

East Valley Baseball

RULES AND REGULATIONS

9/1/2016

Farm AA & AAA

After these EVBB Rules & Regulations, refer to the current... "Triumph Books – Official Rules of Major League Baseball"

SECTION 3 - Rules and regulations applying to <u>ALL</u> divisions.

<u> 3.0 - Players</u>

3.0.0 – Score cards will be filled out for Rookie and above divisions with Players First and Last name, number, and batting order and submitted to the umpire (Rookie - Major).

3.0.1 - A game may not begin or continue with fewer than...

T-Ball – **N/A**

Rookie – **six (6) players**

Farm, Minor & Major – eight (8) players

A coach who is not able to field a team of players at game time shall be given a ten-minute grace period to field his team. If he is unable to do so, the umpire or league representative shall declare a forfeit.

3.0.2 - If, due to an ejection, a team is reduced to less than the number of above players, and the coach is unable to field the number of above players from his/her current East Valley Roster, the umpire shall declare a forfeit.

3.0.3 - An injured player may not re-enter a game from which he was removed due to injury under any circumstances.

3.0.4 - An ejected player may not re-enter a game from which he was ejected under any circumstances.

3.0.5 - An ejected player who is serving his one game suspension may not enter that game under any circumstances.

3.0.6 – A batting order (line-up) will be established before the start of the game. The line-up will include the players first and last name and the player's jersey number. The line-up is to provide a reference to maintain the batting order. If a name was misspelled or a number was incorrectly submitted on the line-up card, it shall be corrected when noticed and the game shall continue. Clarification: the actual player (person) in the line-up shall be the proper batter. There will be no penalty for wearing an incorrect jersey or inadvertently submitting the wrong number.

3.0.6.1 – An "umpire" card with the above information will be submitted to the umpire before the start of the game. This card will be the official line-up of the game. **3.0.7** – Due to the competitive nature of baseball and for safety concerns, the coaches of each individual team will decide what players play in game situations and where they will play.

3.0.7.1 – Tball, Rookie A(Y), and Rookie A(O) divisions will play all players on offense and defense. These are the only divisions that do not have players "sitting on the bench."

3.1 - Equipment

3.1.0 – Bats – Any bat used must be a manufactured bat that includes usage specifications. The maximum diameter shall not exceed two and three fourths (2 3/4) inches and the maximum length shall not exceed thirty-six (36) inches. The bat shall be constructed of wood, aluminum, or any other material or combination of materials unless such materials or combinations of materials are specifically disapproved by EVBB. Such disapproval shall be the sole discretion of EVBB and may be made without notice. Any material to improve the grip may be used for a distance not to exceed eighteen (18) inches from the handle end. Any such material or substance, which extends past the eighteen (18) inch limitation, shall cause the bat to be removed from the game.

3.1.0.1 - All bats that exceed the 1.15 BPF (Bat Performance Factor) as defined for baseball bats by ASTM Standards, may be disapproved by EVBB at the Rookie level. Such disapproval shall be the sole discretion of the League President or EVBB Board members and may be made without notice.

3.1.0.2 – Bats with the words **"Coach Pitch"** are mostly designed for use with R.I.F. balls, which are not used in the Coach Pitch division, and will **NOT** be allowed to be used in EVBB **UNLESS** it has one or more of the following:

1. "Approved for play in Little League, Babe Ruth Baseball, Dixie Baseball, Pony Baseball, AABC"

2. If it is an official bat of Major League Baseball and has the MLB logo on it,

3. Says "Official Baseball" on it,

4. It has the BPF of 1.15 or less on it.

3.1.1 – Cleats - **NO** metal cleats in T-Ball, Rookie, Farm, and Minor divisions.

3.1.1.0 – Metal cleats are allowed in all of the Major divisions

3.1.1.0 – **NO metal cleats** are allowed on the portable pitching mounds in any division.

3.1.2 – Catchers Gear - A throat guard must be used on all catchers' masks. The extended part of a hockey-style mask shall be considered a throat guard.

3.1.2.0 - The skullcap type catcher's helmets used with a mask are not permitted.

3.1.2.1 - Catchers are **required** to wear an approved mask with proper head protection, a chest protector, shin guards, a protective athletic supporter and cup.

3.1.2.2 - A player may not warm up a pitcher without an approved mask with proper head protection, a protective athletic supporter and cup.

<u> 3.2 - Fields</u>

3.2.0 - Dimensions

3.2.0.0 - T-Ball – 50' base path

3.2.0.1 – Rookie - 27.5' min. pitching distance/60' bases

3.2.0.2 – Farm A – 44' pitching mound/60' bases

3.2.0.3 – Farm AA – 46' pitching mound/65' bases

3.2.0.3 – Farm AAA – 46' pitching mound/65' bases

3.2.0.4 – Minor A - 50' pitching mound/70' bases

3.2.0.5 – Minor AA - 50' pitching mound/70' bases

3.2.0.6 – Minor AAA - 50' pitching mound/70' bases

3.2.0.7 – Major A – 50' pitching mound/70' bases

3.2.0.8 – Major AA – 54' pitching mound/80' bases

3.2.0.9 – Major AAA – 60' 6" pitching mound/90' bases

3.2.1 – The third base side/dugout shall be designated as the HOME team dugout. The first base side/dugout shall be designated as the VISITOR dugout. If a team is playing a *doubleheader* on the same field, they may elect to stay in the same dugout for the second game.

3.2.2 - The **HOME** team is responsible for putting away field equipment after the last game. This includes the portable mound (upper divisions) or cones (rookie divisions) and bases. Equipment goes to the storage container behind field 1 if your games are at Espee Park. If your games are at Pima Park, use the mound transport (if there is a mound) pick up the bases and put the equipment in the container located on the far end of the water tower wall. Both teams are responsible for picking up the trash in their dugout!

<u> 3.5 - Games</u>

3.5.0 - A game shall be ruled as official and complete if it is called by an umpire due to rain, inclement weather, lighting limitations, lighting failures or other reasons beyond their control, provided at least half the game has been played.

If the game is less than half complete, it shall be suspended or cancelled and may begin again from that point when safe play can be resumed.

3.5.1 – Any scheduled game that cannot be played due to rain, inclement weather, lighting limitations, lighting failures or other reasons beyond their control will try to be rescheduled. If the game cannot be rescheduled, the game will dissolve and the team standings will be based on the winning percentage as calculated by wins, losses, and ties.

3.5.2 – Any protests of a game must be made within 24 hours and submitted in writing to a league official not more than seven days after the game. To protest a game, a rule, a situation, etc. the protesting manager must submit a signed letter including the protest in detail, what should have resulted and a \$250 cash deposit at which time a protest board will be assigned including four peer coaches not in the protesting manager's division and at least one league official and the league President. If the results rule in favor of the protesting manager, the \$250 deposit will be returned and the results will be changed. If the results do not rule in favor of the protesting manager, the league account.

3.5.4 - No players shall be allowed in the doorway of any dugout during game play.

3.5.4.0 – If there are dugout gates, please keep them closed for safety reasons.

3.5.5 - No glass containers shall be allowed in the dugout or on the field.

3.5.6 - Teams are expected to clean their dugout and the stands before they exit the park.

3.5.7 - The use of drugs, alcohol and tobacco products are strictly forbidden during games played under the East Valley Baseball charter. This includes all fans observing the game as well.

3.5.8 - Any manager, coach or parent ejected from a game must leave the park immediately unless he/she is the only parent attending while his/her son/daughter is playing. In that event, he/she must stay in the parking lot until the game is over. **That manager, coach or**

parent may be suspended from participating and/or attending the team's next game. Any manager, coach, or parent ejected from a 2nd game of a season may be suspended 3 additional games. Any manager, coach, or parent ejected from 3 games may be banned from the league.

3.5.9 - Any player ejected from a game must either leave the park with their parents, or remove their game jersey and sit with their parents in the stands. That player shall be suspended from participating and/or attending the team's next game.

3.5.10 - Any threats of any kind to an umpire or league official will be grounds for immediately calling the police and a banning from the league for the rest of the season. **This applies to managers, coaches, players, parents, relatives and fans.**

3.5.11 - **Any physical contact** (e.g. pushing, shoving, wrestling, kicking or punching) from a player, manager, coach, parent, relative, fan, etc., with the intent to harm, threaten, bully, etc., another person, shall be grounds for **immediate and indefinite suspension and a possible banning from the league for life.** This includes activities before, during, and after the game while representing the East Valley Baseball League.

3.5.12 - No razzing, heckling, chanting or making disparaging remarks of any kind are allowed. This applies to managers, coaches, players, parents, relatives and fans.

3.5.13 – Games shall only be played with players on the original roster as of 'opening day' of the season with current player applications on file with the league. There shall be no illegal substitutions or "pick-up" players playing with the team, on the field, or in the dugout. This will result in a forfeit of the game and the coach will incur a 2 game suspension.

SECTION 4 - Individual Players / Team Players / Club Teams

4.0 – An individual player is a player that registered as an individual, unattached to any team. The league will either have a try-out and a draft or the individual player will be placed on a team at the leagues discretion.

4.1 – A "club team" is a team that registers as a complete team. The club team registration fee is based on a 12 player roster. However, the team roster is NOT required to have "12" players on the roster. They must however have enough to field a team. The fee is a pre-determined cost based on when the club team registers. This cost does not include uniforms or any kind of uniform rebate.

4.1.1 – The 'per player amount' is the total paid at registration divided by 12.

4.1.2 – If a club team who has registered with the league, acquires a league player who has already registered and paid the league as an individual player, the league will 'credit' the club team based on the 'per player amount.'

4.1.2.1 – The league will credit the club team a pre-determined league uniform allowance in addition to the 'per player amount' from the acquired player's registration payment.

4.1.2.2 – The league has a no-refund policy and the acquired player will forfeit any amount over the credited amount they already paid with their registration. This amount will be applied to the general non-profit fund and administrative costs of the league.

4.2 – Players may be added to a club team roster before their first game of the current season. After the start of the season, additional players may be added for a \$50 administrative fee for the first add and \$100 for the second add. This may only happen twice per season and must happen before the teams' seventh (7th) game. Exceptions may be made if a team does not have the minimum number of players to take the field.

4.2.1 – Any players being released from a team roster may not return to the team's roster for that season.

4.3 – Players may only play on one East Valley Baseball team during a season.

SECTION 5 - Description of divisions

5.0 – Each division will have the age cut-off date for the current season under the specific division description.

- **5.1** Divisions and ages
 - **5.1.0** The T-ball division shall consist of 3, 4 and 5 year olds.
 - **5.1.1** The Advanced T-ball division shall consist of 4 and 5 year olds.
 - 5.1.2 The Rookie division shall consist of 5-7 year olds. (This division is intended for players and teams just moving into coach pitch from T-ball. There are 2 age divisions 5-6 yr. olds (A) and 6-7 yr. olds (A).
 - 5.1.3 The Rookie AA division shall consist of players under 7 years old. (This division is intended for advanced players and teams with 1 or more seasons experience in coach pitch and still meet the age requirements.)
 - **5.1.4** The Rookie/Farm division shall consist of players under 8 years old. (This division is intended for players and teams transitioning into kid pitch from coach pitch.)
 - 5.1.5 The Farm division shall consist of players under 9 years old. (This division is intended for players and teams moving into `kid pitch only' from Rookie or Rookie/Farm.)
 - **5.1.6** The Farm AA & AAA division shall consist of players under 10 years old. (This division is intended for players and teams with 1 or more seasons experience in kid pitch and still meet the age requirements.)
 - 5.1.7 The Minor A division shall consist of players under years old 11
 - 5.1.8 The Minor AA & Minor AAA divisions shall consist of players under 12 years old.
 - **5.1.9** The Major A division shall consist of players under 13 years old.
 - **5.1.10** The Major AA division shall consist of players under 14 years old.
 - **5.1.11** The Major AAA division shall consist of players under 16 years old.

SECTION 12 – Farm AA & AAA Division Rules

<u> 12.0 - Games</u>

12.0.0 – Players – age 9-10

12.0.0.1 – Farm AA & AAA Players shall not turn 11 years old before Nov. 1st of the current year.

12.0.0.2 – Age verification will be done via birth certificate.

12.0.0 - Seasons

12.0.0.0 – 10-14 game Spring season (Mar-June)

12.0.0.1 – 10-14 game Fall season (Sept-Dec)

12.0.1 - Teams shall play 1-3 five-inning games per week

12.0.2 - A lineup card shall be submitted prior to the start of every game.

12.0.3 - Score will be kept.

12.0.4 - Home team will be the official scorekeeper unless the umpire over rules any issues.

12.0.5 - 12 run rule after 3 innings. 10 run rule after 4 innings.

12.0.6 – An offensive coach may choose to concede at any time.

12.0.7 – A maximum of four adult coaches may be used during games.

12.0.7.1 – Additional coaches may not be on the field or in the dugout.

12.0.8 - Adult base coaches must be used on offense.

12.0.8.1 – Coaches under 18 must wear a helmet on the field.

12.0.9 – Five innings shall be played time permitting. There is a **1 hour 45-minute** time limit on all games. If the game is incomplete after 1 hour 45 minutes, the current inning will be played out and no new inning will begin. Please keep the games moving along. If after your allotted innings the game is tied, you can play additional innings if time permits to break the tie. If time is running out or you are over the time allotment, the tie will stand.

12.0.10 - 5 warm-up pitches shall be allowed between innings (maximum of 90 seconds.) The umpire shall monitor warm-up pitches and time.

12.0.10.1 – A coach meeting with the pitcher during warm-ups will constitute a coaches visit.

12.0.11 - The following are options for batting roster lineup. This must be decided at the <u>beginning</u> of the game:

Option 1: Teams may elect to bat 9 players

Option 2: Teams may bat ten (10) players, 10th player EH (Extra Hitter)

See rule 12.0.12

Option 3: Teams may elect to bat their entire roster.

Option 3 allows teams to switch defensive players in and out as they wish (free defensive substitution). If a player is unable to play due to an injury or illness the vacancy shall be recorded as an out the 1st time, after that, the roster shall collapse to accommodate the missing player. If a player is ejected, the vacancy shall be recorded as an out every time that spot comes up to bat. **12.0.12** - A team may use an EH (Extra Hitter) in the lineup if declared at the start of the game. If a team elects to start the game using an EH, the team must use a 10 player lineup throughout the game. If, due to an injury, there are no more eligible subs on the bench, the opposing manager shall select a player of his choice from the bench to take the injured player's place in the batting order. If, due to an injury, the team is reduced to 9 players, an out shall be recorded only the first time the injured player was scheduled to bat. If, due to an ejection, the team is reduced to 9 players, an out shall be recorded each time the ejected player was scheduled to bat. **12.0.13** - Starting players may be removed and re-enter the game one time in their original batting order.

12.0.14 - Substitutes may enter the game at any time. Once removed, they may not re-enter the game.

12.0.15 - If, due to an injury or ejection, there are no more eligible subs on the bench, the opposing manager shall select a player of his choice from the bench to take the injured or ejected player's place in the batting order.

12.0.16 - A ball shall be considered fair and in play if it hits any portion of the outfield fence and bounces back in. The yellow line designates the top of the fence only. A home run is any ball that goes over the fence or hits the yellow foul pole.

12.1 - Rosters

12.1.0 – An official roster must be on record with the league.

12.1.1 – Only players on the official roster may play in a game.

12.1.2 - The coach may recruit his entire roster.

12.2 - Runners

12.2 - Leadoff's are allowed.

12.2.0 - If a defensive player, including the pitcher, should make a throw to any base in a pick-off effort, runners may advance at their own risk.

12.2.1 - Players advancing to second base with intent to break up a double play must slide into the bag. All calls regarding rough play, sliding into the defender versus the bag, etc., shall be a judgment call by the official.

12.2.2 – Head first slides are only recommended for returning to a base.

12.2.2 - Fake tags will be considered an obstruction. Officials will award the runner extra bases per their judgment.

12.2.3 - Courtesy runners may be used for the catcher and pitcher with the following stipulations... 12.2.3.0 – The catcher or pitcher reaches base.

12.2.3.1 - The same runner may not be used in the same inning to run for both catcher and pitcher.

12.2.3.2 - The runner used is currently not in the game.

12.2.3.3 – If you are not batting your entire line-up, the 9 (or 10) batters in the line-up cannot be used as the courtesy runner. You must use the subs.

12.2.3.3 – If you are batting your entire lineup or there are no available players on the bench to run, the player making the last batted out may be used as the courtesy runner. **12.2.4** - Collision Rule: If a defensive player has the ball in hand ready to make a tag, the offensive player must apply one of the following...

12.2.4.1 Proper slide going in. (Judgment call by the umpire)

12.2.4.2 Go around. (Judgment call by the umpire)

12.2.4.3 Give up.

12.2.4.4 Go back

-If the offensive player does not apply one of the above (i.e. collides, tackles, punches etc.) the player may be ejected from the game. (Judgment call by the umpire)

-If the offensive player does not attempt a proper slide (i.e. attempts to jump over, front flip over, or any other acrobatic move, over the catcher to avoid the tag) the runner may be called out. (Judgment call by the umpire)

12.3 - Batters

12.3.0 - A batter may attempt to advance on an uncaught third strike ("dropped 3rd strike")

12.4 - Pitchers

12.4.0 – A pitcher may not exceed the recommended amount of pitches in any game. Both teams shall keep track of pitch count. Home team has the "official" count unless the umpire decides otherwise.

12.4.0.1 - Managers are expected to refrain from overextending a pitcher's arm.

12.4.0.2 – Farm AA Division 60 pitches (includes foul balls.)

12.4.0.2 – Farm AAA Division 65 pitches (includes foul balls.)

12.4.0.3 – A pitcher may finish pitching to the current batter.

12.4.1 - A pitcher must be removed from the mound upon a second visit in the same inning.

12.4.1.1 - Coaching Visits shall not exceed one minute.

12.4.2 - A starting pitcher may be moved to another position (except EH) and return to the mound <u>one time</u> provided;

12.4.2.0 - The starting pitcher has not been replaced by a sub.

12.4.2.1 - The new pitcher has faced at least one batter.

12.4.2.2 - Such a move occurs prior to the second visit of any inning.

12.4.3 - A sub may pinch-hit for the pitcher once in a game and the pitcher may retake the mound. The pinch-hitter is then ineligible for participation in the remainder of the game.
12.4.4 - If a new pitcher is brought in due to an injury of the original pitcher, the new pitcher shall be awarded a maximum of three minutes to warm up. The game clock shall stop during this time.

12.4.5 – **Balks shall be enforced after 1**_{st} warning. When a balk is called it shall be an immediate "dead ball." Each Pitcher shall receive one balk warning.

12.4.5.1 - After the warning, the umpire may elect to visit the mound and explain the balk to the pitcher. This is a meeting between the umpire and the pitcher.

12.4.5.2 - If the coach elects to visit the mound it will constitute a coaching visit. If it is the second visit in the inning the pitcher must be removed from the mound.

12.4.5.3 - Third-to-first fake pickoff is now officially a balk.

12.4.6 – Intentional walks must be communicated to the umpire. The umpire may put the batter on first base. Four pitches <u>do not</u> need to be thrown.

SECTION 15 – Umpires

15.0.1 - The league president shall supply appropriate umpires to officiate league games as needed. The umpires shall be responsible for the conduct of the game in accordance with these official rules and for maintaining discipline and order on the playing field during the game.
15.0.1.1 – If an umpire has not arrived by game time, a league representative should be notified. The game clock starts at the discretion of the umpire or league official if an umpire is not present. The game may get started without an official umpire.

15.0.2 - Each umpire is a representative of the league and of professional baseball, and is authorized and required to enforce all of these rules. Each umpire has authority to order a player, coach, manager, or fan(s) to do or refrain from doing anything which affects the administering of these rules or the game being played, and to enforce the prescribed penalties.

15.0.3 - Each umpire has authority to rule on any point not specifically covered in these rules. **15.0.4** - Each umpire has authority to disqualify any player, coach, manager or substitute for objecting to decisions or for unsportsmanlike conduct or language, and to eject such disqualified person from the playing field. If an umpire disqualifies a player while a play is in progress, the disqualification shall not take effect until no further action is possible in that play.

15.0.5 - Each umpire has authority at their discretion to eject from the playing field any spectator or other person not authorized to be on the playing field.

15.0.6 – Umpires Decisions

15.0.6.1 – Any umpire's decision which involves judgment, such as, but not limited to, whether a batted ball is fair or foul, whether a pitch is a strike or a ball, or whether a runner is safe or out, is final. No player, manager, coach or substitute shall object to any such judgment decisions. *15.0.6.2 Comment: Players leaving their position (in the field or on base,) or managers or coaches leaving the bench or coaches box, to argue on BALLS AND STRIKES will not be permitted. They should be warned if they start for the plate to protest the call. If they continue, they may be ejected from the game.*

15.0.6.2 – If there is reasonable doubt that any umpire's decision may be in conflict with the rules, the manager may appeal the decision and ask that a correct ruling be made. Such appeal shall be made only to the umpire who made the protested decision.

15.0.6.3 – If a decision is appealed, the umpire making the decision may ask another umpire for information or a league representative before making a final decision. No umpire shall criticize, seek to reverse or interfere with another umpire's decision unless asked to do so by the umpire making it.

15.0.6.4 Comment: The manager or the catcher may request the plate umpire to ask his partner (if there are 2 umpires) for help on a half swing when the plate umpire calls the pitch a ball, but not when the pitch is called a strike. The manager may not complain that the umpire made an improper call, but only that he did not ask his partner for help. Field umpires must be alerted to the request from the plate umpire and quickly respond. Managers may not protest the call of a ball or strike on the pretense they are asking for information about a half swing. Appeals on a half swing may be made only on the call of ball and when asked to appeal, the home plate umpire must refer to a base umpire for his judgment on the half swing. Should the base umpire call the pitch a strike, the strike call shall prevail. Baserunners must be alert to the possibility that the base umpire on appeal from the plate umpire may reverse the call of a ball to the call of a strike, in which event the runner is in jeopardy of being out by the catcher's throw. Also, a catcher must be alert in a base stealing situation if a ball call is reversed to a strike by the base umpire upon appeal from the plate umpire. The ball is in play on appeal on a half swing. On a half swing, if the manager comes out to argue with first or third base umpire and if after being warned he persists in arguing, he may be ejected as he is now arguing over a called ball or strike.

15.0.6.5 – No umpire may be replaced during a game unless he is injured, becomes ill, or for reasons approved by the league president.

15.0.7 – Umpire-in-Chief

15.0.7.1 – If there is only one umpire, he/she shall have complete jurisdiction in administering the rules. He/She may take any position on the playing field which will enable him/her to discharge his/her duties (usually behind the catcher, but sometimes behind the pitcher if there are runners). **15.0.7.2 –** If there are two or more umpires, one shall be designated umpire-in-chief (Plate) and the other, field umpire (Bases.)

15.0.8 – Umpire Duties

15.0.8.1 – The umpire-in-chief shall stand behind the catcher. (usually called the "Plate" umpire.) Duties shall be to:

(1) Take full charge of, and be responsible for, the proper conduct of the game;

(2) Call and count balls and strikes;

(3) Call and declare fair balls and fouls except those commonly called by field umpires;

(4) Make all decisions on the batter;

(5) Make all decisions except those commonly reserved for the field umpires;

(6) Decide when a game shall be forfeited;

(7) If a time limit has been set, announce the fact and the time set before the game starts;

(8) Inform the official scorer of the official batting order, and any changes in the lineups and batting order, on request;

(9) Announce any special ground rules, at their discretion.

15.0.8.2 – Field umpires may take any position on the playing field they think best suited to make impending decisions on the bases.

Duties shall be to:

(1) Make all decisions on the bases except those specifically reserved to the umpire-in-chief;

(2) Take concurrent jurisdiction with the umpire-in-chief in calling "Time," balks, illegal pitches, or defacement of the ball by any player.

(3) Aid the umpire-in-chief in every manner in enforcing the rules, and excepting the power to forfeit the game, shall have equal authority with the umpire-in-chief in administering and enforcing the rules and maintaining discipline.

15.0.9 - Reprimands

15.0.9.1 - The umpire shall report to the league representative after the end of a game all violations of rules and other incidents worthy of comment, including the disqualification of any manager, coach or player, and the reasons therefore.

15.0.9.2 - When any manager, coach or player is disqualified for a flagrant offense such as the use of obscene or indecent language, or an assault upon an umpire, manager, coach or player, the umpire shall inform a league representative of all particulars after the end of the game.

15.0.9.3 - After receiving the umpire's report that a manager, coach or player has been disqualified, the league representative shall notify the league president who shall impose such penalty as he deems justified, and shall notify the person penalized and the manager of the team of which the penalized person is a member.