

BALTIMORE AREA SENIOR BASEBALL ASSOCIATION  
RULES AND REGULATIONS

- 1) The Baltimore Area Senior Baseball Assn. (hereinafter, BASBA) shall be governed by Major League Baseball rules unless otherwise specified herein. These rules may be amended (in writing), but only by league approval. In addition to the BASBA rules contained within this document and MSBL rules, Anne Arundel County rules and regulations will take precedence over each of these.
- 2) A) League administration (hereinafter, the league) shall consist of a Board of Directors. The Board of Directors will consist of one representative from each team within the BASBA. A majority vote by Board members will be the determining factor for reaching a decision on league issues. The decision may not contradict Anne Arundel County rules, regulations or policies.  
B) Board members and the Commissioner of the Chesapeake MSBL shall be notified of board meetings. They are expected to be present, or send an alternate & identify him to the league prior to the meeting. A quorum need not be present to conduct league business.  
C) Complaints will be heard by the league, but there shall be no protests.
- 3) All players shall wear similar matching numbered jerseys along with baseball pants and cleats. Jerseys are the only part of the uniform that must match. Duplicate numbers on same team must be approved by League.
- 4) All batters & base runners must wear single or full ear flap helmets. Catchers must wear helmets and cups.
- 5) Only high quality baseballs, approved by the league, will be used in official league games unless both teams & the chief umpire agree to an alternative (i.e., used balls). The league will provide a suitable number of new balls to each team for the season. For each game, each team will provide two new balls. Balls remaining after the game will be retrieved from umpires and divided between the teams. The following balls have been approved for use in BASBA games: Rawlings- RO, R-100, R-200 or R-MSBL
- 6) Metal or rubber cleats are permitted.
- 7) Metal or wood bats are permitted, but metal bats must not be less than -5 (i.e., if the bat is 34 inches long, it can weigh no less than 29 ounces).
- 8) A) Consumption of alcohol, or controlled or dangerous substances, is strictly prohibited on all fields and adjacent grounds. If this occurs, the player(s) involved shall be subject to Anne Arundel County Park & Recreation Rules and Regulations.  
B) Smoking is prohibited on all Anne Arundel County fields.
- 9) Each team within BASBA has the responsibility to check with the Anne Arundel County Park and Recreation web site or field conditions phone number to ensure whether or not a game is allowed pending forecasted inclement weather or after foul weather has occurred. If the fields are determined by the coaches to be questionable for play but potentially playable, both teams must make the necessary repairs to the field in order to make it playable condition for a scheduled game. The game will be played subject to the home plate umpire's discretion.
- 10) All teams shall be responsible for leaving playing fields and dugouts in a clean condition following games (the mound, plate area and base paths should be raked), with the exception of Bachman and Joe Cannon.
- 11) A) Each team must remit their league fees to Anne Arundel County Parks and Recreation.  
B) Teams must report game results to the county designated league supervisor in a timely fashion.
- 12) A) All teams must carry a minimum roster of 15 players.  
B) All county rosters must be submitted to Anne Arundel County prior to the leagues first game.  
C) All MSBL rosters and player consent forms must be submitted to MSBL in accordance with MSBL regulations.  
D) Players added to rosters after August 1<sup>st</sup> are not eligible for post-season play unless approved by the league.

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- 13) Teams are free to recruit any players they desire or request players from the league player pool. A player draft will be held in the early spring each year to find teams for those in the player pool.
- 14) A) No player may switch teams without league approval once they are on the roster.
- 15) A) Except to the extent any team or player is grandfathered into the league, all players must be 38 years of age by December 31 of the current year with the exception of up to two players, per roster, aged 36 to 37. Any player not meeting the above requirements but wanting to join the league must have the approval and majority vote of the BASBA Board of Directors.
- 16) Players may not appear on more than one BASBA team's roster at any time.
- 17) Players may join the BASBA as individuals or as teams.
- 18) EX PRO RULE: An Ex-professional player (major or minor league) is ineligible to play in the BASBA unless he has been out of professional ball at least 10 years. No team may have more than 4 ex-pro on its roster.
- 19) A) Only players turning 38 by Dec. 31 of the current year, or older, may pitch.  
B) A pitcher must be removed from that position if he hits three batters total in any given game.
- 20) A) Every player, showing up for a scheduled game, must be inserted into the initial lineup with a minimum of eight (8) for an official game. If not filled, the ninth position in the lineup is not an out.  
B) Players arriving late must be immediately entered into the line up. Players who leave the lineup may not re-enter the game.  
C) Players may not be borrowed in post-season play.
- 21) All players present at the start of a game must play a minimum of three (3) innings in the field unless the player declines in which case, opposing coaches must be notified, prior to the game. This rule does not apply if the game goes less than nine innings. Provided opposing managers agree, prior to the start of a game, players who wish, due to legitimate injury or other medical condition may play in the field without batting. There shall be no attempt to gain a competitive advantage by omitting a weak hitter from the team's lineup.
- 22) All base coaches and on-deck batters must wear batting helmets.
- 23) Unrestricted defensive substitution except as follows:  
A) A pitcher, once removed from that position, may return as a pitcher, but only once (unless he has been removed due to rule 19B).  
B) An extra hitter (EH) will be treated as any other defensive position; i.e., an EH may, at any time during the game, play a defensive position with the replaced defensive player becoming an EH.
- 24) If a courtesy runner is required for any player in a team's lineup, opposing manager should be notified prior to start of game. Courtesy runners should be used only because the player for whom the substitution is made is injured or to avoid the risk of such injury. Courtesy runners should not otherwise be used for competitive advantage. A maximum of three courtesy runners may be declared, unless the coaches in a particular game otherwise agree. If a player is injured in the course of the game, however, an additional courtesy runner for that player shall be permitted. The runner must be the player who made the most recent batted out (in the event the most recent out is a force out, the runner shall be the batter and not the forced runner). Catchers who reach base with two outs shall be "courtesy run" for by the player making the most recent batted out. This runner shall not count as one of the maximum courtesy runners allowed per game.
- 25) Players shall not intentionally collide with any other players. In the case of a runner intentionally colliding with a fielder, the runner will be called out and may, at the umpire's discretion, be expelled from the game. All base runners must either slide or give up their right to a base (avoid a collision by stopping or leaving a base path) if the defensive player (e.g. catcher) has

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possession of

the ball, is in the act of receiving the ball, or is about to immediately receive the ball and will be able to make an apparent play on the base runner. If a defensive player is not in possession of the ball, is not in the act of receiving the ball, or is not about to immediately receive the ball so that he is able to record an out (apparent play at any base), he cannot block the base (e.g. home plate) or be in the base path so as to impede (obstruct) the base runner's right to that base. Under such circumstances, the defensive player shall be responsible to avoid the collision. If a collision does occur under these circumstances, the runner will always be considered safe and the obstruction rule shall be enforced. The defensive player may be ejected from the game (if the action is intentional, he must be ejected), and will be suspended from league play if the obstruction is judged to be flagrant.

- 26) A) Ejected players will be dealt with in accordance with Anne Arundel County Park and Recreation rules. Any player ejected will automatically be ejected for 2 weeks. Longer suspensions are possible.
- 27) Intentional walks are permitted. No pitch need be thrown. The pitcher will notify home plate umpire of the intentional walk & the batter will be awarded first base.
- 28) A) All games are nine innings or have a three-hour time limit (**except playoffs**), whichever comes first (unless part of a doubleheader in which both games will be seven innings and have a two hour, 15 minute time limit). Any inning started before the time limit expires shall be completed. No new inning may start once time limit has elapsed. **No time limit applies to playoff games, which will be played to completion.**
- B) A game is ruled complete, or regulation (umpire discretion, i.e., darkness or rain) if it has gone five complete innings (4-1/2 if home team is ahead). If a game is suspended after becoming regulation, it will be final with the score reverting to the last completed inning. Suspended games not going regulation will be played over with the mutual consent of both managers. If the managers don't agree, the league will decide.
- C) Fifteen minute grace period for all games. However, the allotted playing time starts at the scheduled game time unless the umpires start the game late, through no fault of the players, in which case the three hour allotted playing time begins when the game starts.
- D) All tie games going at least the time limit are ruled complete.
- E) All games played at Arundel High School that start at 8:00 PM or later will have no new inning started after 10:30.
- 29) A) There will be a 12 run slaughter rule in effect after the completion of the 7<sup>th</sup> inning for 9 inning games and 5<sup>th</sup> inning for 7 inning games. Any team leading by 12 or more runs at the completion of the 7<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> inning will be the winner of the game. The home team always has the right to bat if they are behind by 12 runs or more.
- B) Teams may score a limit of six runs maximum per inning through the seventh inning. Subsequent innings are "unlimited". If, in the umpires' discretion, nine innings will not be completed within the three hour time limit, the umpires can declare a "final inning" no earlier than two hours, 30 minutes into the game. That inning will be "unlimited". For seven inning games, the maximum rule is in effect only through the fifth inning. However, both managers may agree to nullify the 6 run maximum per inning through the 7<sup>th</sup> (5<sup>th</sup> for 7 inning games) inning prior to the start of the game. After the completion of the 7<sup>th</sup> (5<sup>th</sup> for 7 inning games) inning the 12 run slaughter rule would come into effect if a team was leading by 12 or more runs.
- 30) A) Once a team attains a lead of eight runs, they may no longer steal bases in that game. Players may still take a lead, but can not make a motion with the intent to advance (i.e: hit and run) until the bat makes contact with the ball. Advancing on a wild pitch or passed ball is permitted, regardless of the score. If, subsequently, the lead drops below eight runs, the team may resume stealing bases. **If, contrary to this rule, a player from a particular team attempts to advance with a lead of eight runs or more, he must immediately return to the original base and the play is dead, unless he is thrown out in the course of the which case the out stands. On any subsequent attempt by such team to advance contrary to this rule, the runner(s) is/are automatically out.**
- 31) Postponed games may be made up, with both managers' consent, at any time not conflicting with a previously scheduled game and with agreement from the county.

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- 32) An All-Star team will be selected as directed by the League. The committee will meet as needed.
- 33) Each team may alternate batters (A/B) after the 15<sup>th</sup> batter in the order. i.e. The regular batting order will be 1 through 15. The 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> batters in the line up will share the 16<sup>th</sup> batting spot by alternating times at bat. The 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> batters in the line up will share the 17<sup>th</sup> batting spot and so forth.