



Southwest Athletics – Majors 65 Baseball Local Rules

All games will adhere to Cal Ripken Baseball rules and regulations for Minors 60 baseball unless a Southwest Athletics local rule is noted below.

Gentlemen's Agreements will not be allowed. These rules may not be changed by any Manager, Coach or Umpire. Recommendations for rule changes should be forwarded to your Division Director and VP of Baseball for consideration. The Southwest Athletics Executive Board of Directors reserves the right to make changes to these rules during the season should it be deemed necessary.

It is the responsibility of each team Manager to challenge rule interpretations, rule violations, etc with the Umpire. Coaches may call time to discuss questions with their Manager however only the two team Managers may engage in the conversation with the Umpire. If the Managers cannot come to an agreement with the Umpire based on the rules, the Board Member on Duty will be called to resolve any questions. If Coaches are engaged in the conversation with the Umpire and/or opposing team, the Umpire will remove the offending Coach from the game. The Coach is also subject to disciplinary action by the Southwest Athletics Executive Board of Directors.

Suspended Games

If the curfew is met, weather, etc the game will have to be rescheduled prior to the next meeting of the two teams or at another time determined by the League Scheduler, field availability and the VP of Baseball Operations

Tie games are not allowed in this division

Games called before completing the 1st inning – Full game will be replayed from the beginning

Games called after completing the 1st inning – Will resume from where they left off

Substitution Rules

All rostered players will be placed in the batting order and will bat in continuous order throughout the game

Free defensive substitutions are permitted, except for the position of pitcher

- Once a pitcher is removed from the mound, they may not re-enter as a pitcher for the rest of the game

Each player must play at least one inning in the infield by the end of the third inning

- However, every attempt should be made to play all players at least two innings in the infield during the game

No player may sit consecutive innings

Games may start with 8 Players

- A team will be charged an out in the 9th batting position if they have only 8 players

If a player arrives after the game has started, the player shall be placed at the end of the batting order (in the last position in the batting order as the batting order was



presented at the start of the game)

If a player leaves a game early (injury, school work, ejection, transportation issue, etc) the team will not be charged an out for that spot in their batting order unless it leaves the team with only 8 players in the batting order

Pool Player Process

Managers may request a Pool Player through their Division Director only if they have 7 or 8 confirmed players for a game

A maximum of two (2) Pool Players are permitted to play for a team in a scheduled game

Pool Players are permitted to play Left and/or Right

Field Pool Players will bat last in the line-up

Eligible Pool Players may play for teams in this division only, they will not participate in games in any other division

Pitching Rules

9 & 10 Year Olds – Maximum pitches per day is 75

11 & 12 Year Olds – Maximum pitches per day is 85

If a player pitches 66 or more pitches in a day, four (4) calendar days of rest must be observed

If a player pitches 51 - 65 pitches in a day, three (3) calendar days of rest must be observed

If a player pitches 36 - 50 pitches in a day, two (2) calendar days of rest must be observed

If a player pitches 21 - 35 pitches in a day, one (1) calendar days of rest must be observed

If a player pitches 1-20 pitches in a day, no (0) calendar day of rest is required 10 & 11-Year-Old Pitching:

- If a team plays more than one game during a calendar week (Monday - Sunday), at least 3 innings (9 outs) must be pitched by non-twelve year olds. If games are shortened to less than 6 innings any innings not played may count towards non-twelve-year-old pitching minimum. (Ex. game shortened to 4 innings due to 10-run rule, remaining 2 innings may count towards non-twelve-year-old pitching minimum.) A game is not considered shortened when a game ends after the top of the 6th without the home team batting.

▪ Example:

Game 1 - 6 innings, a 10 or 11-yr old pitched 1 inning (3 outs)

Game 2 - 4 innings - game shortened due to 10-run rule (or rain, etc) - the 2 remaining innings (6 outs) would count as 10 or 11-yr old pitched inning meeting the 3 inning/9 out minimum

- For all pitch count limits, the pitcher may finish the batter without moving to the next level of rest provided that the pitcher started the batter within the pitch level.



Violation of any pitching rules will result in:

- If an ineligible pitcher/player is discovered during the game, the game score will revert back to when the ineligible player entered the game; and
- A 1 game suspension of the manager (Team Manager may not be present at the facility for their teams next game); and
- Possible additional penalties for repeat offenders or for intentional violation at the discretion of the Southwest Athletics VP of Baseball Operations and/or the Executive Board

- Any and all penalties will be approved by the Executive Board

Balk Rules

- Pitchers will not be penalized for a balk in the first two weeks of the season (April 4 to April 17). Instead, the umpire will issue a warning and explain the balk to the pitcher and will “protect” the runner who was thrown out as a results of the balk
- Balks will be enforced on April 18th and for the remainder of the season (including the End of Season Tournament)

Base Running (Modified Stealing Rules)

A 10-foot hash mark will be drawn after each base (1st, 2nd and 3rd)

Runners may take leads but cannot cross the hash mark with either foot until the ball crosses home plate

- Runners can steal when the ball crosses home plate
- If the runner leaves early, then penalties shall be enforced under the Ripken rules for the Major 60ft. Special Base Running Rule
- Runners may not take a running start in an attempt to steal before the ball crosses home plate, if the runner is in violation of this rule:
 - The runner is placed back on the base
 - If the runner is put out on the play, the runner is out
 - If the ball is put in play, the runner is only allowed a base if forced up by the batter/runner
 - If it is a passed ball or wild pitch, the runner does not have to return

Runners may slide head first to or returning to a base

Drop Third Strike

Dropped third strike rule is in effect for this division

- (Rule 6.09-b in the Babe Ruth League Baseball Rules Book) The batter becomes a runner when the third strike called by an umpire is not caught, providing (1) first base is unoccupied or (2) first base is occupied with two outs.

Batter Rules

On Deck batter is allowed

Only one Player may be on deck at a time (should be the only player other than the batter to have a bat in his hands)

Player must remain in front of their respective dugout.

For safety, they should be no closer to home than the dugout entrance.

All batters will wear a batting helmet when on the field of play, whether as an on



deck hitter, a batter, or a base runner
The On Deck batter may use a Batting Donut/Sleeve

Game Time Limits

1 hour 50 minutes:

- Weekdays without a game on the same field afterwards
- All weekend games

Exception to the above: School night games (as defined by WS/FC School Calendar) with a game scheduled on the same field afterwards: 1 hour 35

minutes ○ The second game on the same field will also be 1 hour 35 minutes

Southwest Athletics Curfew: No inning will begin after 10:00 PM.

Mercy Rule and Run Limit

The 10 run mercy rule applies in the 3 ½ inning if the home team is ahead and the 4th inning if the visiting team is ahead

A five run limit is imposed each half inning for innings 1 through 5 only

Catcher Rules

A Courtesy Runner for the catcher is permitted for the catcher entering the game in the next half inning. The player making the last out shall be the runner

- NOTE: There are no other substitute runner rules

To help facilitate the flow of the game, a Manager, Coach or Player may assist warming-up a pitcher while the catcher is putting on their equipment. Players must wear a catcher's mask

Home & Visiting Teams: Game Day

Home Team

Provide game balls (Given to the Team Manager by SWA) Will keep the games official scorebook

Assign a parent or coach to keep the scoreboard

Visiting Team

Assign a parent or coach to keep the official pitch count (for both teams) and game pitching records

Parent/Coach keeping the official pitch count for both teams must sit inside or beside the score's box. This will allow equal access by both Team Managers

Maintenance

Team Managers and Coaches:

Rake around all bases, home plate and pitcher's mound after each game (WP Small Field)

Make sure all trash is picked up in dugout



Other

Casts (hard, soft or covered) may not be worn during the game by players and/or the umpires. Any player or coach wearing a cast must remain in the dugout during the game