

RECREATION LEAGUE RULES

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- **INTRODUCTION**

Junior Deputy Baseball believes that every child has the right to participate in the game of baseball. The Recreational division was created to provide an opportunity to players' age 9-12 that are not rostered to a Cal Ripken organization a chance to continue developing their skills. This is a live pitch division playing under the same rules as our Single A Cal Ripken division.

- **ROSTER RULES**

- A Recreational League team shall consist of at least 10 players but no more than 12 players.
- The Recreational League Commissioner will have sole authority in establishing rosters and teams.

- **PARK RULES**

- No tobacco products are allowed on Junior Deputy Property.
- No animals of any kind are allowed on Junior Deputy Property.
- No skating, skateboards, or bicycles are allowed on Junior Deputy Property.
- No alcohol products are allowed on Junior Deputy Property.

- **GAME PLAY**

- A Recreation League season will consist of a pre-season single elimination tournament, which will not affect the season standings, and will be included in the twelve (12) regular season games.
- Ninety (90) minutes or the completion of six (6) innings (whichever comes first) will be allotted for each game. No new inning shall start after the allotted time has expired, with the exception of a game is tied. A new inning is deemed to have started immediately after a third out is recorded.
- Regulation games can end in a tie situation only with the agreement of opposing coaches. In the event there is no agreement, a single extra inning will be played. If the score remains tied at the end of the extra inning, the game will be called a tie and play will end.
- The Chief Umpire may stop the game when time has expired and the home team is at bat and leading.

- Games are considered official after the completion of four (4) innings of play or after three and a half (3 ½) innings of play if the home team is leading. Games that are not official will be considered suspended and will continue from the point of incompleteness. The scorekeeper should note the elapsed time in the official scorebook.
 - Game can be stopped after the fourth (4th) inning if a team is leading by ten (10) runs. Also known as the 10 run rule.
 - A game cannot end with time on the clock, with the exception of the ten (10) run rule. A new inning must start if there is any time on the clock.
- **GAME PARTICIPATION**
 - Games will be played with a forty-six (46) foot pitching distance and sixty (60) foot bases.
 - Players are not allowed to lead off.
 - Balk rules will not be enforced.
 - Players are allowed to steal.
 - Teams will be designated as home or visitor. The first (1st) base dugout shall serve as the home team dugout.
 - Only two coaches may be outside the dugout on offense.
 - On defense, the coaches may sit outside the dugout and warm up the pitcher; however they should remain no closer to home plate than the nearest corner of the dugout while time is “in.”
 - Home teams will provide a scorekeeper and two new baseballs. Baseballs will be Rawlings LLB, CRB, or BRO. NO PRACTICES BALLS ARE ALLOWED.
 - Visiting teams will provide a scoreboard operator.
 - Concession duties will be provided prior to season start.
 - Lineups will be exchanged prior to the game. All players eligible to play in the game must be listed on the lineup card.
 - Once the game has started the batting order may not be changed.
 - Round-robin batting rotation is required. All players must play at least half of the game defensively.
 - If a player is removed from the game due to an injury or illness they may not re-enter the game.

- Teams may field up to ten (10) players on defense with no more than six (6) infielders and four (4) outfielders. The infield is defined as the dirt area where the grass meets behind first (1st), second (2nd), and third (3rd) bases. Infield positions are defined as Pitcher, Catcher, First (1st) Base, Second (2nd) Base, and Shortstop, and Third (3rd) Base.
- If only eight (8) players are present for game, the game may start with the following: when the ninth (9th) batter would have been at bat an out will be declared.
- If a game starts with nine (9) or more players and an injury causes a player to leave the game, no penalty/out will be incurred. However if a player leaves a game for ANY OTHER REASON a penalty/out will be called when that position in the batting order comes up.
- If both teams have only eight (8) players no penalty/out will be taken.
- In the case of only seven (7) players or less that team will forfeit the game. However in the spirit of the Recreational League the game will still be played. If there are enough players on the opposing team, players may be shared for defense. If during the course of the game an eight (8th) player arrives, the game will still be declared a forfeit by the Chief Umpire.
- To avoid a forfeit, a team may make arrangements prior to the game to “borrow” or “pick up” players from other Recreational League teams to complete a nine (9) player lineup. Borrowed or picked up players may not pitch and must bat at the bottom of the lineup.
- A pinch runner may be used for the catcher when there are two outs. The pinch runner will be the player who made the second out in the inning.
- Games will be played with a maximum of five (5) runs per inning.
- No big barrel bats or steel/spike cleats.
- Infield fly rule will be in effect.
- Sling Bat Rule: The offending team will receive a warning on the first (1st) slung bat. Upon the next slung bat the batter on that team will be out. This will be a judgment call by the umpire.
- Visiting team will take the infield fifteen (15) to twenty-five (25) minutes before the game time. Home team will take the infield five (5) to fifteen (15) minutes before the published game time.
- **PITCHING**
 - Any player is eligible to pitch as long as it is safe for the pitcher, catcher, and other players.
 - A pitcher may pitch a maximum of three (3) innings in a single game. One (1) pitch in an inning will be counted as an inning pitched.

- A pitcher may pitch a maximum of four (4) innings per week. A week is considered Monday to Sunday.
 - If a team violates these rules, the game will be considered a forfeit.
 - A pitcher is allowed eight (8) warm-up pitches before each inning.
 - During a time out, a manager or coach may go on the playing field and confer with a player or umpire.
 - If a manager or coach has to make a second trip to the mound in the SAME inning, this will result in the pitcher being removed from the game as a pitcher for the duration of the game.
- **CODE OF CONDUCT**
 - Judgment calls or rulings (ball and strikes) by the Umpires WILL NOT be contested by the Manager, Coaches, or Players. Only questions of a rule(s) may be questioned by the Manager.
 - Parents and guest are the responsibility of each team. In the event that a parent or guest is deemed unruly by the Chief Umpire or Commissioner that parent or guest WILL be ejected from the park and that team will be awarded an out on the next offensive half inning. In the event that a parent or guest is ejected a second time in a single season, they will be brought before the Recreational Committee for possible additional sanctions.
 - If a Manager or Coach is ejected from a game, he will not be eligible for Coaching in the next scheduled game. Upon a second ejection from a game within the same season, that Manager or Coach will not be eligible to participate in any game until a meeting with Recreational Committee has been held. The Recreational Committee may impose additional sanctions.
 - If a player is ejected from a game by an Umpire that player will not be eligible for the following game. If a player is ejected for a second time by an Umpire during the same season, that player will not be allowed to play again until a meeting before the Recreational Committee with a parent or guardian and his Manager or Coach.
- **PROTESTS**
 - Any protest must be registered by the Manager or Head Coach with the Chief Umpire at the time of the alleged infraction. The Chief Umpire will then inform the scorekeeper that the game is being played under protest and have the scorekeeper note the following information: time and circumstances (score, base runners, count on batter, etc). A twenty-five dollar (\$25) fee must be paid at the time of protest.

- A written protest must be submitted by the Manager or Coach the Recreational League Commissioner through the Junior Deputy office **WITHIN 24 HOURS AFTER THE COMPLETION OF THE GAME.**
 - The fee will be returned if the protest is not upheld.
 - Any protest which results from a violation of the rules and is upheld shall result in the forfeiture of the fee and game(s) in question. The protest will be heard and ruled upon by at least three (3) members of the Recreational Committee within five (5) days after the protest is filed.
- **PLAY UPS (SEE CAL-RIPKEN LEAGUE RULES APPROVED APRIL 9, 2009)**
 - **PURPOSE:** To provide a system by which Cal-Ripken organizations can utilize Recreational League players on a game by game basis to resolve a roster issue. Additionally, to provide Recreational League players the opportunity, when desired, to compete and advance their skills in the Junior Deputy Cal-Ripken League. This rule cover the Spring Season, after Spring a Cal-Ripken Organization may move a player up but only if they have tried out in the June tryouts.
 - **RULE:** (To be defined as rule B.7.A) Players rostered on a Junior Deputy Recreational League team may be asked to play in a regular **Spring** season Cal-Ripken game under the following conditions:
 - A.)The request must be made by the Cal-Ripken organizational Manager.
 - B.) Requests must be submitted to both the Cal-Ripken Commissioner the Recreational League Commissioner and will be approved on a first come, first served basis.
 - C.) The player can only be asked to play in order to complete a nine (9) or ten (10) person game lineup.
 - D.) A Recreational League player cannot be used to complete an eleven (11) plus lineup.
 - E.) Age requirements for each level (A-AAA) apply to the use of a Recreational League player.
 - F.) Current Cal-Ripken rules concerning game participation will apply to that player.
 - G.) A Recreational League player can only play within each organization five (5) times in any one season.
 - H.) A Recreational League player can only be utilized by the same Cal-Ripken organization one time per week.
 - I.) With consideration to the player's permanent Recreational team, the player will not be allowed to be utilized as a pitcher in the Cal-Ripken game.

J.) A Recreational player will not be permitted to compete in a Cal-Ripken game when it conflicts with the player's regular team.

K.) Request for use of the player cannot be requested prior to one week of the date the player is needed.

L.) Recreational players can also be permanently added to the Cal-Ripken organization roster under the following conditions:

A.) The player has participated in a Junior Deputy nine (9) – twelve (12) year old tryout.

B.) The Recreational League team has eleven or more players on its current roster.

C.) The addition must be made prior to the first (1st) day of the next tryout period.

D.) Once the next tryouts begin, the player will still be eligible, but must be picked-up through the normal draft process.

E.) If a Cal-Ripken Manager decides to claim a Recreational player as a permanent member of the organization, the manager must notify both the Cal-Ripken and Recreational Commissioner. Upon notification, there will be a seven (7) day period by which other Cal-Ripken Managers will have the opportunity to also claim the player. After the one (1) week period, if no other organizations claim the player, the player is then allowed to join the requesting organization immediately. If more than one (1) organization claims the player within the one (1) week period, the decision as to which team receives the player will be based on the following criteria:

A.) The organization with the fewest number of players on its overall roster

B.) The order of the last Cal-Ripken draft

C.) A draw from a hat

F.) A Cal Ripken Manager may claim a player on a Recreational team with fewer than eleven (11) players using the rules above except the player cannot be officially called up to their Cal-Ripken organization until after the last Recreational League games are complete.