**Zumbro Valley Youth Baseball League**

**12U Baseball Rules**

* This league is open to anyone completing the 6th 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.
* Home town will supply the umpires. Umpires must be over 16 and have a 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 league commissioner
* Rained out games need not be made up but is strongly recommended but failure to reschedule will affect your league tournament seeding
* Runner mays steal home at any time, including passed balls.
* The batter may advance to first base on a dropped 3rd strike only if first base is unoccupied
* A pitcher can pitch a maximum of 4 innings per night (1 pitch constitutes an inning)
* 9 defensive players in the field (3 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 on defense
* During the pitcher warm-ups (at any time) the catcher must wear a mask
* Bases should be 75 feet if possible(discretion of the home field coach)
* Pitching mound should be 52 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. Failure to do some can result in an out.
* Catcher interference will be called and the batter will take their base.
* Runners may lead off
* Balks- A pitcher will receive 1 warning. After 1 warning, balks will be called.

**12-13 year olds** - Maximum diameter at the thickest part:  2 1/4" or less with UNLIMITED weight differential and a USSSA or USA mark and meet Bat Performance Standards. Wood Bats allowed
**12-13 year olds** - Maximum diameter at the thickest part: 2 1/2", 2 5/8”, or 2 ¾” barrel with minus 10 weight differential or less and a USSSA or USA mark and meet Bat Performance Standards. Wood bats allowed