

RULE CHANGES OR REVISIONS FOR THE LAST 2 SEASONS

WEATHER

The Division 3 Board Member In-Charge, in conjunction with Recreation Department personnel, will determine if games are to be cancelled due to weather conditions that would impact the safety and well being of participants. When the temperatures are at or above 104 degree Heat Index or below 35 degrees as of game time, the Board Member In-Charge will consult the managers of each team and ask them if they want to play the game. If one managers says "NO," then the game is cancelled and is recorded as a cancelled game. (No Forfeit). If one player does not want to play, then the team may get a sub. The game that player didn't play in will be charged against him as a missed game.

Also when the temperature reaches 104 heat index all umpires will mandatorily have both teams take a 5 minute break after the bottom of the fourth inning. All players must listen to WVLG 640 AM for notification of cancellations. Players, managers and umpires must not call the radio station or the Recreation Department to find out if games have been cancelled.

II. PLAYERS

A. QUALIFICATIONS

5. To provide fairness in the division, for a team, and for players who wish to join a team, a roster player must agree to play at least four and one half innings (with the Home team ahead or five innings with the Visitor team ahead) in at least 70% of the regularly scheduled games in a given season. A player who does not play at least 70% of the regularly scheduled games in a given season will become ineligible, removed from a team's roster, and replaced by a player wishing to join a team. **When a player is placed on a team from the Replacement List, he will be governed by the 70% rule for the remainder of the games for that season. Ex. 10 games left, he could only miss 3 games, 4th game out.**

It is each manager's duty to promptly inform the Division Board Commissioner when a player misses too many games and must be replaced **or if a team member sustains an injury and informs his manager that he cannot finish the season.** See Notes (1) (2) and (3) below.

D. SUBSTITUTES:

7. Substitutes will be drawn 30 minutes prior to game time by the Board Member In-Charge (or other Board Member). Managers from all teams must be present at the designated area when substitutes are drawn for their game or for the opposing team requiring players. The Board Member In-Charge will then notify managers and scorekeepers of the substitute players. **Division 3 softball does not condone consumption by a player prior to the game that he will play in. This includes a game day sub or injury sub. Team managers have the right to**

refuse to accept an injury sub or game day sub if he has consumed alcohol prior to the game.

15. If there are not enough available substitutes (see paragraph 9. above), an announcement will be made over the PA soliciting additional substitutes. These substitutes (roster player or injury sub) may play on any field. However, they will be removed and replaced by the Board Member In-Charge (or acting Board Member) when their scheduled game is to begin. The replacement is final and will take place when the substitute player is in the dugout. Managers must be aware of this stipulation prior to the substitute player being assigned their game. Managers **MUST** refrain from asking players to sign up to substitute for their team. **If a manager is found recruiting players, he will be warned for the 1st offence, suspended for the 2nd offence from managing the remainder of that season and all of the next season (if he is appointed manager again). And if there is a 3rd offence the manager shall be removed from managing in D-3.** An exception would be in the case of a shortage of needed substitute pitchers, Managers may approach Board certified pitchers to sign up as pitching substitutes only. **If the pitcher that has agreed to pitch for a team does not show up prior to the selection of subs (30 minutes before game time) he will be governed by Rule C; Lineups, paragraph #3.**

E. REPLACEMENT PLAYERS:

5. When a Manager requires a C Player (Pitcher or non-Pitcher), ALL available C players on the Replacement List will be offered to the Manager. **The Manager will choose the C player that he wants within 48 hours of receipt of the C player replacement list. If the Manager fails to make a selection within the allotted time period, he will be assigned the player who has been on the Replacement List the longest.**

Accordingly, the replacement player chosen or assigned to a team will have a time period of 2 play dates to join that team. If this doesn't occur, said player will be removed from the list. The Manager will then be given a choice of the remaining players and repeat the process again.

III GAME RULES

11. **Courtesy Runner Rule: Only players (not managers) can declare that they require a courtesy runner and they must do so prior to the start of the game. A player, designated as requiring a courtesy runner, has the following options EACH time at bat:**

a) **A player may stop at first, and after the umpire declares the play dead, the player MUST get a runner before the first pitch is thrown to the next batter. If a player does not get a runner before the following batter completes his turn at bat and the opposing team manager alerts the umpires of this infraction, the runner is to be declared out and all runners and batters are to be returned to their status before the infraction was discovered. Completing a turn at bat is to be interpreted as before the 2nd batter following the player who needs a runner receives the first pitch.**

Example: A player needing a runner gets a hit with a player already on first base creating a first and third situation. The player fails to get a runner. The following batter hits a triple, two runs score. Before the next batter receives the first pitch the opposing manager alerts the umpires of the infraction. The player who failed to get a runner is declared out, all runners are returned to the bases they occupied and the hitter who followed the player needing a runner must bat again with the same ball/strike count prior to getting the hit. If the player who needed a runner is the third out the inning ends and the following batter is first up in the next inning with a 0-0 count.

b) A player may advance to any base beyond first base, however once the play has been ruled dead, the player MUST remain on the base he has occupied and may NOT get a runner.

c) If a player reaches a base beyond first and then feels he cannot continue, he will be allowed to get a runner with the following conditions:

(1) The newly injured player MUST leave the game at that point and if his team then has less than 11 players the team will get an injury sub who would then be the runner.

(2) If the team has 12 players, the newly injured player MUST leave the game and gets a runner from the team roster in accordance with our current rules.

A player who declares he needs a runner before the game is now governed by all the same rules as a player who does not require a runner. Example: the player will NOT be declared automatically out by making a turn toward second base. He is treated as a regular runner and if he makes a turn, he is in jeopardy of being thrown out as is the case with every runner. He cannot declare he will take a runner until the umpire rules the play dead. While the ball is live, he may choose to advance at his own risk as any other runner would.

(9) Teams are limited to five (5) runs per inning except in the 7th or later innings of the game, in which a team can score an unlimited number of runs. A team behind by more than five runs in any inning prior to the 7th inning, can score "Five runs Plus 1" run in an effort to catch up.

IV. DEFINITIONS:

10. EJECTION: The result of an incident requiring the removal of a player from the game by the umpire. The incident will require the player or coach to leave the grounds for the remainder of the game. Any ejected player discovered participating constitutes a forfeit. An ejection will result in the player being automatically suspended for the next game in Division 3 and will be subject to further review by the Division Board and/or the Recreation Department.