 3-0 wins in the standings.

H. After each game each team MUST clean out their dugout/area. Failure to do so will result in a \$10.00 fine.

I. The use of obscene language will not be tolerated and will be dealt with severely with suspensions and/or fines.

J. Teams are required to give at least 24 hours notice prior to the start of a game to cancel game.

K. Trophies are given to all member of the 1st place team in each division. The playoff champion receives one trophy for the entire team.

L. Our league has permission to play on Sundays only. Teams are NOT allowed to use league fields during any other days.

M. There is no smoking allowed on school properties.

XX. Extra Hitter

All teams will be allowed an extra hitter for a total of 10 hitters.

- If you start the game with 10 hitters you must finish the game with 10 hitters.
- The extra hitter cannot play defense unless a player on the field has a serious injury (at umpires discretion) and no substitutes remain. If the injured players spot in the line-up comes & cannot hit he will be an automatic out.
- Position on the lineup card for the extra hitter will be written as EH.
- Extra hitter can hit anywhere in the lineup.
- Using the extra hitter is optional.

XX1. Re-Entry

A player may only re-enter if a player on the field has a serious injury and no substitutes remain (At umpire's discretion).

In the event it rains Saturday or Sunday, assume the game is still on, unless you get a call from the league cancelling the game.

The Fontana Baseball League, it's League Officers and Member Clubs are NOT financially responsible for any damages caused by any team or player affiliated with this Athletic League.

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