

2023 Paducah Chiefs Major League Rules (Player Pitch)

Rules

1. Baseballs and bats will be provided by the league for games.
2. The score will be kept by the coaches or a representative designated by coaches on both teams for all games. The scoreboard will be used if operators are available.
3. A half inning will be ended at 3 outs or 5 runs, unless it is the last inning. Coaches must agree prior to the inning that it will be considered the last inning.
4. We will use a continuous batting order where all players on the team will be in the batting lineup.
5. Teams may start a game with less than 9 players with no penalty.
6. Pitching distance is 46 feet. Base dimensions are 60 feet.
7. Rules of baseball will apply with a few exceptions listed below.

Batting

1. Players follow normal batting rules. Foul lines will be observed. No on deck hitters.
2. A batter is out on the 3rd strike swing even if catcher does not catch the ball
3. A player will be called out for throwing a bat – there are no warnings.

Pitching

1. Any player on the team may pitch. There is no limit to the number of pitchers used per game.
2. Coaches from both teams must designate a scorekeeper as the official pitch count recorder.
3. Pitchers removed from the mound cannot return as pitchers. The manager must remove the pitcher when said pitcher reaches the limit of his/her age group (see below), but the pitcher may remain in the game at another position
 - a. Age 10: 75 pitchers per day. Age 11-12: 85 pitchers per day
 - b. A pitcher who delivers 41 or more pitches in a game cannot play the position of catcher the remainder of the game.
 - c. A pitcher who throws 36 or more pitches on a Tuesday game cannot pitch during the Thursday game in the same week.
4. Defensive teams can intentionally walk a batter by announcing the decision to the plate umpire without throwing the pitches. Once the walk is granted, four pitches will be added to the pitcher's official pitch count. An individual player can only be walked in this way once during a game. Pitches must be thrown to walk that same player again.

Fielding

1. Each player on the team must play 6 consecutive outs on defense.

Baserunning

1. Stealing will not be allowed the first four games of the season.
2. Stealing may be allowed beginning with the fifth game after consulting with coaches. When a pitcher is in contact with the pitcher's plate and in possession of the ball and the catcher is in the catcher's box ready for delivery of the ball, base runners shall not leave their bases until the ball has been delivered and has reached the batter.
2. A courtesy runner is allowed for the pitcher or catcher with two outs. The courtesy runner must be the player in the batting order who made the last out. In the case of an injury, the last out can then run for the injured player.
3. Headfirst slides are not allowed. That player will be called out if they slide headfirst.
4. Runners will advance only one base on an overthrow out of play.

Length of Game

1. Games will last 6 innings or 1 hour 45 minutes after the start time, whatever happens first.
2. Run Rules are in effect: 15 runs after 3 innings. 10 runs after 4 innings. 8 runs after 5 innings.
3. If a new inning has started before time limit, the teams will finish that inning.
4. If the game is tied after 6 innings with time remaining, the game will play 1 extra inning. If a game is tied at the time limit, the game will end in a tie.
5. Coaches from both teams can agree to end a game any time after 90 minutes.