

5th & 6th Grade LEAGUE LEVEL II MODIFIED RULES

RULE 1 --Players, Field and Equipment

- No metal cleats will be allowed.
- Catchers must wear a helmet which includes ear protection. The mask must have an attached throat protector. The chest protector must have a tail that covers the groin area. All catchers must wear a protective cup. It is strongly recommended that all players wear a protective cup.
- The diamond shall be **70** feet between bases.
- The pitching rubber shall be **46** feet from the point of home plate to the front of the rubber.
- The size of gloves/mitts is not restricted.
- Bats do not need to meet the NFHS length/weight ratio or the BESR performance standard. There is NO Bat Weight or Length Restriction.

RULE 2 - Playing Terms and Definitions

- A regulation game shall consist of six innings.
- The 6-run rule will be in effect: On offense, players of the trailing team shall bat until 3 outs are recorded or until the trailing team has gone ahead by 6 runs. Players of the leading team shall bat until 3 outs are recorded or until they have scored six runs in addition to the lead they had at the beginning of the inning.
- There is no 10 run rule.

RULE 3 - Substituting - Coaching - Bench & Field Conduct

- A team may start or end a game with 8 players and an automatic out will not be charged for the missing ninth player.
- On defense, free substitution shall be allowed. All players will play – at minimum – every other inning. All players must be allowed to play one full defensive inning in the infield within the first three innings.
- A pitcher – once removed – may not be reinserted as a pitcher.
- On offense the batting order shall contain the entire roster of players present.
- Base-runners may only be substituted in the case of injury. In such case, the player who made the last out may be inserted for an injured base-runner.
- Pitchers/Catchers that are warming up within the foul area of the ball field **MUST** have a **PROTECTIVE** Player between them and the field of play. **THIS WILL BE ENFORCED.**

RULE 4 - Starting and Ending the Game

- Games shall start and end on time. A game shall consist of six innings or **1 hour forty five**. No new inning shall start after the time limit. The start of a new inning is the exact time that the 3rd out occurs in the previous inning. (Prevents teams from stalling the next inning). Once time has expired the visiting team finishes their half of the inning per normal rules (6 inning rule in effect). If the home team is behind then they bat until they get 3 outs or win the game. If the game is then tied, the clock is set for 15 minutes. The game plays until someone wins or time expires (at which point the current inning plays out until completed). If the game is still tied then it is recorded as such.
- Rainouts will only be rescheduled for one game for standings. Managers may reschedule un-played games at their option, but they will not be recorded for standings.

RULE 6 - Pitching

- Pitchers may pitch no more than 4 innings per game, and not more than 5 innings per week (a week being defined as Monday – Sunday). Each out shall be considered 1/3 of an inning.
- A pitcher removed from the game may not return to pitch that game.
- No balks shall be called. However, every effort shall be made by the coach and umpire to correct, between innings, any illegal acts committed by the pitcher.

RULE 7 - Batting

- If a player(s) is unable to play due to illness or injury after the start of the game that spot in the batting order is skipped and there is no out charged.

RULE 8- Base Running

- Stealing is allowed. However, base runners must remain in contact with their base until the Pitcher releases the ball. Players leaving their base too soon shall be called out, and the ball shall be declared dead immediately. ATTEMPTING to BAIT a throw is not allowed and the players must return to base.
- No play is allowed if the runner leaves early.
- **Drop third strike rule IS in effect.**
- Players **MAY** advance on a passed ball.

RULE 10 - Umpiring

- FCBC will provide one (1) paid official for all games. He or she may take any position desires. The umpire is responsible for calling all plays at all bases, for calling balls and strikes, and for enforcing all rules of the game. Under no circumstances will a spectator or other person be permitted to be a second umpire during any game. All coaches are expected to familiarize themselves with the rules regarding conduct of coaches, spectators and players toward paid FCBC officials.