



EASTERN MAINE FALL BASEBALL LEAGUE

2020 RULES

PRESENTED BY : OLD TOWN RECREATION CENTER

Eastern Maine Fall Baseball League

Presented By Old Town Recreation Center

Official Rules

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Points of Emphasis for the Fall League

1. Game Limits – Time limits will take precedence over all game situations. Review rules #3 for exact rules on game limits.
2. Pitching Rules – In this fall league pitchers will be monitored on a pitch count for the day. Review Rule #7 for pitching rules.
3. During the course of the season, the league will identify top teams and lower teams. If necessary for playoffs we will break into 2 divisions.

\*\*\*The following rules, supplemented by Major League Baseball rules, shall govern play and conduct at all OTREC fall baseball games.

**Rule 1. Sportsmanship**

- A.) Sportsmanship shall be a top priority. Good sportsmanship shall be observed by ALL coaches, players, parents, and spectators. The umpires and staff will have complete authority to enforce good sportsmanship.

- B.) Head coaches will be responsible for the conduct of their assistant coaches, players, and fans.
- C.) There will be a **ZERO** tolerance policy for swearing by all players, coaches, and fans.
- D.) Chatter or chanting of any kind must be positive in nature and may not be directed towards opposing individuals or team.
- E.) If a player throws a bat in the dugout, or throws equipment they will be given 1 warning. Should it occur a second time that player will be ejected from the game. And out will not be called and any action that may have occurred will not be affected by the ejection.
- F.) Only Coaches and Players may occupy the dugout.
- G.) Tobacco and alcohol are not allowed on the premises.
- H.) The host site will designate which dugout belongs to which team.

**Rule 2. Interaction with Umpires**

- A.) Coaches are encouraged to speak with the umpire between the innings for rule clarifications. If a discussion with an umpire is necessary regarding a rule clarification a coach should ask for time, and ask in a professional manner.
- B.) The batting team is allowed two coaches on the field. All other coaches must remain inside the dugout.
- C.) Harassment of any umpire will result in immediate ejection.

**Rule 3. Game Limits**

**Fall Baseball League Time Limits**

<b>Time Limit</b>	<b>All Play Terminates</b>
<b>No New Inning after 1 hour 45 Minutes</b>	<b>All play terminates at 2 hours</b>

**Innings per Game / Run Limits**

<b>Max # of Innings</b>	<b>Max Runs Per Inning</b>
<b>(46/60) 8</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>(50/70) 8</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>(60/90 13-15yr) 8</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>(60/90 15-18yr) 8</b>	<b>6</b>

**All Games are set to be 6 inning Games. In the event the game is tied after 6 innings of play, if time allows an extra inning may be played. In the event time is allowed all extra innings will start with a runner on 2<sup>nd</sup> base. Your last recorded out.**

1. A new inning starts the instant the last out is made.
2. In case of rain, 4 innings will be considered a complete game.
3. Any game suspended because of weather will be restarted at the exact point it was suspended, with time and inning limits remaining.
4. If a game is decided before the final innings (i.e. 7 run lead with 1 inning to play or 13 run lead with 2 innings to play) teams may continue you playing unless you are running behind schedule.

**Rule 4. Batting Order**

- A. All players in attendance at the game will bat using a continuous batting order. Late arriving players or players in attendance for a suspended game, who were not at the original game, should be added to the end of the batting order.

#### **Rule 5. Substitutions**

- A. There will be free substitution.
- B. No player will sit out three consecutive innings. They can sit 2, play one and sit 2.
- C. Once an inning has begun not defensive changes may be made unless, it is a pitching change, or for an injury.
- D. If a pitcher is removed from a game mid inning from a bench player, one of the remaining 8 fielders may not be moved to the bench.
- E. Courtesy Runners will be allowed for the Catcher at any point. Courtesy runners can be anyone in your lineup. However if their spot comes up in the order and they remain on base they will be an out.
- F. If a runner on base is hurt, you can sub with another player to run. It must be your LAST RECORDED OUT.

#### **Rule 6. Conference with Batter**

- A. A Team may have a conference with a batter only once per inning.

#### **Rule 7. Pitching Rules**

- A. All players are allowed to pitch a maximum number of pitches per weekend.
  - a. 8-12 Years (85 Pitches can be split between games)
  - b. 13-15 years (95 Pitches can be split between games)
  - c. 15-18 years (105 pitches can be split between games)
    - i. If a pitcher reaches their limit they can finish out the at bat.
- B. Pitchers may re-enter the game one time as a pitcher but must be in a different inning.
- C. Any violation of the pitching rules will result in a one game suspension of the head coach. If there is a second violation of the pitching rule the head coach will be removed from his coaching duties.
- D. There will be NO intentional walks.
- E. A new pitcher entering the game will be given 6 warm up pitches. Pitchers will be given 1 minute to warm up between innings or 5 pitches. Coaches may warm up pitchers if catcher does not have gear on.
- F. Balks
  - a. All teams will be allowed 1 warning. After a warning each team will be assessed with the penalty.

#### **Rule 8. Infield Fly Rule**

- A. The Infield Fly Rule will be in effect.

### **Rule 9. Sliding & Obstruction**

- A. Whenever a tag play is evident, a runner must slide or seek to avoid contact with the field.
- B. If a play is not evident, obstruction will be called on a fielder that impedes the progress of a runner.
- C. Malicious contact shall supersede all obstruction penalties. The runner shall be called out and may be ejected from the game, per umpire discretion.

### **Rule 10. Stealing**

- A. (46/60) There will be no leadoffs before the pitcher throws the ball. The runner may not come off the base until the ball has reached the batter.
- B. 50/70 + 60/90 Standard rules will be applied.
- C. (46/60) NO Drop 3<sup>rd</sup> strike, 50/70+60/90 There will be drop 3<sup>rd</sup>.

### **Rule 11. Scorekeeping**

- A. The home team will be the official scorekeeper and also record the official scorebook.
- B. The official scorekeeper and must record the actual start time of the game.

### **Rule 12. Protest**

- A. Protests are not allowed in the league.

### **Rule 13. Ejections**

- A. Player
  - a. First Ejection – Suspended 1 Game
  - b. Second Ejection – Suspended Remainder of Season
- B. Coach
  - a. First Ejections – Suspended 1 Game
  - b. Second Ejection – Suspended Remainder of Season

### **Rule 14. Playing Field**

- A. Base Paths must be as follows: 60', 70', 90'
- B. Mound must be: 46', 50', 60'6"

### **Rule 15. Equipment/Uniforms**

- A. Plastic Molded Cleats for 46/60, 50/70. Metal Cleats allowed on 60/90.
- B. Wooden Bats and USA Bats only for 46/60, 50/70. Wooden and BBCOR only for 60/90.
- C. No Jewelry will be allowed.
- D. Team uniforms are required. Must have number on back.
- E. Each Team should supply their own game balls for each game due to Covid-19.
- F. EMFBL will provide balls for tournament play.

### **Rule 16. Forfeits**

- A. A team may play with 8 players. A forfeit will be called if a team only has 7.
- B. Game time is forfeit time. We will allow a game to start with 8 players.

### **Rule 17. General Rules**

- A. Three outs or 6 runs will constitute a half inning.
- B. In case of darkness or weather, 4 innings or 1 hour and 30 minutes of play will be considered a complete game.
- C. Score will be kept during games; standings during the season will decide seeds for playoffs.

### **Rule 18. Season**

- A. The season will consist of 10 Regular Season Games, 5 (Home Games) and 5 (Away Games).
- B. The season will start on the weekend of September 12, 2020.

### **Rule 19. Playoffs**

- A. Playoffs will be double elimination and begin at the conclusion of the regular season.
- B. Championship games will be WINNER TAKE ALL!

### **Umpiring**

The cost of umpires will be

46/60 – 50/70 Field: **\$35.00 per Game**

60/90 Field: **\$45 per Game**

For Playoffs EMFBL will cover the costs. We will try to have 2 umpires at all playoff games. Regular season will have 1 umpire.

Umpires during regular season will be paid for by the home team for that game. It is the host sites responsibility to secure umpires. If you cannot secure umpires please let us know asap so we can help.