

Germantown Athletic Club
2009 League Rules
11/12 YEAR-OLD DIVISION

OFFICIAL RULES

Unless listed or noted below, GAC 11/12 year old Division will be governed by the rules set forth by the National High School Baseball Federation Rules and Regulations. Rules related to safety, good sportsmanship and the proper teaching of fundamental baseball skills should receive the highest priority.

TEAM COMPOSITION

Only players on the official league roster provided to the manager / head coach by the league commissioner are permitted to play in a league game or participate in a practice. Each team shall have a maximum of (3) coaches and a scorekeeper (although practices should have as many instructors as possible). The scorekeeper must remain in the dugout area and cannot serve as a coach except to control the dugout area. No one other than the manager or coaches is to be in the dugout or on the on-deck circle.

All players must remain in the dugout area with the exception of a pitcher and catcher who are warming up.

EQUIPMENT

Only Germantown Athletic Club approved or provided equipment will be used except for the fielder's glove, batting helmet, personal bats or shoes. Players will wear only Germantown Athletic Club issued uniforms. No wooden or T-Ball bats will be allowed. **A bat with a 2 3/4 barrel IS allowed and there are no weight restrictions (keep in mind the 14U division has a bat restriction of 2 5/8 barrel and at the most a -8.5 length to weight ratio, something to consider when buying an expensive bat).** Metal cleats also will not be allowed. Players batting or in the batting circle must wear batting helmets. Also any non-adult personnel occupying a coaches box must wear a helmet

Catchers must wear an athletic supporter and cup. If a catcher is not properly equipped they will not be permitted to play the catcher position.

UNIFORMS

Each player will be equipped with a Germantown Athletic Club jersey, pants, hat and socks. These must be worn during each and every game. If a player is not wearing the complete uniform as furnished by GAC, the umpire will order the player to the bench until a proper uniform is worn. It should also be noted that

Germantown Athletic Club
2009 League Rules
11/12 YEAR-OLD DIVISION

only hats that are furnished by GAC will allowed to be worn during games by players. All jerseys must be tucked in during play. All male players should wear protective cups while playing. Protective cups are mandatory for catchers. Do-Rags and bandannas will not be permitted.

FIELD SIZE

Bases will be positioned 70 feet from each other. The pitcher's mound will be 50 feet from the front of the pitching rubber to the tip of the home plate. Second base to the tip of home plate will be 99 feet.

The home team shall occupy the 3rd base dug out area.

GAME LENGTH

Each game shall consist of seven (7) innings. An official game shall consist of at least five (5) innings, 4 ½ if the home team is winning. **Exception: During the Fall season any game shortened due to darkness will constitute a complete game as long as one full inning has been played.**

There is a 2 hour time limit for every game. No inning shall begin after 2 hours have passed from the start of the game. The same rule applies to play-off games unless the score is tied. In the playoffs, if the score is tied an additional innings will be played until there is a winner.

A team will only be allowed to score a maximum of five (5) runs per inning. There will NOT be an unlimited run inning.

MERCY RULE

If either team is winning by 10 or more runs at the end of the 5th or 6th inning the game will officially be over.

SUSPENDED GAMES

Games that do not reach the 5 inning mark and are delayed for inclement weather will be suspended. The game will resume from the point where it was suspended. **Games will be called on account of darkness they WILL NOT be suspended.**

FIELD CONDITIONS

By 4:00 PM on weekdays, 8:00 AM on Saturdays and 12:00 on Sundays the league Commissioner may cancel the game for weather or field conditions. A

Germantown Athletic Club
2009 League Rules
11/12 YEAR-OLD DIVISION

message will be posted on the official GAC web site first and then the phone service will be updated. If there is no message canceling the games, teams are to report to the field. After that time, the decision to cancel games due to field or weather conditions shall be made by the umpires at the field, not the coaches. Any team failing to report to the field will lose the game by forfeit.

All make up games must go through the commissioner

OFFENSIVE TEAM

- 1) All players present at the start of the game will bat in rotation (including those on the bench). Players arriving late will be added to the end of the batting order. If a player misses their turn at bat because they are late arriving to the game or injured/sick then their at bat is to be skipped and will NOT result in an out.
- 2) Helmets must be worn by all batters and runners and non-adult personnel coming on to the playing field (bat boys, base coaches, etc.)
- 3) Any player throwing a bat will earn their team a "team warning" for throwing equipment (each team will receive one warning per game). Any further action of throwing equipment will result in an out being called and the player is subject to ejection from the game.
- 4) A runner will be called out if a base coach grabs the runner (for purposes of stopping or starting forward progress) during live play.
- 5) Only two players are allowed to handle bats at a time - the batter at the plate and the on-deck batter who must stay in the on-deck area. All other players must remain on the "bench". An assistant coach or parent must monitor this requirement to avoid injuries.

PITCHING LIMITATIONS

A pitcher is limited to three (3) innings per game. The innings pitched have to be consecutive innings. If a player throws 1 pitch in an inning it is considered a full inning.

**In the event of extra innings, each pitcher may pitch a fourth inning unless he has been removed due to either the hit batsman rule or removal rules below.

If a pitcher is visited by a coach/manager twice in the same inning, he/she must be removed from the position. Coaches are allowed 3 visits to the mound during the course of a game. A pitching change does not constitute a visit.

Germantown Athletic Club
2009 League Rules
11/12 YEAR-OLD DIVISION

If a pitcher hits two (2) batters in one inning or (3) batters in one game, the pitcher will be removed from and will not be eligible to return to the pitcher position for the remainder of the game.

There will be no intentional walks. No pitcher shall deliberately throw a curve ball during a game. A warning will be issued if in the umpire's judgment the curve is intentional. After a second violation the umpire may remove the player from the position.

A pitcher is allowed five (5) warm-up pitches between innings or one (1) minute, whichever ever comes first. An initial eight (8) pitches will be awarded to any pitcher entering a game.

No pitcher will be allowed to wear long white or gray sleeve shirts. Any pitcher doing so will be asked to remove the shirt or will be removed from the pitcher's position.

Games pitched by an ineligible pitcher will result in a forfeit.

PLAYER SUBSTITUTION AND PARTICIPATION

Teams should start the game with at least 9 defensive players. The game may start if the team only has 8 defensive players.

All roster players will bat in order regardless of their position in the field. Players who show up after the start of the game will be placed at the end of the line-up. Should a player be injured or leave prior to the end of the game, his/her spot in the batting order will be skipped without the penalty of an out. The opposing coach and umpire must be notified and that player may not re-enter the game.

While making a pitching change the coach reserves the right to swap defensive positions, but no new player(s) can come off of the bench. If the new pitcher is coming from the bench, the pitcher he is replacing must go to the bench for that inning.

Each player must play at least three (3) innings within the first five (5) innings of the game. Each player must play two (2) innings by the fourth (4) inning.

An offensive coach or player is allowed to call time-out once per inning. The batter must request time-out from the umpire, and receive the time-out before they can leave the batter's box. The same applies to base runners. If the catcher is on base with two outs, he may be substituted with the last batter/runner to be called out.

Germantown Athletic Club
2009 League Rules
11/12 YEAR-OLD DIVISION

BASE RUNNING AND STEALING

Runners may steal all bases including home plate at their own risk.

At no time shall any offensive player try to knock down a defensive player to gain an additional base. **All players MUST SLIDE OR AVOID CONTACT.** Failure to slide or avoid contact will result in the base runner being automatically called out and possible ejection from the game.

Fielders not making a play must give runner access to that base. No fake tags are allowed. Fake tags are an ejectable offense. All slides, to break up a play, must be within 3-4 feet on the advancing base. Any slide using feet or cleats as a weapon is cause for ejection.

Head first slides and slides into first base are not allowed. (EXCEPTION: Any player who has possession of a base may “dive back” in to the same base to avoid being picked off by the pitcher or any other fielder.) Any player who slides Head first into ANY BASE will be called out.

THIRD STRIKE RULE

The batter can advance to first base on a third strike if the catcher does not cleanly catch the ball or drops the ball and:

- First base is unoccupied or
- First base is occupied and there are two (2) outs.

BALKS

Each pitcher will receive three (3) balk warnings. After the third warning the pitcher will be charged with a balk and all runners will advance one base.

Definition: Any act (intentional or unintentional) by the pitcher to deceive a runner.

A balk is an immediate dead ball and all subsequent action is nullified.

CONDUCT

Managers, please remember YOUR conduct is being watched by players, parents and coaches on BOTH sides of the field. Concerns regarding conduct by a coach, player or parent should be brought to the attention of the division coordinator immediately.

Germantown Athletic Club
2009 League Rules
11/12 YEAR-OLD DIVISION

A written incident report must be submitted within 48 hours of the incident. Incident reports can be found on the GAC web site (www.leaguelineup.com/GAC) under the "Handouts" section.

If a situation arises where a parent, player or coach is asked to leave the playing area or field that team's head coach may also be dismissed from the game. The head coach, as well as the parent may also be ineligible for the next game.

Coaches are not allowed to talk on cell phones while coaching the bases. If a coach needs to talk on the phone, he must leave the field. This is a safety issue.

No motor vehicles should be on or near the playing fields at any time, for any reason. Please make sure that all vehicles are parked in the appropriate parking lots.

Be sure that all coaches and parents review the policy manual for further discussion about conduct.

MISCELLANEOUS

To prevent distraction of the pitcher, no players, coaches or spectators are permitted to be behind the backstop while the game is in progress. EXCEPTION: Where there are bleachers behind the backstop.