

## OMGAA/BPBR PHILOSOPHY of ORGANIZATION

OMGAA exists for the purpose of teaching each child the fundamentals of the sport they are participating in, and to provide the framework for the wholesome participation at each child's playing ability.

- Having fun while learning and being treated with dignity is each child's right and each adult's responsibility.
- Coaches and parents shall stress sportsmanship, team spirit, and acquiring skills **more than winning**. In addition to learning the fundamentals, the child, parents and coaches should learn and remember how to lose graciously.
- Coaches shall employ appropriate language when dealing with impressionable youth. **Profanity** will not be tolerated by coaches or parents.



## THE SPORTSMAN'S CREED

- THE PLAYER:** I will live clean and play hard. I will play for the love of the game. I will win without boasting, lose without excuses, and never quit. I will respect officials and accept their decisions without question. I will never forget that I represent my team.
- THE COACH:** I will inspire in the players a love for the game and a desire to win. I will teach them that it is better to lose fairly than to win unfairly. I will lead players and spectators to respect officials by setting a good example. I will try to be the type of person that players want to become.
- THE PARENTS:** We will never boo a player, coach or official. We will appreciate a good play no matter who makes it. We know the team gets the blame or praise for their conduct, not just the individuals.
- THE OFFICIAL:** I know the rules. I will be fair and firm in all decisions. I will call them as I see them yet not be afraid to correct my own mistakes. I will treat players and coaches courteously and expect the same treatment in return. I know the game is for the players, and will let them have the spotlight.

## **CODE OF ETHICS**

OMGAA board members, coaches, assistant coaches, umpires, coordinators and volunteers will:

- Aspire and maintain personal conduct above ethical reproach.
- Maintain a commitment to the highest levels of personal and public integrity.

Unethical conduct or actions should be reported to the OMGAA board at 391-2627, and will be dealt with on an individual basis by the board. Unethical conduct or actions could include, but are not limited to:

- Any unlawful abusive act or acts against or directed toward a child or children.
- Actual or perceived conflicts of interest.
- Any unlawful act or acts against or directed toward or on behalf of OMGAA and/or OMGAA board members, coaches, assistant coaches, umpires, coordinators, and volunteers of OMGAA.

## **COACHES' RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **Coaches Certification**

A coach is responsible for the development and conduct of all players on the team. A coach's primary function is to teach skills and develop the players socially, psychologically, and physically. Coaches are accountable to the OMGAA Board of Directors and will follow the guidelines listed below:

1. Hold a parent/coach meeting prior to the first season game to explain the rules, goals, and objectives to the team.
2. Clearly state the expectations of the players and parents for the season.
3. Always be positive and use constructive criticism only!
4. Encourage team play and values rather than individual accomplishments.
5. Develop players to play a variety of positions within the player's physical and mental abilities.
6. Enforce all rules without prejudice toward any one player.
7. Maintain team discipline. These matters should be explained in full and be private between player, parent, and coach.
8. Support the OMGAA philosophy.
9. Conduct yourself as a role model for the players and the parents.

Any complaint as to a coach's behavior and/or coaching philosophy will be reviewed by a committee made up of the OMGAA Chairman, appropriate Baseball Director, and the League Coordinator for the age group involved; also the Umpire Coordinator if needed.

- This panel shall have final say as to what disciplinary action will be taken.
- Recourse to disciplinary action is to notify the appropriate Baseball Director the desire to appear before the board at the next regularly scheduled board meeting.

# GENERAL ASSOCIATION RULES

for

## Junior and Senior Baseball Leagues

High School Baseball Rules, as published by the National Federation of State High School Associations, will be utilized by OMGAA. Exceptions to this rulebook are identified specifically in the general rules and/or by the age group rules.

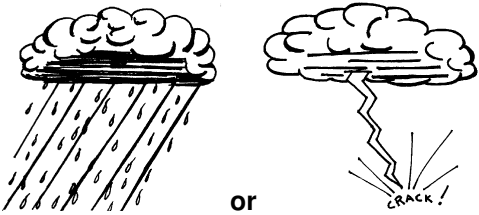
- Team play shall meet the following:
  1. A full roster batting order will be followed in all leagues. Lineups must be exchanged prior to the start of the game.
  2. Open substitution of defense will be allowed.
  3. All team members must play a minimum of three innings per game, except in the case of disciplinary action. Such cases must be communicated to the opposing coach prior to the start of the game.
- Failure of the team to field 7 eligible players within 5 minutes after the scheduled game time will result in a forfeit. The umpire's watch is to be considered the official time.
- Physical violence in any form, by participants, will not be tolerated.
- The use of weights, e.g. "donuts", is not allowed anywhere near the playing field.
- Home team must provide one (1) new baseball and Visiting team to provide one (1) ball in good condition to be used as game balls.
- The catcher, batter, base runners, and the on-deck batter must wear helmets.
- Any player warming up a pitcher must be wearing a **catcher's mask**. All catchers must wear a **protective cup**, which will be verified by the umpire at the start of each game and during changes.
- Only adults or coaches will be allowed to coach first and third bases.
- The home team is considered to be the official scorekeeper.
- It is the coach's responsibility to assure that all players' equipment is in proper condition. All players must wear full uniform, which includes: shirt, pants, hat, stirrups, and appropriate sport shoes.
- Coaches and players are not allowed directly behind the backstop during the game.



**GENERAL ASSOCIATION RULES**  
for  
**Junior and Senior Baseball Leagues**

**(Cont.)**

- In the interest of saving time during the change of sides between innings, the pitcher's warm-up throws must be completed within 90 seconds. It is the coach's responsibility to assure that the pitcher is properly warmed up.
- All infield/outfield practice must be completed 5 minutes before the game. Scheduling of the desired practice is the responsibility of the coaches. However, the umpire is responsible for enforcing the starting plan.
- Schedules will identify Home Teams for regular season games.
- Home team for tournament games will be determined by a coin toss.
- **No use of alcohol, tobacco or chewing tobacco products by players, fans or coaches will be allowed. Abuse is suspension from the game.**



In the event of inclement weather, the Park Board and the Baseball Coordinator will decide the status of the day's games. The status will be:

**All games are canceled**  
or  
**Game status will be determined at each field.**

This information will be available by calling 494-5959 or on our Web site [www.omgaa.org](http://www.omgaa.org) after 4:00 p.m. If the beginning of the game is to be determined at the field, it is the responsibility of the umpire to determine if the game is to begin and/or continue to be played. It is not the umpire's responsibility to assure that the field is in playing condition.

Games canceled by the Park Board will not be played, but will be rescheduled by the responsible Baseball Coordinator or appropriate League Director.

**Baseball Bat Chart**

Age	Junior/Senior Leagues	Junior Traveling	Senior Traveling
9 - 11	2 3/4 Dia. Max	2 3/4 Dia. Max	
12 - 13	No Limit	2 3/4 Dia. Max	
14-15	-5 Weight Diff.	2 3/4 Dia Max -5 Weight Diff	

# SENIOR BASEBALL LEAGUE RULES

for  
Twelve - Fifteen Year Olds

## ***American and National Leagues Common Rules***

- All games will be seven innings in length.
  - \* Games halted due to inclement weather will be considered regulation if five innings have been completed or four-and-one-half innings if the home team is leading.
  - \* If the game is not regulation, the umpire shall declare the contest “no game” and the League Director will attempt to reschedule the game at a future date. Rescheduled games start anew, that is as if the previous attempt had never taken place.
- A game will end after five innings when a team is 10 or more runs behind, and has completed its time at bat.
- Complete uniforms must be worn as issued by the Association. Players not wearing a complete uniform will not be allowed to play. Modifications (ie cutting off sleeves, pant legs, etc. are not allowed).

### ***Twelve - Thirteen Year Old National League***

- Base distance 75' with pitching distance 52' 0”.
- The –3 ounce bat rule will not be enforced.
- A pitcher can pitch seven innings per week. Any part of an inning constitutes a full inning.
- Runners can lead off bases.
- Curve balls are NOT permitted. The umpire will issue one warning to a pitcher throwing a curveball. If after a warning another curveball is thrown the pitch will be called a ball.
- Balks: Each pitcher will be allowed 1 warning per game for balks.
- **Metal cleats** are not allowed; soccer-type shoes with molded cleats are permitted.

### ***Twelve - Thirteen Year Old American League***

- Base distance 75' with pitching distance 52' 0”.
- The –3 ounce bat rule will not be enforced.
- A pitcher can pitch seven innings per week. Any part of an inning constitutes a full inning.
- Runners can lead off bases.
- Curve balls are NOT permitted. The umpire will issue one warning to a pitcher throwing a curveball. If after a warning another curveball is thrown the pitch will be called a ball.
- Balks: Each pitcher will be allowed 1 warning per game for balks.
- **Metal cleats** are not allowed; soccer-type shoes with molded cleats are permitted.

### ***Fourteen - Fifteen Year Old National League***

- Base distance 90' with pitching distance 60' 6”.
- Bats must be no more than 2-5/8” diameter and no more than –5 weight - length. (\*)
- A pitcher can pitch seven innings per week. Any part of an inning constitutes a full inning.
- Runners can lead off bases.
- Curve balls are permitted.
- Balks: Each pitcher will be allowed 1 warning per game for balks.
- **Metal cleats** are allowed.

### ***Fourteen - Fifteen Year Old American League***

- Base distance 90' with pitching distance 60' 6”.
- Bats must be no more than 2-5/8” diameter and no more than –5 weight - length. (\*)
- A pitcher can pitch seven innings per week. Any part of an inning constitutes a full inning.
- Runners can lead off bases.
- The possibility exists that games may be scheduled with neighboring community recreational league.
- Curve balls are permitted.
- **Metal cleats** are allowed.
- Balks: Each team will be allowed 1 warning per game for balks.

(\*) A player using an illegal bat will be ejected from the game and will not be allowed to play in the team's next game.

(\*\*) i.e. - for a 31-inch long bat may not weigh less than 26 ounces (26-31 = -5).

# BASEBALL RESOLUTION PROCEDURES FOR ALL AGE GROUPS

## **UMPIRE'S GOALS**

It will be the goal of every umpire to know the rules and be fair in all decisions. The umpire shall call them as he/she sees them and **NOT** be afraid to correct any mistakes in an effort to make the right call. Each umpire will treat all coaches, players and fans courteously with respect and expect the same. The game is for the players, and the umpires will do everything possible to let them have the spotlight, and keep the game as professional as possible.

## **QUESTIONABLE CALLS DURING THE GAME:**

- All calls by the game umpire shall be considered final. (NO EXCEPTIONS)!
- Any questions regarding a judgment call will **NOT** be subject for review! Any possible rule violations shall be directed in a professional manner to the umpire at the game. The coach must show in writing, via the High School Rule Book or approved OMGAA Special rules before the next play begins. Failure to do so will result in having the play stand.
- The Umpire will then review the rule and determine if a rule has been violated.
- ***No Coach will be allowed to have a call reversed. However, if he/she would like the situation reviewed for future games, the following procedure is required:***
  - \* After the game, the Coach should contact the appropriate League Coordinator and/or Umpire Coordinator for that age group.
  - \* The League Coordinator and Umpire Coordinator will review the situation with the Umpire involved and provide instruction to help in future games to avoid a similar controversy.



# BASEBALL RESOLUTION PROCEDURES FOR ALL AGE GROUPS



## GAME EJECTION

- Any coach, player or fan that must be removed from the game due to disruptive conduct will be suspended from the present game. The coach or fan will not be allowed to stay ***in the park***. If this rule is violated, then the current game will be considered forfeiture. **ANYONE EJECTED FROM A GAME WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO ATTEND THE TEAM'S NEXT GAME.**
- Any coach or player removed from 2 games during the season will NOT be allowed to participate in OMGAA Baseball for the remainder of the season without meeting with the OMGAA board. The board will then listen and consider reinstating them back into the league.
- All physical violence will result in immediate suspension pending board approval for reinstating.
- No form of **violence, abusive language** or **intimidation** will be tolerated.
- **All ejections must be reported to the umpire coordinator and/or league coordinator immediately.**

