

8U League Baseball Rules | 2022 Champaign County League

1. Age Qualifications: 8u Baseball ages are 7 and 8 year olds. A player can't be 9 years old before May 1st. All 9 year olds must move up to the 10u baseball league (No Exceptions).
2. Playing Field: Pitching: 35ft. from the back corner of home plate to front edge of the pitching rubber. Base Path: 60ft.
3. Eight (8) foot radius pitching circle rule WILL apply.
4. 30 foot lines in between the bases will be used.
5. Games will consist of six innings. A complete game can be called after four innings. Only exception after 2 1/2 innings and the home team is ahead.
6. 7 runs per inning limit. This includes the last inning. In the event that the final inning cannot result in a lead change, the winning team must complete the final defensive inning.
7. Run Rule: 15 run after 4 innings and 12 runs after 5 innings. A game will be called and considered official if a team is ahead by fifteen(15) or more runs after three (3) complete innings (2 1/2 innings with the home team leading) etc.
8. Play with 10 defensive players (4 outfielders). The 4 outfielders must be in a normal playing position. Depending on the size of the field it can be defined as the edge of the grass or an approximation of 20 ft. beyond the base paths. Outfielders will start in the grass
9. No infielder can play more than ten feet in front of any base until after the ball has been pitched.
10. A player fielding in the defensive pitcher position must have at least 1 foot inside the circle until the ball has been pitched.
11. Each batter will receive seven pitches or three strikes. There will be no called strikes. A foul ball on the seventh pitch does not count as a pitch.
12. Full swings only. No bunting is allowed.
13. Infield fly rule does not apply.
14. No Stealing is permitted.
15. Head first sliding is strictly prohibited and constitutes an automatic out. All runners must attempt to slide if a play is being made on them at a base.
16. Defensive team may place 2 coaches in the outfield. These coaches are for instructional purposes only and may not touch the ball or assist the fielder in any way.
17. Coaches will pitch overhand to their own players and must keep at least one foot inside the circle while pitching. The coach/pitcher must make every effort to remove him or herself from the playing area after the ball has been hit.
18. To stop play, an infielder must be in control of the ball and throwing it back to the pitcher or the pitcher has control of the ball in the circle.
19. If the runner is past the 'halfway' line once the pitcher position has control of the ball, the runner will be awarded the next base. If the runner has not reached the line, they will be directed back to the previous base in which they came from.
20. A runner may only advance one base on an overthrow after an attempted out was made, if while advancing to that base an attempt is made to make an out and that ball is overthrown he may advance one base at his own risk.
21. All present players must play at least 3 innings of defense in a full six (6) inning game. If a player does not start the game he will be required to start the next game attended to ensure he gets three full innings of play.

***All age groups are subject to Champaign County League-Wide Regulations.**

All rules not covered herein shall be governed by high school rulebook.

Champaign County Baseball & Softball 2022 League-Wide Regulations (All Age Groups)

- a. All Champaign County Baseball and Softball league age group rules will be used in conjunction with these League-Wide Regulations. 15U Baseball and 16U Softball will follow OHSAA rules with a 7 run per inning limit.
- b. Umpire is suggested for 14U and older, all attempts should be made to ensure the umpire is an OHSAA or ASA sanctioned umpire. (Also applies to tournaments). In the event of an umpire "no show" or unavailable last minute, coaches can agree on a substitute umpire OR attempt to reschedule.
- c. 13u and Under umpires are not required to be sanctioned. Games may be called from behind the plate or at the pitcher's mound at the umpires discretion. This could include coaches, parents or students. If the coach is to umpire as a last resort it should be the FIELDING team coach calling the game.
- d. Home team will provide (1) new and (1) good used ball for each home game.
- e. Shoes are required equipment. Shoe sole or heel projection other than the standard shoe plate are prohibited. Metal cleats are prohibited with the exception of 15U baseball, 16U softball AND if allowed by the hosting ballpark.
- f. Player Substitutions: Teams may borrow up to (3) players from a lower division. Teams need to have 6 original members to count as a game. If an area does not have a lower division, they may borrow from another Champaign County League lower division team. No borrowed player will be permitted to play if a full line up of roster players is present and able to play. Sub players will not play before an original player on the roster. Subs may play any position on the field.
- g. **Must bat all available players** (roster bat/pegged batting order). Open substitutions will apply on defense. If a player gets injured or has to leave the game for any reason while using continuous batting order, that player is then skipped in the batting order with no out taken. This player may also reenter in a later inning. Anyone arriving late will be inserted at the bottom of the batting order. No penalty. This applies to all age groups.
- h. 8U, 10U, and 12U players cannot play more than 3 innings in any one position. The exception is extra-inning games whereas coaches are allowed to field players as they see fit. Pitching limits still apply.
- i. Games may be played with 8 players, without penalty. Games can be played with 7 players with a 1 out penalty for the 8th batter position. (Unless agreed to by both coaches prior to the start of the game)
- j. A fifteen (15) minute grace period, after the scheduled starting time, will be granted prior to a forfeit being declared.
- k. **Time Limit:** A new inning can't be started after one hour and forty-five minutes (1:45)
- l. **Regular season games can end in a tie, but both coaches can agree to play one extra inning if time permits.**
- m. Tournament Only: If the score is tied at the end of the 6th inning, extra inning will be played, and the international tiebreaker rule will be used. (The last batter from the previous inning will start the new inning on second base.)
- n. **Official rosters** must contain: team name, age division, coaches name, phone number, players name, and player DOB. Rosters can be challenged and players may only be on (1) Champaign County League Roster.
- o. Players may be added to a roster up to the 3rd game of the season by contacting the league president. Final rosters must be presented to the tournament director prior to the 1st game of the tournament if requested.
- p. Final rosters must contain a minimum of (8) players and a maximum of (15).
- q. No infield warm-up is permitted after the first inning by coaches.

***All age groups are subject to Champaign County League-Wide Regulations.**

All rules not covered herein shall be governed by high school rulebook.

- r. **Coaches** must stay inside dugout, unless you are coaching a base or time is called (per OHSAA rule)
- s. No manager or coach shall direct any remark to or call any opposing player by name for the purpose of distracting that player while the game is in progress.
- t. Any manager, coach, umpire or team member creating a disturbance, using profane or insulting language, or displaying any other form of unsportsmanlike conduct during the warm-up, game, or immediately following a game, may be suspended from any further participation, in any capacity, for the year involved. This includes parents. Any suspension is subject to review by respective associations' board.
- u. Batting helmets must be worn at all times by a batter and runners until they return to the dugout.
- v. A team will be given one (1) warning for a player throwing a helmet or bat; every additional incidence will result in an out, regardless of which player is guilty.
- w. Baseball Bat Guidelines:
 - a. 8U - Big barrel bats are NOT permitted; only 2 ¼ inch diameter USSSA BPF 1.15, USA, BBCOR, or wooden
 - b. 10U/12U - up to 2 ⅝ inch diameter USSSA BPF 1.15, USA, BBCOR, or wooden bats are allowed with no less than drop 5 differential (you may have a -6 to -13)
 - c. 15U Baseball follow OHSAA High School Rules
- x. Softball Bat Guidelines
 - a. 13u and under must use Fast Pitch softball bat with nothing less than a -5
 - b. 16u Softball will follow OHSAA High School Rules
- y. Chanting and singing will be permitted on the field and in the dugout. Team cannot direct singing or chanting towards the opposing team. Stomping on benches or banging on fences will not be permitted. Hanging onto or climbing the backstops or fences is strictly prohibited.
- z. An umpire can eject a player if he feels they intentionally tried to injure another player.
- aa. An umpire may call a player out for throwing the bat after one team warning.
- bb. Play will be stopped if a player is obviously injured and the umpire will place the runners to their respective bases. (Safety of the child comes first!)
- cc. All protests are to refer to OHSAA and Champaign County League rules and are to be resolved immediately. **Umpire's decision is final.**
- dd. When games are postponed for any reason, attempts are typically made, but we may or may not finish or reschedule the game.
- ee. Games once started but suspended because of darkness or rain, prior to being an official game may be completed at a later date. Play will resume from the same point that play was suspended. The same line-ups will take the field as were in use at the time of suspension. The home team scorebook will be official in case of disputes.
- ff. An on duty board member of the host association will be the sole judge of whether a game will be postponed
- gg. Home teams are responsible for making sure umpires are aware of county league rules.

***All age groups are subject to Champaign County League-Wide Regulations.**

All rules not covered herein shall be governed by high school rulebook.

**2022 CHAMPAIGN COUNTY YOUTH
BASEBALL/SOFTBALL SUMMER LEAGUE**

Coaches, Parents, Guardians and Whom it may concern,

After a couple trying years, we, as a county rec league are striving to get back to a normal summer youth baseball/softball season. Each community's summer youth league leaders have diligently worked together to provide the best experience for your children. Our goal is to provide a fun, safe and active learning experience for your children. As a result, there are some important items we felt should be conveyed to all involved in addition to the normal league-wide and age specific rules and regulations. These items are as follows:

- **PITCH COUNT:** While no official rule has been implemented concerning pitch count, we as a board want both parents and coaches to be attentive to all pitcher's pitch counts. Our children's safety and wellbeing is far more important than winning a game and it is asked that common sense be used when it comes to pitch counts, both in a single game and in weeks where multiple games are played. Encourage the kids to ice their shoulders after games to aid in recovery.
- **FACE MASKS: ALL SOFTBALL INFELDERS 13U AND UNDER MUST WEAR FACEMASKS.** This is a decision collectively made by the board for safety.
- **UMPIRES:** Unfortunately, there is a national shortage of umpires, and we are not immune to that issue. Due to this, sanctioned umpires will no longer be available to us for age groups 13U and below. Each community will make every effort to provide an umpire for all games, however, this may not always be possible. In the event there is no umpire available for a game, coaches will be asked to call the game. The fielding team's coaches will call that half of the inning. Anyone umpiring a game may call the game from either behind the plate or behind the pitcher's mound. Please remember, **WE ARE ALL DOING OUR BEST TO HAVE GAMES OFFICIATED SO PLEASE BE RESPECTFUL OF THOSE WHO STEP ON THE FIELD TO HELP OUR KIDS!!**
- **TOURNAMENT:** The league tournament will run from June 20-23. Stay tuned for where your child will be competing come tournament time.

Thank you all for trusting your children with us as we vow to provide the best possible experience for each and every one of them. **PLAY BALL!!!**

Champaign County Rec League Board

Important Dates:

3 April	Draft Day
9 April	League Scheduling Day
7 May	Opening Day
4 June	Blast/Tee Ball wrap up at Healthy Kids Day
20 June	Tournament June 20th - 23rd
21 June	Tournament June 20th - 23rd
22 June	Tournament June 20th - 23rd
23 June	Tournament June 20th - 23rd

***All age groups are subject to Champaign County League-Wide Regulations.**

All rules not covered herein shall be governed by high school rulebook.