**Zumbro Valley Youth Baseball League**

**9U Baseball Rules**

* This league is open to anyone completing the 3rd grade.
* Game nights will consist of two 5 inning games with a 75 minute time limit on each game. No inning should start after 75 minutes. Darkness supersedes any time limit rule and should be discussed by coaches and umpires if darkness applies.
* 7 runs per half inning limit.
* 1 coach is allowed on the field along each foul line to coach defensive players.
* Home team will supply the umpires. Umpires must be at least 15 and have knowledge of the game.
* Each team will supply 1 game ball per game. The game ball should be of sufficient quality(Wilson, Rawlings, Diamond…) No practice balls, please
* To cancel or reschedule games, please notify the opposing coach and the league commissioner
* Rained out games need not be made up, but is strongly recommended. Failure to reschedule could hurt your league seeding for the end of year tournament.
* No leading off
* No stealing bases.
* No advancing bases on a passed ball
* Dropped 3rd strike is an out
* A pitcher can pitch a maximum of 3 innings per night (1 pitch constitutes an inning)
* No balks will be called but the umpire will make the pitcher aware if it happens
* 10 defensive players in the field (4 outfielders)
* You must bat at least 12 uniformed players if you have over 12 players, but all players can bat if coach chooses. Free substitutions
* During the pitcher warm-ups (at any time) the catcher must wear a mask
* Bases should be 60 feet if possible(discretion of the home field coach)
* Pitching mound should be 46 feet (discretion of the home field coach)
* Mercy rule is in effect if team is ahead by 15 runs after 3 innings, 10 runs after 4 innings
* Courtesy runner is allowed for the current catcher at any time. The courtesy runner will be the last player in your lineup who made an out
* No metal spikes
* Runners must slide on all close plays
* Runner may not advance home on passed balls behind the catcher or throw downs on steals. The runner is frozen at 3rd base unless the ball is hit into play or the runner is walked in.
* Catcher interference will be called and the batter will take their base.
* Bats - 9-11 year olds - Maximum diameter at the thickest part: 2 1/4", 2 1/2”, 2 5/8” or 2 ¾” with UNLIMITED weight differential and a USSSA or USA mark and meet Bat Performance Standards. Wood bats allowed.