

Posey County Cal Ripken Baseball League

-Major League Rules- Amended after 3/17/2026

Game Duration and General Rules

- Unless otherwise stated herein, Major Division will follow Cal Ripken Major Division rules.
- Each game will last 6 innings or until time limit is reached.
- Scoring is unlimited in all innings. The final inning may be the 6th inning or any inning declared to be the final inning by the umpire prior to beginning said inning.
- There is a 15-run rule after 4 innings (or 3.5) of play and a 10-run rule after 5 innings (or 4.5) of play
- Time Limits are as follows:
 - No new inning after 1 hour 50 minutes.
- Head coaches are responsible for meeting with the umpire before and during the game to help best manage the following topics:
 - Pitch count and any pitchers at or near pitch limits.
 - Field of play review, out of bounds, etc.
 - “Last Inning” discussion; best practice is to make sure that both head coaches and umpires huddle around the 100 min mark to determine “last Inning”.

Baseballs

- Cal Ripken stamped baseballs or equivalent should be used for regular season and tournament games.

Coaches

- Teams should provide a 1st and 3rd base coach in the designated areas when teams are batting.
- NO COACHES ON FIELD (except as permitted by umpire, i.e. timeout granted).
- Score book must be kept by home team during regular season games; away team is also recommended to keep a book.
- Score book must be kept by BOTH Home and Away teams during tournament games
- Both teams to keep track of pitch counts and report with score submission to commissioner after every game.

Umpires

- The Home team will provide a minimum of (1) patched umpire; (2) patched umpires are preferred for regular season games and post-season games.
- If only (1) umpire present, they must be behind the plate.
- Coaches must treat the umpires with respect and conduct themselves properly. If an issue arises involving an umpire, coaches need to contact a Board Member for further discussion.
- Umpires are to be made aware of all rules at the coaches meeting before the game.

- Umpires will be paid \$60/umpire/game for Major games; if only 1 umpire they can be paid \$80/game and they must be behind the plate).
 - Umpire pay can be increased +\$10, if they are a patched umpire.

Batting

- Coaches have the option to bat the entire roster or bat 9 with subs during game. Each player must bat at least once.
- Bats must comply with USA Baseball Bat standards.
- All batters must wear a helmet.
- Bunting is allowed.
- NO slap/slash bunting (once a player turns/squares to bunt, player MUST either attempt to bunt the ball or pull the bat back; player may NOT fake the bunt, then take a swing at the pitch).

Fielding

- Must play 9 players in the field. 8 players minimum needed to constitute a team eligible to play.
- You may play with 8 players but must take an out for the missing 9th player.
- Each player must play at least 1 inning in the field.
- Fielders MUST move out of a base runner's path if they do not possess the ball and no play is being made on a thrown ball
- Catcher MUST wear protective equipment
- Play will end only when the umpire calls time (or when runners have completely stopped and pitcher has ball at mound area).
- Drop third strike rule is in effect.
- Infield fly rule is in effect.
- All players must wear a protective cup.

Pitching

- A week is a run of days from Sunday at 12:00 am to Saturday night at 11:59 pm
- Pitchers are limited to a maximum of 6 innings pitched total per week. 1 or more pitches thrown in an inning constitutes an inning. More than 2 innings in a game=2 days rest. Daily pitch cap at 85.
- During tournament play, a pitch count will be in effect
 - 85 max pitches in a day
 - 1- 40 pitches = no days rest
 - 41-65 pitches = 1 day rest
 - 66+ pitches = 2 days rest

- A pitcher can finish the batter he is currently on when going over maximum count of 85
- Pitching distance is 50 feet
- Balks: one warning may be issued for each pitcher; after warning, base runners are awarded next base (coaches/umpires are encouraged to explain/teach pitchers what they are doing wrong if a balk is called)
- A player “playing up” must adhere to their actual age group rules for pitching.

Base Running

- Players can take unlimited bases after a ball is put into play
- Players can advance unlimited bases on overthrows
- Base runners can lead off and steal
- On a play at home plate, if the runner does not slide and/or a collision occurs at home plate during a play at home, the Runner is called out and run does not count.
- If a collision occurs at any base and umpire deems runner did not attempt to avoid the collision with malicious intent, the runner is to be ejected for active game and board notified for review of any further action. Each time the ejected player place comes up in the line-up it is ruled an “out”.

Player/Coach/Fan Conduct

- Parent/Fan Conduct - If umpire deems fan conduct is inappropriate, the parent/fan is to be ejected for the active game and the following game. No penalty to player associated. Commissioner and board to be notified
- Player Conduct - If umpire deems player conduct is inappropriate, the player to be ejected for the active game and the following game. Each time the player place comes up in the line-up it is ruled an out.
- Coach Conduct - If umpire deems coach conduct is inappropriate, the coach is to be ejected for the active game AND subject to additional suspensions at the board discretion. Both head coaches to contact commissioner to review after the game.
- Coach Conduct - The coach shall not leave the active playing field to engage in inappropriate conduct with fans, parents, or any other individual in attendance; if that occurs the coach ejected for the active game AND the following game AND subject to additional suspensions at the board discretion. Both head coaches to contact commissioner to review after the game.