

7th & 8th GRADE LEAGUE

LEVEL IV

High School Federation Rules

RULE 1 - Players, Field And Equipment

- The diamond shall be **80** feet between bases.
- The pitching rubber shall be **54** feet from the point of home plate to the front of the rubber.
- Catchers must wear a helmet which includes ear protection. The mask must have an attached throat protector.
- Metal cleats may be worn
- Bats do not need to meet the NFHS length/weight ratio or the BESR performance standard. No Bat Restrictions

RULE 3 - Substituting - Coaching - Bench & Field Conduct - Charged Conferences

- **A team may start and play a game with 8 players and not be charged with an automatic out for the missing 9th player. A player that leaves the game due to injury or illness will not be allowed to re-enter the game. If only 8 players remain, an automatic out will be recorded whenever that player's spot in the batting order comes up.**
- 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.
- 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 and: 45 minutes. 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.
- The 10 run rule is in effect, after 5 full innings.
- **Games ended by darkness or weather will be official if four innings (3 1/2 if the home team is ahead) are completed.**
- Rainouts will only be rescheduled for one game for standings. Managers may reschedule games at their option, but they will not be recorded for standings.

RULE 6 - Pitching

- Pitchers are limited to pitching 6 innings per game and 7 innings per week. A week consists of Sunday through Saturday.