

BUSHKILL VALLEY BASEBALL FALL BALL RULES

Bushkill Valley Baseball is age based. 13/14 year old players. Player cannot be 15 before 6/30.

BVB Fall league will keep score and pitching information because there will be standings. The top 4 teams will have a mini tournament at the end of the season. Each team is to contact Barry after each game with the score of the game and pitchers last name and number and amount of pitches thrown. You are to TEXT him this information! Do not email.. Due to the inability to update website between games it will be on each manager to show the next opponent the pitching from game 1 of that day.

Section 1

Bushkill Valley Fall Season Rules:

1. Pitching: (Again this is for ONLY FALL BALL)

BVB will use a moderation of the spring pitching rules. Each pitcher is allowed 100 pitches per week. A week is considered FRIDAY THRU THURSDAY for this rule.

If a team wants to use intentional walk they just have to let the umpire know and no pitches need to be thrown.

2. Batting and fielding (FALL BALL ONLY):

- During the fall teams will use free substitutions in the field. Only restrictions on substitutions is when a player is removed from pitching they may not return to pitching for that game. A team MAY use spring batting rules , 9 or 10 batters and still use free substitutions in the field. If a team uses spring batting rules instead of the continuous batting order they must inform the opposing coach prior to the game starting. Once the meeting is over at the plate with the umpires the decision to use continuous or spring batting order rules MUST stay for the remainder of the game.
- If a team uses the spring rules for batting they have to understand that yes they can move players in and out of the field but the BATTING ORDER CAN NEVER CHANGE. If your team for example has 13 players and you decide to bat 10... If one of the non starters (not in batting order) bats he will replace that 'starter' in the lineup. You may then continue to swap those 2 players for rest of the game when it comes to batting. This is unorthodox way to do batting order but as a league we feel it is the fairest way to accommodate all the teams that might have a large roster size. AGAIN PLEASE UNDERSTAND this is only for FALL ball. Spring will be regular PIAA rules that we have been using.

3. Innings Per Game:

Games will be 7 innings in length.

4. Players being Played:

- Bushkill valley baseball league will no longer require mandatory play. It will be up to each organization and managers to determine the playing time.
- In the event that a player would get injured or ejected and his turn at bat occurs the first time he is at bat it will be a recorded out. The rest of the game if his turn comes up in the lineup it will be skipped over without penalty.

1. Courtesy Runners

Courtesy runners may be used for pitcher or catcher once they reach base. The courtesy runner must be last player to make an out. If this would occur in the first inning with no outs the courtesy runner will be the last batter in the lineup.

2. Run rule (Mercy rule)

- a. The game is finished at the end of 5 full innings if either team leads by 10 runs or more. If not, game ends when one team takes a 10-run lead at any time after the 5th inning.
- b. The game is finished at the end of three full innings if either team leads by 15 runs or more. If not, the game will end at any time that one team takes a 15-run lead during the 4th or 5th inning.
- c. REMINDER the game ENDS immediately upon a team reaching the run threshold listed above once each team bats 3 times.

3. Games become official

Game will become official once the game reaches either 5 innings, mercy rule, or 90 minutes has passed. Game becoming official only means that if weather, darkness or time limit intervenes the game will end with a winner, loser or tie.. There is one exception to the rule and the following is the breakdown : If a game is interrupted by rain and/or Lightning and the game cannot be completed we will use the following criteria: (one must is that the time limit is not been reached. If time limit of 90 minute was reached and rain or lighting stopped the game then the results will be final)

- If weather stops the game is in the 1st, 2nd or 3rd inning the game will be stopped and will be suspended. If both teams agree to continue playing it at a later date the game will resume from the point the game was stopped. If both teams agree not to continue playing at a later date then the score will be recorded and game will be considered complete.

- If weather stops the game is in the 4th inning and the score difference is less then 10 runs the game will be played at a later date from the point that it was stopped unless both teams agree that the game is over then the score will be recorded.

- if weather stops the game game is in the 4th inning and the score difference is greater than 10 runs the game will be declared over and the team leading will be declared winner. Consider this a RAIN mercy ruleS

Section 2

Rule clarification of PIAA Rules which are used by Bushkill Valley Baseball Association

This section will include PIAA rules that can be hard to understand thus needing some clarifications.

1. NO CATCH and CARRY

The ruling on this is very simple. If a player catches a ball in play and the momentum would take that player out of play the ball will be declared dead. Batter will be OUT and anyone on base will be rewarded one base.

2. MOUND VISITS

Each team is allowed 3 "Free" visits to the mound for the ENTIRE game. A "Free" visit means a coach visits the mound and does not remove the pitcher. If a coach visits the mound and removes the pitcher then that is NOT a "Free" visit. Once a team uses all 3 "Free" visits in the game every visit after that must result in the removal of the pitcher. IMPORTANT NOTE: If a coach visits the mound for same pitcher a 2nd time in an inning they must remove said pitcher regardless if they still have free visits

3. Balk rule

Each pitcher is allowed one balk warning per game

4. Fake Bunt

A batter may fake bunt and pull back and swing away.

Section 3

FALL BALL GUIDELINES

1. Most games are scheduled for double headers on Saturday. Sunday will be rain day. Game times will be determined by the scheduler. All games last 2 hours and 15 minutes. New inning cannot start after the 2 hour and 15 minutes time limit is reached.
2. Score and standing will be kept. Mini playoffs will occur after season ends.
3. Since we are doing double headers, the pitch count will be different for fall ball vs spring in one major way... Each pitcher will be allowed 100 pitches per week vs per game. This will allow a pitcher to pitch in both games if managed correctly. Pitch count MUST be tallied and documented for every pitcher and game, so all teams know who is eligible to pitch or not.
4. Bat RULE FALL ONLY: Each player 13 and older must use -3 BB core or wood. If any player on the fall ball roster is 12 or under they can use a bat up to -10. The opposing team and umpire must be aware of the players that are under 13 and might be using a lighter bat during the plate meeting before the game starts.
5. 2 umpires will be provided per game. \$60.00 for plate and \$50.00 for bases. Home team pays for both umpires. During the mini tournament at end of the fall season the home team will pay the plate umpire and the away team will pay the base umpire.
6. Both team must provides 2 baseballs for each game.