



West Volusia Youth Baseball

General Rules & Regulations

1. Eligibility

WVYB does not discriminate against participation in its league based on race, color, sex or religion, nor does WVYB limit participation in its league on the basis of disability or ability of play.

2. Game Schedules

Will be provided to managers by each corresponding Division Commissioner one week prior to the beginning of the season, or as soon thereafter as made available. A copy of all team game schedules will be kept in the concession stand and are available on the league's website.

It is the responsibility of each manager to get with his/her respective Division Commissioner to coordinate/reschedule any rain-out games.

3. Uniforms & Equipment

A. The League's Purchasing Agent will distribute league uniforms during the week proceeding Opening Day. Uniforms will only be distributed to league members whose registration fees are current.

B. Any manager, coach, umpire, player or board member affiliated with WVYB's youth league cannot wear any portion of a uniform or use any equipment that depicts the name and/or logo of any other competing baseball organization on the WVYB playing fields or practice fields, either during a game or during a practice, or at any function sponsored by or contributed to by a WVYB team and/or division.

C. Bats:

1. WVYB has no restrictions on bats or sizes, however the bat must be approved by any organized baseball association. Although WVYB recommends a 2 1/4" bat be used, a player can use up to a 2 3/4" bat during regular season play. During Dixie Sanctioned Tournaments, a 2 1/4" bat will only be allowed for Dixie Youth Divisions. Dixie Boys and O-Zone Divisions do not have any bat restrictions during Dixie Sanctioned Tournaments.

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2. As of Spring 2010, WVYB will follow the Dixie Youth Baseball and Dixie Boys Baseball league rules regarding approved bats and sizes.

D. Metal Cleats:

1. Metal cleats ARE NOT allowed in any age bracket of the WVYB organization, except in the Boys Division during tournament and the Pre-Majors Division as allowed under the rules of Dixie Baseball.

E. Catcher Safety Gear:

1. Catchers, at a minimum, must wear protective helmet and a face shield when warming up in practice areas or scheduled practices. It is HIGHLY suggested that ALL normal catcher safety gear always be worn. A catcher may not catch at any time without a protective cup, in addition to a throat guard.

F. Player Safety Gear:

1. All batters in every division must wear an approved helmet with a face mask, with the exception of the Pre-Majors Division.
2. All players are also required to wear a safety cup.

4. **Managers & Coaches:**

Anyone interested in managing, coaching or volunteering with a WVYB team will be required to complete an Application to be kept on file. All applicants to be selected and/or approved by the Board of Directors to manage, coach or volunteer with a WVYB team in any division, will be subject to and must pass a background check.





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General Rules & Regulations (continued)

A manager or coach within the WVYB League, during the Fall or Spring season, may not simultaneously manage or coach a team in any other competing baseball organization outside of the WVYB league. No exceptions unless approved by the Board of Directors.

Anyone who has a son/daughter playing for any age competing league (i.e., AAU, Connie Mack, Babe Ruth, Little League, USSSA, etc.) cannot manage or coach in WVYB league.

Any manager that misses a regular scheduled game must report the absence to the Division Commissioner before his/her next scheduled game.

5. General Rules for Games

A. Tied Game

If a game is tied at the conclusion of six (6) innings, seven (7) innings if Dixie Box/Pre-Majors, or the allowable time has ran, the time and score will stand and the game declared a tie. No additional tie-breaker innings will be played. The only exception being tournament play wherein a winner must be named.

B. Substitutions

All divisions will have a standing line-up and free defensive substitutions, with the exception of the Pre-Majors Division which will follow the Dixie Boys rules of play.

All defensive substitutions of players will be reported to the Home plate umpire and Official Scorekeeper.

C. Line-ups

There will be a standing batting line-up. A team's line-up is to be submitted to the Official Scorekeeper prior to the start of a game. The batting order will remain the same for the duration of the game once the game has started.





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D. Forfeits

There must be eight (8) players at the start of a game to have a legal lineup.

The Home plate umpire will be the official timekeeper and wait 15 minutes from the posted game start time before a game is deemed forfeited. If the game is to start late, because another game has gone over the time limit, the umpire will decide and notify both managers and the Official Scorekeeper of the official start time.

If a team has less than eight (8) players, the manager may select another registered player in their division to fill his/her roster - with the approval of the opposing manager. The player selected will not be allowed to pitch, must bat last and play the outfield. If the team's eighth player shows up after the game has started, the picked-up player may be released or remain in the lineup as a ninth player. If a replacement player cannot be found, the opposing manager shall provide an eighth defensive player. That player will bat with his/her own team in his/her original order slot.

E. Minimum Playing Time Rule

In any game, each player shall play a minimum of two (2) defensive innings, except when a player is being sat for disciplinary measures, which must be reported to the opposing manager, the Home plate umpire and the Official Scorekeeper. Any player who did not play two (2) defensive innings must start the next game they attend and play the first four (4) consecutive defensive innings.

Once a defensive player starts an inning, he/she must finish that inning, unless an injury has occurred, or the player is removed for disciplinary measures, or a pitching change.

Any manager and/or coach who does not abide by the minimum playing time rule as outlined herein will be suspended for his/her next scheduled game.





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F. Late Players

If a player is late to a game, the manager and/or coach is not obligated to adhere to a minimum playing time rule.

Late players are to be added to the end of the team's batting order.

G. Injured/Sick Players

If a player becomes sick or is injured during the game and has to leave the field, a reserve player can be substituted for that player. An injured player may go back into the game as soon as he/she is able.

If a sick or injured player is substituted defensively, the batting order does not change.

H. Weather

Only the board member on duty will decide if the game is to be called due to the weather. If a game is called due to weather, the affected teams' manager will contact their Division Commissioner to reschedule that game, which could be played on a Sunday. Any team not showing for the scheduled make-up game will forfeit that game.

If a game has been called due to weather and four (4) innings of a six (6) inning game, or five (5) innings of a seven (7) inning game, have not been completed, and the run-rule does not apply, then the rescheduled game will start from the point where the game was called.

I. Pitching

As per WVYB League Division Rules.

1. The 40 Hours Rest Rule is computed from the start time of the game.





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2. A manager may relieve a pitcher with a player from the bullpen. A removed pitcher must go to the dugout and cannot play an alternate defensive position. Partial inning pitched does not count toward the Minimum Innings Played Rule.
3. Any violation of the Pitching Rules set out herein or in the Division Rules & Regulations will result in a one game suspension for the team's manager.

J. Batting

Throwing of the bat will not be permitted. The Home plate umpire will decide if the bat was thrown and if so, may issue a warning or call the batter out. If a warning is issued, the second offense of a thrown bat will result in the batter being called out.

K. Player Draft

Any manager can protect a player from the draft only if that player and his/her parent or guardian agrees in writing prior to the tryouts, as specified by the League Commissioner. Players that are protected from the draft are not required to tryout.

Sons and/or daughters of managers and/or coaches involved with either the tryouts or the drafts must be one of the team's protected players. When one brother/sister is protected, the other must be protected/picked by the end of the third round of the draft. When multiple brothers/sisters are protected, all brothers/sisters must be picked in succession from first pick and each draft pick thereafter.

If a manager shows to the draft without any protected players, he/she gets one pick before the draft begins. After the first round, he/she receives another pick and after the second round he/she receives another pick until such time as he/she catches up to the other managers. If he/she has one protected player, he/she does not get a pick before the draft begins.





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General Rules & Regulations (continued)

There will be no trading of players before, during or after the draft. Any exceptions will be decided by the Board of Directors/Commissioners.

L. Umpire Decisions

All decisions made by the Home plate umpire and/or field umpire shall be binding.

M. Slide Rule

1. When a player is advancing to a base, the player must slide feet first into the base. Head first slides into any base **are not** allowed and the runner will be called out.
2. A runner may dive back to a base head first only if he/she is attempting to go back to the base he/she came from.
3. As per WVYB League Division Rules.

6. Disciplinary Action

A. Managers, Coaches and Players:

1. The first ejection from the game will result in a one game suspension. This shall be the next scheduled game unless the suspension is appealed and then if the Appeals Committee upholds the suspension, then it will be the game immediately following the committee's decision. The ejection appeal will be filed with the Divisional Commissioner in writing within 48 hours of the ejection.
2. The ejected person must leave the playing area immediately. Failure to do so will result in a two game suspension and the potential to be removed as a team manager and/or coach. Ejected person may watch from the stands, but may not coach, influence or interfere in the game.

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3. A second ejection from a game may result in dismissal from that particular team, subject to the decision by the Division Committee (Commissioners chaired by the League Commissioner).
4. Any manager or coach appealing an ejection will be subjected to a two game suspension, unless the suspension is appealed in writing to the Divisional Commissioner within 48 hours of the ejection.
5. Anyone affected by a second ejection may make an appeal to overturn the resulting game suspension through the appeals process.
6. Anyone affected by a third ejection will automatically be removed from a particular team.
7. Any manager or coach that crosses the foul line without being granted time by the Home plate umpire will serve a two (2) game suspension. The only exception would be due to player injury.
8. Managers and coaches will not be permitted to use any type of tobacco products on the field during scheduled games or during practices at any location.
9. Members of WVYB Board of Directors who are involved in an outside age competing baseball league as a league official (manager or coach) at any time during the regular season or post-season tournaments shall immediately submit their resignation to league officials.

NOTE: Age competing shall refer to any organization that provides baseball for players league age 5 through 14. Players competing in high school level fall or summer play, American Legion A, B or C level play, or Senior Little League shall not be considered as an age competing outside organization.

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10. Applicants for managers and coaches shall be rejected, or if already selected, removed as a manager and/or coach, if any of the following conditions apply:
 - a. Applicant is found to be a manager, coach or organization official in any age competing baseball organization other than a chartered Dixie League, or son/daughter is playing in such competing baseball.
 - b. Applicant is found to have solicited or recruited WVYB players to participate in any age competing baseball organization.
11. Managers, Coaches, Players, Umpires, Volunteers and/or Spectators initiating violent and/or aggressive physical contact, threats or verbal abuse against any league member, spectator or umpire will be barred from present and future participation in the WVYB league, either permanently or for an indefinite period of time as determined by the Board of Directors.
12. Managers, Coaches, Players, Umpires, Volunteers and/or Spectators who engage in unsportsmanlike conduct, abusive language or similarly derogatory activity against any league member, volunteer, spectator or umpire may and can be removed from a WVYB League function by a League official for an indefinite period of time as determined by the Board of Directors.

NOTE: If WVYB Board of Directors feel that any manager, coach, player, umpire, volunteer or spectator is continually disruptive to the league, the league may deem it necessary to remove that person's child/children from league play for an indefinite period of time to be determined by the Board of Directors.





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General Rules & Regulations (continued)

B. Players' Disciplinary Action

1. The corresponding Division Commissioner must be notified of any disciplinary action that would prevent a player from participating in any game at least 24 hours prior to this action. The manager must handle game discipline immediately and the Division Commissioner informed following the game.
2. Managers may remove a defensive player during an inning for disciplinary reason. A player selected from the bench shall replace the removed player and will play at the same position. A removed player cannot return to the game and is dropped from the batting order. Remaining at bats are not counted as outs.
3. If a manager removes a player during a game for disciplinary reasons, the opposing manager and the player's parent(s) must be notified.
4. Managers must notify the Division Commissioner within 24 hours of any player that is ejected from a game.
5. If a registered player opts to miss a WVYB league scheduled game to play in an outside age competing baseball organization game/tournament, that player shall be suspended for 2 WVYB league games, and will not be allowed to play ALL-STARs. If the incident happens in the Fall season, that player will be banned from ALL-STARs in the upcoming Spring season. A second offense by the same player will result in a 5 game suspension. Disciplinary action and/or penalty for a third offense by the same player will be left at the discretion of a specially formed committee appointed by the Board of Directors, which penalty or disciplinary action shall include the player's forfeiture of eligibility to participate in the league's All-Stars. Team managers and Divisional Commissioners will be responsible for reporting the offending players to the Board of Directors.

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Each team manager is to submit a list of players on their respective rosters who play AAU, or other competing league ball, to the Divisional Commissioner by the start of the WVYB league season.

6. See 6(A)(k) above.
7. See 6(A)(l) above.

NOTE: EJECTIONS WILL BE AT THE TOTAL DISCRETION OF THE UMPIRE AND SUCH DECISIONS WILL BE FINAL, UNLESS OVERTURNED BY THE APPEAL PROCESS, OR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

C. Spectator Disciplinary Action

1. See 6(A)(k) above.
2. See 6(A)(l) above.
3. Alcohol and/or drug products will not be permitted at/on WVYB playing fields/areas of practice fields/areas.
4. No pets are allowed in a WVYB playing or practice area. No pets are allowed on any Volusia County or City of Deltona park lands. This includes the West Volusia Youth Baseball League complex.

7. Complaints

Any complaints regarding a manager, coach player, umpire, volunteer or spectator will be acted upon if submitted in writing and signed by the individual bringing the complaint. The Board of Directors will not address the complaint unless every attempt to resolve the complaint has been made the Division level through the Division Commissioner and League Commissioner.





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General Rules & Regulations (continued)

8. Rules of Play

All rules shall originate and follow the Rules of MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL, published annually, except when superseded by the Rules of DIXIE BASEBALL and when superseded by the Rules of WEST VOLUSIA YOUTH BASEBALL General, Divisional and By-Laws.

9. Personnel on Playing Field

There will be no more than 3 adults on the field during a game. These persons in general should only be board approved managers and coaches. See Division Rules and Regulations.

10. Scorekeeping

- A. Unless otherwise directed prior to a game, both managers with the knowledge of the Home plate umpire, the home team will furnish the official scorekeeper.
- B. The League and Divisional Commissioners will have access to every Manager's scorebook at their discretion.
- C. Managers will be responsible to maintain and provide the scorebooks in reference to item (b).
- D. The Official Scorekeeper will sit isolated from other spectators and in close proximity to the Home plate umpire.
- E. Official Scorekeeper will maintain a total pitch count, pitchers used, and substitutions made in a page provided in the Official Scorebook and will be signed by both game managers and Home plate umpire following the game.
- F. The League will host official scorekeeping meetings/classes prior to the start of each season and periodically throughout the season for any interested person(s).





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General Rules & Regulations (continued)

11. Team Organizer

A team organizer (referred to as a team Mom) will be selected by the Manager. The person's name(s) will be provided to the Board of Directors prior to Opening Day.

12. Required Number of Rostered Players

If at any point in the season a team is short the required number of players assigned, it must be reported to the Division Commissioner and/or the League Commissioner, who will report to the League's secretary, within 24 hours of knowledge. A registered replacement will be provided from the League's waiting list, strictly in accordance with the date the children were placed on the waiting list. Teams will not be allowed to replace players from outside the waiting list. Failure to report the loss of a player or an extended absence of a player to the Division Commissioner may result in a suspension of the Manager. Players will not be added to a team's roster after the halfway mark in the season, unless the addition is necessary to avoid less than 10 players on a roster.

13. Protests

- A. There will be no protests in the A Division.
- B. Protests must be recorded at the time of the alleged incident with the Umpire, Official Scorekeeper and opposing Manager. The timely aspect of the protest is governed by the rules superseded whenever applicable by the rules of Dixie Baseball.
- C. Any manager protesting a game will be subject to a one game suspension and a \$25.00 fine payable to the League, unless the Protest Committee rules the game protest in favor of the protesting Manager.
- D. See West Volusia Pony Baseball, Inc. By-Laws, Revised 02/2008, Article IX - Policy, Section 5 - Game Protest.





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General Rules & Regulations (continued)

14. Field Maintenance & Concession Duty

- A. Both managers, utilizing their coaches and parents, will be responsible for maintaining the playing field/surface before and after a game as per the Managers and Coaches Application & Agreement. This is to include, but not be limited to:
1. Raking the infield after every game.
 2. Chalking the field, only as necessary. Outfield foul lines should only be chalked the first game on the weekend and, only if necessary during weekday play.
 3. Infields should be sprayed with water to control dust and to provide a softer playing surface at any time deemed necessary.
- B. Dugouts and spectator stands/areas are to be policed at the conclusion of each game for trash & debris. Trash containers will be made available in the general area for use by all. It is suggested that the managers enlist the help of their parents to assist with trash & debris pickup and disposal.
- C. Managers and coaches are required to attend a minimum of two scheduled workdays during the season. Work days will be scheduled in advance and all managers and coaches noticed promptly.
- D. Team Managers are responsible for obtaining their respective team's concession stand duty schedule and are required to have (4) adult team volunteers covering their respective team's schedule concession stand duty at a time. If a team fails to provide adequate coverage for duty, or fails to show for duty at all, the team's next scheduled game will be canceled and deemed a forfeit. A concession stand schedule is posted at the Concession Stand, on the League's bulletin board and on the League's official website.

