

OAHU BASEBALL LEAGUE

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Oahu Baseball League (OBL)

League Rules - Updated 04/23/13

1. Current Major League Book of Rules will apply unless otherwise noted.
2. Games will be 9 innings in length, with no new inning to start after 2 hrs./45 minutes (Spring, Summer &/or Fall Seasons). All night games at Corp 4, no new inning after 9:30pm. Check the schedule for innings.
3. If games are scheduled for 9 innings a 10 run rule after 7 innings will be in effect for the Spring, Summer and Fall Seasons. If games are scheduled for 7 innings a 15 run rule will apply after 5 innings with no new inning to start after 2hrs/30min.
4. There will be a 15 minute grace period for all games. The game clock starts at game time.
5. Teams must start with 9 players but may finish with 8 players with an automatic out in the 9th position each time that spot comes to bat. If any player needs to leave a game early, the next time his spot comes to bat, there will be an automatic out. When that spot comes up again the line up will compress. There must be a minimum of 9 players. Teams may pick up a player or players the day of the game in the event they do not have enough to start the game. The two teams playing may LEND 1 or 2 players for that game. Any agreed upon trade is binding, the game is considered legal, and it's legality cannot be challenged after the fact. If one team has only 6 players, no trade will be allowed and the game will be considered a forfeit.
Approved Ruling Any team that agrees to trade 1 or 2 players to the opposing team (teams cannot trade 3 players), is OK. Any team with only 10 or 11 players, can trade a player to make 9 on 9. Players traded have to be returned in the event the trading team ends up short of legal players. The team that received a traded player/players, must return traded player/players in the event their players arrive.
This rule is only allowed for regular season games. Tournament and Playoff games, teams must have the proper amount of their own players or game will be forfeit. No Exceptions!
6. FORFEIT FEE: \$100.00, payable before the teams next game. A second forfeit will cost \$100.00, again payable before a teams next game. Should a 3rd forfeit by the same team occur during the same season, the offending team will automatically be expelled. Said team will be suspended for the next immediate season, and may apply for re-instatement following the suspension.
7. Rosters are open. Players may be added during the season. Any new player MUST sign the teams waiver roster prior to his participation. The League Coordinator must be notified 24 hrs in advance for any player to be eligible to participate. A copy of his signature on the teams waiver roster will be in the League Coordinator's hands 24 hrs prior to his participation.
8. Complete games will be 5 innings (either 7 or 9 innings games).
9. League Directors reserve the right to interpret rules and set League policy. They may cancel, postpone, or re-schedule games in the best interests of the League. PARTICIPATION IN THE LEAGUE IMPLIES ACCEPTANCE OF LEAGUE RULES.

10. Teams have the option of batting 9 batters (National League rules), or batting all their batters (MSBL rules). Players do not have to bat and play defense, teams may play platoon baseball if they wish. Players batting but not playing defense will be referred to as EH's. The term DH no longer applies. Teams must still begin with 9 players batting and playing defense, but may finish with 8.

11. RE-ENTRY FOR STARTERS will be allowed (High School Federation interpretation). HOWEVER, no changes may be made that will alter the batting line-up. A starter can NEVER re-enter in any position that would alter his original position in the batting order. A starter removed from the game because of an injury, MAY NOT RETURN (safety and liability reasons).

12. COURTESY RUNNERS: will be allowed for the pitcher and the catcher (High School Federation interpretation), and 1 other player designated at ground rules (MSBL Rules). Beginning with the summer 2006 Season, the courtesy runner will no longer be a legal substitute. The LAST BATTED OUT will be the courtesy runner. This allows teams to use all their players and still have the use of a courtesy runner.

13. Additional speed up rules. One (1) minute or six (6) pitches between innings. Intentional walks, batters may be awarded first base, no pitches are needed.

14. COLLISION RULE: For safety reasons, the High School Federation rule will be adopted. When any fielder has possession of the ball well before a runner arrives, the runner must make a legal slide or give himself up. Incidental contact as 2 players bump or collide arriving at the same place at the same time, is a different situation. Runners guilty of illegal contact will be called out and ejected from the game.

15. Additional Safety Notes: Catchers will wear protective helmets. Batters will wear helmets at the plate and on the bases with at least an ear flap facing the pitcher while batting. Fake tags are not to be condoned. Fielders will be warned then ejected when fake tags are observed by the umpires. Metal spikes are allowed, but dangerous or reckless slides are not. Runners need not slide directly towards a base on a force play slide (at any base), but high spikes or cross body blocks are not allowed. Runners must slide within an arms length of the base they are attempting to reach and they must be able to touch that base. Contact initiated beyond the base is illegal, it is interference, and a double play will be called.

16. Safety Note: Jewelry: No large hoops or dangling earrings shall be worn. Studs are acceptable. Necklaces must be tucked in.

17. BLOOD RULE: Any player who starts to bleed or in the umpires judgement has an open wound, must stop the bleeding and/or cover the wound. Additionally, if his uniform is bloodied, the bloodied part must be changed. APPROVED RULING: NAIA INTERPRETATION: A courtesy player may be used for an injured player until his next turn at bat (without penalty). Said courtesy player must, at first, be a legal substitute. A non-legal substitute may be used as a last resort only until the injured players next at bat. If at that time, no legal substitute is available and if the inkured player is not ready or able to return, the game will be forfeited. If a legal substitute is now available and the injured player not able to return, a regular substitution can be made. Under no circumstances can a non-legal substitute bat in or assume by re-entry any position of the batting order other than his original position. A courtesy player is used only as a last resort to speed up the game, and may only be used for a bloodied player or for an injury with an open wound.

18. SPORTSMANSHIP: Above all else remember SAFETY, FAIRNESS, & FUN. Coaches are responsible for the bench conduct of their players and team personnel. No unnecessary roughness, physical play, verbal abuse, unsportsmanlike, or improper conduct will be tolerated. In the event players from opposing teams become involved in a disagreement of any magnitude, other team members must NOT get involved. Coaches are responsible for their own involved player and any other player or players will face disciplinary action (3rd man in rule), if they get involved. Additionally, team members are responsible for the conduct of their fans, supporters, and/or spectators. If after being warned a team or teams fail to control the rowdiness, the Umpire in Chief can/will suspend the game and have the situation referred to the League's Board of Directors for disciplinary action.
19. Coaches/Players will NOT OVER ARGUE an umpire's call. They will not make contact with, throw objects at, or follow the umpires to the parking lot. Failure to exercise proper decorum will result in stiff sanctions.
20. EJECTIONS: Ejection from a game does not automatically mean other sanctions, provided the ejected coach or player does not argue excessively. If a written report is filed with League Officials regarding a player's or coach's behavior, a two (2) game suspension will be automatic.
21. Pitchers may go to their mouth while on the dirt portion of the pitcher's mound, provided they wipe first before putting their hand on the ball. The "Discernible Stop" interpretation of the pause in the set position will be enforced. All 3, Major League Book of Rules, NCAA, and High School Federation rule books concur.
22. Pitchers may wear a batting glove or golf glove under their regular glove. However, all white or bright gloves should be dulled so as not to distract or stand out. Wrist bands or elbow sleeves are not allowed, however, elbow sleeves worn under and covered by team colored undershirts are acceptable. One intentional walk per game will be allowed.
23. Trips to the mound, straight book of rules. Note: in the event a pitcher removes himself or is removed from the mound in the same inning where in his coach has already made a first visit, that pitcher will be considered to be removed by rule (2 trips to the same pitcher in the same inning), weather or not his coach leaves the dugout area. If the pitcher in question was a starter, he may re-enter the game one time, but not as the pitcher. If the starting pitcher is removed from the game BUT NOT by rule, he may also re-enter as a pitcher. Pitchers removed from the mound by injury, MAY NOT return to pitch.
24. TEAM WAIVER-ROSTERS: The Oahu Senior Baseball League is affiliated with the MSBL/MABL Baseball League. Our membership includes medical & liability insurance. As part of the process, all coaches must submit a team roster (PLAYERS NAMES AND ADDRESSES), prior to each season. This roster will be faxed to MSBL National to activate medical coverage. As of the Summer 2006 Season, Leagues must choose medical coverage for all teams OR no teams. Leagues cannot cover only teams that choose to be covered. Players added to rosters during the season must have their names and addresses faxed or e-mailed to the League Coordinator ASAP so they can be added to the forms on file with MSBL National. **Players under 18 must have a Parental Release Form signed and on file with the League Coordinator before they can participate.**
25. The Oahu Baseball League is one league with multiple divisions. Players may play for ONLY ONE TEAM per division. D1 pitchers may not pitch in the D3 or D4 levels.
26. PROTESTS: Coaches who want to protest a call or interpretation of the rules will bring a cell phone and \$50.00 cash to the home plate umpire who will call OBL officials to make a ruling. If the

protest is upheld the umpire will give back the \$50.00 and the game will resume. If the protest is denied, the umpire will keep the \$50.00 and the game will continue. Make sure if you decide to protest that it's a rule violation and not a judgement call.

27. MISC NOTES: If only one umpire is present, both teams must present their line-ups to that umpire at the scheduled game time or upon request. Failure to do so will result in a forfeit. Teams DO NOT have the option of not playing a game when only one umpire is present.

28. UNIFORMS: All teams are required to have matching shirts and hats. Matching baseball pants are optional, but BASEBALL PANTS ARE MANDATORY. NO SHORTS! Exception: Non-playing coaches may wear shorts providing they match team colors.

29. RAINOUTS: Every effort will be made to reschedule rained out games. Extra playing dates are at a premium, especially during the Summer Season. Re schedules other than rainouts will not be automatic.

30. STANDINGS: Teams will receive 2 pts for a win and 1 pt for a tie. Regular Season, final standing ties, will be decided by: 1 Head to Head competition 2 Run differential 3 Flip of the coin (for Tournament seeding purposes).

31. HOME TEAM: is the SECOND team listed on the schedule. Will supply new baseballs (3) for its regular season games. Will be responsible for bases. Will be the official scorekeeper. Will help rake the mound/plate and drag the infield after each game (even if there is a game following). VISITING TEAM: Will supply new baseballs (3) for its regular season games, will help drag the infield and rake the mound/plate after each game (win or lose) even if there is a game following. WINNING TEAM & HOME PLATE UMPIRE: Will call or text in score to Paul Kopp (808-497-0073 or Bob Townsley (808-292-8370), within 1 hr after game completed. **BOTH TEAMS are responsible for field maintenance and will police their respective dugouts after each game.** Both teams should communicate as the game proceeds so as not to discover a conflict in the score to late to rectify. Any corrections must be made BEFORE the umpires leave the field.

32. ALCOHOL: No alcohol at any time at any game. Additionally, teams are reminded that all parks we use are designated NON-ALCOHOLIC by the City & County of Honolulu. Teams are encouraged to stay and watch games following theirs. However, if you wish to drink alcohol, go to a private location. **DO NOT DRINK AT ANY HIGH SCHOOL FIELDS!!!**

33. SMOKING: Be aware of the new NO SMOKING LAWS. If you find you must smoke, DO NOT smoke on the field. Go to an area away from the field and dugouts. **No Tobacco products allowed at any High School field or school property.**