



Yorktown JAA: A Baseball Rules (2018)



- All rules are for Regular Season and Tournament unless specifically noted
- Field Set-Up
 - 60' bases
 - Chalk line at 30' for coach to pitch from
 - Chalk line at 46' for fielding pitcher to stand. 16' diameter circle around the 46' chalk line.
 - Chalk lines ½ way between 1st and 2nd base, 2nd and 3rd base, and 3rd and home plate.
- 5 Inning Games
 - Game time begins on the 1st pitch (and is announced by the umpire)
 - No new inning starts after 1 hour and 15 minutes* (regular season)
 - Time limit for tournament play is 1 hour and 30 minutes, with no limit for a championship game.
 - Ties are permitted in the regular season (not in the tournament)
 - 6 run max limit per inning, for every inning. Last inning is NOT an unlimited inning.
 - Game run rule will be: 13 runs after 3 innings and 7 runs after 4 innings.
- Maximum of 10 players in the field (4 outfielders who MUST be in the outfield grass, 3 outfielders if playing with 9 players)
 - 3 coaches allowed in the field
 - Each player shall play at least 2 innings in the infield per game.
 - No player may play more than 3 consecutive innings at the same position.
 - A player may not defensively sit the bench more than 1 inning until every player has sat out.

* Once the 3rd out of a half inning is made the next inning officially begins.



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- Maximum of 2 minutes in between innings.
 - No infield balls are to be used after the first inning.
 - Courtesy runner for catcher should be used with 2 outs (the last batter/runner that was put out shall be the runner). Please prepare your catcher for the next inning by selecting a player who has a lesser chance of batting in that inning.
 - Penalties for starting the half inning after the 2 minutes will be enforced by the umpire
 - Fielding team not ready – umpire warning at 2 minutes. At 2 minutes and 15 seconds, the hitting team will have **their maximum number of runs increased by 1**. (*Note: no balls are called against the fielding team since there is a 3 strike / 5 pitch limit and balls are not counted*).
 - Batting team not ready – **STRIKE 1**. For each additional 10 seconds, another strike will be called by umpire.

- All innings will be coaches pitch.

- Coaches Pitch Rules:
 - The Coach/pitcher will pitch to their own team from a kneeling or standing position, 30 feet from the back corner of home plate, in a straight line between home plate and second base. This distance should be marked with a chalk line. At least one of the coaches' (pitchers') feet must remain in contact with the chalk line the entire time they are making and delivering the pitch.
 - During all at bats, the fielding player playing the pitcher position must wear a batting helmet with a face mask and must be within a reasonable distance of 46' traditional pitcher's mound/rubber. This player/pitcher may not pitch in front of the coach/pitcher. Player/pitcher must be behind



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coach and in a line of view of the hitter. Explanation: Is it understood that the player in this position needs to be able to see the hitter. He should also be in the near vicinity of the 46' pitching rubber or where the mound would exist if it were on the field. This is safe distance from the hitter and generally, where a pitcher "would be" after delivering a pitch to the hitter, if it were kid pitch. Player may not play as an additional shortstop or 2nd baseman. That is an unreasonable distance from traditional 46' pitching rubber. Reasonable distance from the 46' pitching rubber means that he can see the hitter and is safe distance from the hitter. Therefore, coach/pitcher will be at 30' mark, player should be at or near 46' feet mark, reasonably right or left of coach to be able to see the hitter.

- 3 strikes or 6 pitches (which ever comes first). An at-bat can continue after the 6th pitch by fouling the ball off as if there are 2 strikes.
- No intentional bunting is allowed in Single A baseball. A check swing is not a bunt.
- Batted ball that hits the coach/pitcher will be a "dead ball" and will be replayed
- All players bat in the same order as the start the game, no matter if they play defensively or not.
- Baserunning
 - The fielding team may stop the lead runner by either
 - Getting the ball to the pitcher (in the 16' diameter circle). Lead and trailing runners must be at least half way to the next base when the ball is in to the pitcher in order to advance to the next base. Half way is marked with a line in the base paths.
 - By stopping the lead runner with the ball.
 - To encourage players to make a "baseball play, No bases may be taken on an overthrow. Each fielding player should be encouraged to make



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a “baseball play” and throw to first base or another base as appropriate.

- For any batted ball that reaches the outfield, the hitter and all baserunners may continue to running the bases up until the point where the outfielder has run the ball or thrown the ball back into the infield dirt. Runners who are in the process of running to the next base and have crossed the ½ way chalk line (but have not yet reached that base) when the outfielder gets the ball into the infield dirt, may advance to that next base, but no further.
 - No infield fly rule will be enforced
 - No dropped 3rd strike will be enforced
 - Baserunners must stay in contact with base until ball is hit
- If a player arrives after the first pitch of the game:
 - The player must be placed at the bottom of the batting order
 - The player must still play not sit more than one inning defensively before every player has sat out
 - Coaching, Team, Safety, Equipment, and Other Rules
 - When team is hitting, two base coaches as well as the coach pitching is appropriate.
 - When team is fielding, two coaches out in the field and one coach helping behind the catcher is appropriate.
 - Coaches may NOT argue any judgment calls. Arguing balls/strikes or safe/out calls is grounds for expulsion. If a coach is expelled from a game, they must not be present at the game site and they will not be allowed to coach the following game as well. Appeals for expulsion may be made by appearing before the Board of Directors.



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- Only coaches and assistant coaches may speak to umpires and the subject matter should be rules clarifications
- Umpires decisions are final. No game protests are allowed.
- During the regular season, teams can start the game with any number of players that are determined to be “safe and reasonable” by the two coaches and will not be subject to a forfeit or registering an automatic out when missing players come to bat.
- During the tournament, teams must field 8 players in order to begin play. Teams playing with less than 9 players will register an out when the missing 9th player comes to bat.
- Illegal Bats:
 - The penalty for use of a bat deemed illegal by the Little League Rules will be a forfeit of the game. The remainder of the game will be resumed as a practice game. Keep in mind that Little League Baseball aims to keep the players SAFE
 - The penalty will be enforced if the use of an illegal bat is contested during the hitter’s at-bat. (Defined as anytime before the first pitch to the next batter).
 - If an appeal is made to the umpire, proof must be shown that the bat is legal, based on information provided from Little League.
 - To prevent problems, the board recommends that before the game a coach checks the bats that will be used. (It is crucial that coaches communicate with parents if new bats are purchased, they should present the bat to the coach before use in JAA games). Questions and help regarding the approval of a bat can be directed to the JAA board



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- No swinging of bats is permitted outside of the field of play, unless it is within the JAA batting cages or within the close vicinity of the batting cages. Swinging of bats within the field of play is permitted only as a hitter is taking his turn at bat with practice swings near the batters box or during the actual at-bat itself. (There is no on-deck circle in Little League). This includes no swinging inside the bullpens.
- All hitters must wear batting helmets with face masks.
- Each team shall keep a scorebook. Game control forms must be signed by each coach, signed by the umpire, and filed in the appropriate folder inside the maintenance building following the game.
- The rules outlined in this document are JAA rules. All other rules are governed by the rules and regulations outlined in the Little League Baseball and Softball handbook.
- Housekeeping Items:
 - Home team per the schedule shall take the 1st base dugout unless both teams agree otherwise.
 - Visiting team per the schedule shall take the 3rd base dugout unless both teams agree otherwise.
 - Home team must provide one parent volunteer to operate the scoreboard
 - Visiting team is responsible for turning in league score sheet at the conclusion of the game.
 - **Both** teams are responsible to sweep their dugouts and empty trash cans after their game. If last game of the night, also place bases and any J.A.A equipment back in the building.