

**NORTH SUBURBAN  
YOUTH BASEBALL ASSOCIATION**

**(NSYBA)**

**LOCAL RULES**

**2004**

## LOCAL RULES – DIVISIONS OF THE RULES

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## NORTH SUBURBAN YOUTH BASEBALL ASSOCIATION

The North Suburban Youth Baseball Association (NSYBA) is a cooperative program sponsored by several neighboring communities of Chicago and the north suburban area. Our Association is designed primarily for players ages 13 -15 and provides a broad, meaningful, and enjoyable baseball experience by promoting intra- and inter-community competition. Play is governed by the Official Rules of Major League Baseball as supplemented and/or modified by these Local Rules. The Association will arrange regular season and playoff schedules and umpires for championship games. We support and encourage each participating community in developing an all star team. Play is scheduled to begin April 24th, 2004, and to conclude by July 4th.

**CONTACT INFORMATION:** The sponsoring communities and their contact persons are the following:

COMMUNITY	NAME	TELEPHONE NUMBERS AND EMAIL
EDGEBROOK-SAUGANASH	John Creely	HOME OFFICE: 773-267-9123 CELL: 773-531-8089 EMAIL: <a href="mailto:jcreely@comcast.net">jcreely@comcast.net</a>
GOLF MAINE	Mike Yesner	847-297-6024 CELL: 847-721-6024 FAX: 847-803-0595 EMAIL: <a href="mailto:myesner@electrinet.com">myesner@electrinet.com</a>
SKOKIE INDIANS	Joe Hasman	HOME: 847-328-3599 OFC: 312-281-3605 CELL: 847-612-1959 EMAIL: <a href="mailto:jhasman@cmn-law.com">jhasman@cmn-law.com</a> <a href="mailto:agreatcoach@aol.com">agreatcoach@aol.com</a>
	Tom Kendall Assistant	HOME OFFICE: 847-492-1284 EMAIL: <a href="mailto:scores@nsyba.org">scores@nsyba.org</a>
LINCOLNWOOD	Marcello Falcone	HOME: 847-677-0542 OFC: 847-832-7469 EMAIL: <a href="mailto:mfalcone@lwbba.org">mfalcone@lwbba.org</a>
	Pete Dyer Assistant	HOME: 847-329-1879 OFC: 847-933-8540 EMAIL: <a href="mailto:pdyer@atf-inc.com">pdyer@atf-inc.com</a>

For more information about this exciting baseball program, contact the NSYBA Commissioner Joe Hasman or Scorekeeper Tom Kendall.

**RAIN OUTS AND HOTLINES:** Inclement weather can be unpredictable. You should always assume that you are going to play. Umpires and coaches are strongly encouraged to get games in if it can be done safely. Games will generally not be canceled prior to one hour before game time. Managers should inform players that if there is doubt about field conditions, they should not call the manager, but, instead, they should wait for the manager to call them and that if they don't hear from the manager, go to the ballpark on the assumption the game will be played. Some sponsoring Communities have a "hot line" telephone number from which official information about field conditions sometimes may be obtained. **Please share these phone numbers with your players and parents!**

<b>ASSOCIATION</b>	<b>TELEPHONE HOTLINE</b>
<b>LINCOLNWOOD</b>	847-423-5773
<b>GOLF-MAINE</b>	847-297-5779

Reporting scores and pitchers used: email to [scores@nsyba.org](mailto:scores@nsyba.org)

NSYBA website: <http://www.nsyba.org>

## **LOCAL RULE 1**

### **OBJECTIVES OF THE GAME; THE PLAYING FIELD; EQUIPMENT; INTERFERENCE**

- 1A *The Official Baseball Rules (The Sporting News edition)* governs play and is the main rule book for the NSYBA. It is supplemented by these Local Rules. Illinois High School Association (IHSA) rules do not supersede these rules or control play or conduct. Each Manager must and each coach should be thoroughly familiar with *The Official Baseball Rules* and these Local Rules, which supersede the official rules in every instance. Both sets of rules must be in the possession of the Manager or coach in charge of the team at every game. Compliance with the rules is mandatory and any violation as formally reported by the opposing manager or detected by the Association Commissioner shall be grounds for forfeiture of the game(s) in which the violation occurred.
- 1B No team shall roster more than 13 players.
- 1C No metal spikes are allowed and no jewelry may be worn. Only gym shoes or molded sole rubber spike shoes may be worn. The Association recommends a molded sole shoe.
- 1D All male players must wear a protective, supporter-type cup. The manager will do a cup check before the start of every game or practice. Male players not complying with this rule will not be permitted to play.
- 1E The catcher must wear a helmet, face mask with a throat protector, a chest protector, and shin guards.
- 1F All batters, runners, and players who are coaching on the playing field must wear a batting helmet when they leave the dugout and keep the helmet on their heads until they return to the dugout. Any player on the playing field who refuses to wear a helmet while batting, running, or coaching a base will be removed from the game.
- 1G The intentional removal of a helmet by a runner shall be grounds for being called out by the umpire, unless a time out has been called and approved by the umpire. The repetitive removal of a helmet by a runner shall result in that player's ejection from the game. One warning per player per team will be allowed.
- 1H If a player throws his helmet or bat, or displays unsportsmanlike conduct, that player is subject to ejection from the game by the umpire. If the umpire chooses to issue a warning, the umpire must notify the manager and the player at the time of the infraction and warning. A second infraction by a player for the same violation for which he has been warned shall subject that player to ejection from the game.
- 1I The catcher and his teammates shall not entice an opposing batter to swing at a pitched ball. One warning will be given, thereafter the violator shall be removed from the game.
- 1J The fields are open play and any ball batted to the outfield and which remains in the outfield is in play.
- 1K Fielders must catch the ball on the field of play. Should the fielder's momentum carry the fielder through the enclosed park area, runners may advance at their own risk.

- 1L Should any equipment not presently in use by a player in the game interfere in the play of a live ball, the ball becomes dead. If the offensive team's equipment interferes, the batter is out. If the defensive team's equipment interferes, the runners advance one base.
- 1M Any thrown ball that sticks under or rolls past a backstop or a bench-protecting fence, is thrown into a dugout, or is overthrown out of the enclosed park area becomes a dead ball. A base runner is entitled to an automatic one base advance. If a base runner, including a runner who has just batted the ball, is moving toward a base at the time the ball becomes dead, that runner is entitled to the base he is running to and the automatic one base advance.
- 1N There shall be 80 ft. bases and 54 ft. distance from the pitching plate to the front of the home plate.
- 1O No bat shall be larger than 2-3/4 inches in diameter and there is no limit on differential.

## LOCAL RULE 2 DEFINITION OF TERMS

**Director:** The person identified by a sponsoring Community to serve on the governing board of the NSYBA and as that Community's contact person.

**Disciplinary Committee:** The Disciplinary Committee is made up of one director from each of the Communities sponsoring a team or teams in the NSYBA. If the director listed by the Community is unable to participate in any proceeding, his/her designee may participate. Only one vote for each Community sponsoring a team or teams shall be permitted in any proceeding.

**Enclosed Park Area:** The area defined by imaginary lines extending from the bench-protecting fences along the first and third base lines parallel to the outfield foul lines.

**Protest Committee:** The Protest Committee is made up of one director from each of the Communities sponsoring a team or teams in the NSYBA. If the director listed by the Community is unable to participate in any proceeding, his/her designee may participate. Only one vote for each Community sponsoring a team or teams shall be permitted in any proceeding, subject to further Rules.

### **LOCAL RULE 3 GAME PRELIMINARIES; PRE-GAME CONDITIONS; PLAYING UP**

- 3A The manager of the home team is responsible for setting up the field and returning all field equipment.
- 3B The manager of the home team is responsible for furnishing two (2) new baseballs to the umpire before the game.
- 3C Both teams will exchange batting orders and line-ups before the game.
- 3D Each team is entitled to the field for 15 minutes prior to the start of the game, assuming normal field conditions. Unless otherwise agreed, the home team shall go first.
- 3E For safety reasons, only the manager, coaches, batboy or batgirl, and uniformed players are allowed in the dugout.
- 3F The game starting time is that which is shown on the playing schedule.
- 3G No game will start when the managers are informed by the Association Commissioner or by the Park District with jurisdiction over the field, that the field is unplayable. When the managers have no information from the Association Commissioner or the Park District, managers shall consider that all games will be played. No games may officially be canceled earlier than one hour before the game time.
- 3H Other than above, managers of both teams must mutually agree on the playable condition of the field. When no agreement can be reached, the umpire will decide. In making these decisions, managers and umpires must consider the safety of the players paramount in making the decision.
- 3I When the managers agree that the field is playable, the game is turned over to the umpire. Only then does the umpire have authority to continue or cancel a game.
- 3J Only a player who is playing in a lower-age league sponsored by the same Community may be called up by a team if the manager is in reasonable apprehension that his/her team will not have sufficient (up to ten) players to start a game. A call-up cannot pitch and is subject to the same playing requirements and privileges as the other NSYBA players on the team to which he/she is called up. See Local Rule 11G.
- 3K If there is a forfeiture due to absent or insufficient players, the managers are encouraged to play a practice game, even if it involves borrowing a player(s) from the opposing team.
- 3L If lightning is detected, the umpire shall suspend play until the threat of lightning has passed and playing conditions are safe. After 15 minutes, the coaches shall consult with each other to determine whether the game shall be terminated or the suspension continued. If the suspension continues, it shall continue for another 15 minutes and then the umpire's judgment controls whether playing conditions are safe. In any event, if lightning is detected a second time within 30 minutes the game may then be suspended or, if it is a complete game, terminated.
- 3M Unless excused by the Association Commissioner for good cause, if a team forfeits more than 3 (three) games in regular season play, it forfeits its right to participate in post-season play.

## **LOCAL RULE 4 STARTING AND ENDING THE GAME; POSTPONEMENTS; MAKE-UPS; PROTESTS**

- 4A An NSYBA regulation game consists of seven (7) innings, unless extended because of a tie score, or shortened: (1) because the home team needs none of its half of the seventh inning or only a portion of it, or (2) the slaughter rule takes effect, or (3) the Umpire calls the game.
- 4B Only one (1) extra inning may be played in the case of a tie game after seven (7) innings have been completed. If after completion of one (1) extra inning, the score is still tied, the game shall be declared a tie game. EXCEPTION: Playoff and championship games will continue until a winner is determined.
- 4C If a game is called, it is a regulation game if 1) five (5) innings have been completed, or 2) the home team has scored more runs in four and one-half (4-1/2) innings than the visiting team has scored in its five (5) completed half innings. If a game is called after five (5) innings have been completed, the score shall be deemed that which it was at the end of the last completed inning. For purposes of this Local Rule 4C, an inning is complete if the home team is ahead at the end of the visiting team's half inning or goes ahead in its bottom half of that half inning.
- 4D If a game is called before it becomes a regulation game, it will be considered suspended and resumed at the point of suspension. Innings pitched in any suspended, resumed, or make-up game accrue for that week, especially for purposes of applying Local Rule 8G. Line-ups remain the same, if possible.
- 4E **SLAUGHTER RULE:** Any team that compiles a ten (10) run lead after five (5) complete innings shall be declared the winner. Should the home team be ahead or go ahead by ten (10) runs after four and one-half (4-1/2) innings, the game will be declared over.
- 4F A team will field nine (9) players. Both teams may start the game with a minimum of eight (8) players. After the game starts, the minimum player limit to continue a game is seven (7).
- 4G The rescheduling of all rainouts, postponed and suspended games shall be agreed to by the managers and reported to the Association Commissioner or his designate within 72 hours. If that is not done, the Association Commissioner shall reschedule the game or decide whether one or both teams forfeit the game which is not rescheduled.
- 4H The umpire and the opposing manager must be notified that the game is being played under protest prior to the next pitch.
- 4I A protest must be reduced to writing and delivered to the Association Commissioner or his designate within forty-eight (48) hours of the conclusion of the protested game. The team against which the protest is lodged is entitled to file a written response at or prior to the hearing on the protest. The umpire(s) officiating at the protested game shall be requested to write his/her version of the event/protest and submit that to the Association Commissioner prior to the hearing. The Protest Committee must hear the protest as soon as possible, but no later than ten (10) days after the protest is timely delivered to the Association Commissioner or his designate. The hearing on the protest shall be chaired by the Association Commissioner, unless a team from the Community which the Association Commissioner represents is involved, in which event a non-involved director shall be selected by the Protest Committee to chair that hearing. All directors, including those from Communities involved in the protest, may participate in the hearing, questioning, debate, and argument; however, no director from a Community whose team(s) is involved in the

protest may vote. A quorum shall consist of a minimum of three directors. The Protest Committee is defined in Local Rule 2.

- 4J The protesting manager or a representative must appear before the Protest Committee. The other manager may appear.
- 4K An umpire's judgment call cannot be the subject of a protest and cannot be reversed by the Association Commissioner or the Protest Committee.
- 4L Objectionable equipment as determined by the umpire shall be removed from the game immediately and is not grounds for a protest (e.g., a white long sleeve shirt worn by the pitcher).
- 4M It is in the best interest of everyone that all disputes be resolved at the time of the infraction.
- 4N A grace period of fifteen (15) minutes shall be permitted before forfeiting a game for lack of sufficient players.

**LOCAL RULE 5  
PUTTING THE BALL IN PLAY; DEAD BALL  
AND LIVE BALL (IN PLAY); INTERFERENCE**

- 5A Human obstacle interference in the field of play shall be an umpire's judgment call. The umpire shall impose such penalties as to nullify the act of interference.
- 5B If a spectator's interference prevents a player from catching a fly ball, the umpire shall declare the batter out.
- 5C Ball thrown out of play – see LR 1M

## **LOCAL RULE 6 THE BATTER**

- 6A Strike Zone: The strike zone shall be from the top of the armpit to the top of the knee.
- 6B In order to speed up play, the batter must keep one foot in the batter's box at all times except when time out has been called by an umpire or to avoid a pitched or thrown ball, a runner, or an injury. Each batter is entitled to one warning per game, after which a violation shall result in a called strike.
- 6C All rostered players attending a game will be placed in the initial batting order and will bat in continuous rotation during the game. Late arriving players will be placed at the bottom of the batting order, subject to Rule 11J.

## **LOCAL RULE 7 THE RUNNER**

- 7A A runner is out if the runner does not slide or attempt to get around the fielder or otherwise does not attempt to avoid a collision with the fielder who has the ball or who is about to have the ball and is waiting to make a tag at a base. Incidental contact may be unavoidable. The intent of this rule is to *avoid a collision* between players by the runner intentionally charging into a fielder to jar the ball loose and to avoid injury to one or both of the players. A fielder may not block a base path with the sole intent to cause a collision that will prevent the runner from reaching the base. For definition of obstruction by a fielder, see *The Official Baseball Rules*.
- 7B There must be at least one adult coach on the baselines. Players who are coaching at a base must wear a batting helmet while on the playing field.

## LOCAL RULE 8 THE PITCHER

- 8A One pitch constitutes a full inning on the mound.
- 8B If a manager or coach makes two (2) trips to the mound in one (1) inning or three (3) trips per game to the same pitcher, that pitcher must be relieved from pitching. A pitcher or catcher making a trip to the dugout to confer with the manager or coach is also counted as a trip. A trip to the mound between innings does not constitute a trip for the purpose of this Local Rule.
- 8C Any time a manager or coach crosses the foul line into the playing field or calls time for a conference with a pitcher, the team will be charged with a trip to the mound. Exception is given when there is an injury on the field. A time limit will be imposed on all conferences at the discretion of the umpire.
- 8D Only players in uniform, or managers or coaches, may warm up the pitcher, on or off the field. Adult managers and coaches may warm up the pitcher at their own risk.
- 8E All uniformed players warming up a pitcher, at any time, must wear a catcher's mask.
- 8F Pitchers may not wear sweatbands on their wrists or long-sleeve white or similar light colored shirts.
- 8G Pitchers may pitch a maximum of seven (7) innings per day and a total of eleven (11) innings per calendar week. No pitcher shall pitch more than eleven (11) innings over three (3) consecutive days. A pitcher who pitches five (5) innings or more in a day shall have two (2) full days' rest. (For example, if a player pitches five innings on Monday, that player may not pitch again until Thursday.) The calendar week is Monday through Sunday. There are NO EXCEPTIONS to this rule, including all play-off and championship games.
- 8H The umpire shall issue one warning per pitcher per game prior to calling a balk. If an umpire calls a coach to the mound to explain or discuss a balk, it shall not count as a trip to the mound.
- 8I After the first hit batter, the umpire will come to the mound and warn the pitcher and manager that, on the next hit batter, the pitcher will be removed as a pitcher *if* the umpire determines that hitting the subsequent batter was an intentional act.
- 8J Any pitcher that hits three batters in a game, whether or not inadvertent, shall be removed as a pitcher.

## LOCAL RULE 9 THE UMPIRE

- 9A The Communities which sponsor the NSYBA attempt to provide the best possible umpiring for all games. Managers, coaches, players and spectators must remember several important points. Umpires are entitled to the same courtesy and respect that you would want for yourself, your family, and your children. Managers are responsible for — and will be held accountable for — the behavior that coaches and players display to all umpires and are also expected to help control spectators' behavior in this regard. Please remember that our primary directive is to provide safe and enjoyable recreational activity for our children., Baseball is a game which should always be fun and never deteriorate into argument.
- 9B Only managers are entitled to question, discuss, and, if necessary, appeal certain umpire calls, subject to the governing rules. Managers may not argue with, demean, insult, or threaten any umpire. Any questions or problems that arise pertaining to an umpire's competence or conduct should be raised with the Association Commissioner as soon as possible, NOT with the umpire.
- 9C Each Community sponsoring a team or teams is responsible for providing and paying for qualified umpires for all regular season games. All plate umpires must be at least 18 years old and shall be "patched" or, if not patched, must be drawn from a list of umpires which is both approved and maintained on a current basis by the Association Commissioner. Base umpires must be at least 16 years old.
- 9D The NSYBA expects that the home team and its sponsoring Community will provide two qualified umpires for each regular season game. If it is impossible to provide two umpires, the home team will not forfeit the game, but all reasonable efforts shall be made to secure both umpires for that game. If the home team does not provide at least one umpire, it shall not forfeit the game but shall be given a warning of the violation of these Local Rules. On a subsequent failure of a home team to provide at least one qualified umpire, the Association Commissioner, in consultation with the NSYBA Directors, shall take such corrective or disciplinary actions as he/she deems necessary and appropriate including expulsion from the Association.
- 9E A 15-minute grace period from the scheduled game starting time will be allowed before the home team forfeits the game for failure to provide an umpire.
- 9F Threats or physical contact initiated by a manager, coach or player directed at the umpire, when substantiated, will result in an automatic two (2) consecutive game suspension for the manager, coach, or player.
- 9G The intimidation of umpires is a violation of these Local Rules. The umpire has the right to eject the offender off the field after one warning is given.
- 9H Umpires shall remain available and shall perform their umpire duties, if requested to do so by the managers of both the opposing teams, upon any forfeiture or application of the slaughter rules. The purpose of this rule is to encourage practice and instructional games even if they won't count in the standings.
- 9I Each Director shall provide the umpires and/or umpire service employed by his/her community to umpire NSYBA games a copy of these Local Rules; umpires are expected to read and apply these Local Rules, and the Rules of Major League Baseball, without regard to IHSA rules.

**LOCAL RULE 10**  
**OFFICIAL SCORER; REPORTING SCORES**  
**AND OTHER INFORMATION**

- 10A No later than 1:00 p.m. on the day following a game which is completed, terminated for any reason, or suspended, the manager of the winning team, or in all other cases, the manager of the home team, shall provide to the Association Commissioner or his designee, the NSYBA Scorekeeper, on a form or format established by the Commissioner, by hand delivery, e-mail, fax, or other similar method, a game report including the following information, at a minimum: date of game, opponents, scores, pitching data (with pitchers used designated by last name and first name and innings pitched) and the date to which a suspended game is continued, if known. Failure to comply with these rules results in forfeiture of the game.
- IOB The intent of Local Rule 10 is to have proper enforcement of the pitching rules.

## **LOCAL RULE 11**

### **GENERAL GAME RULES; ELIGIBILITY**

- 11A The use of tobacco or alcohol in any form by any person is prohibited on the playing field and in and adjacent to the dugout. One warning per game will be given; thereafter, any offender will be ejected from the game or banned from coaching.
- 11B The managers share the responsibility for the conduct of the spectators. One warning will be given by the umpire or Association Commissioner. Continued misconduct by the spectators may result in the forfeiture of the game for the offending team.
- 11C Conduct that is detrimental to the NSYBA subjects the offender to suspension from the NSYBA.
- 11D Ejection from any game by the umpire of a player, coach, or manager will subject said person to appropriate disciplinary action after review by the Association Commissioner.
- 11E Any person who is ejected two (2) times in a season will serve an automatic two (2) game suspension, including post-season play, pending review of the severity of the infraction. If the conduct is determined to be severe, a harsher penalty may be imposed by the Disciplinary Committee. Any person who is ejected three (3) times in a season will be expelled for the remainder of the season.
- 11F The managers and umpires are responsible for keeping spectators from standing behind the home plate backstop screen.
- 11G Free substitution is allowed and each rostered player and each called up player present during a game must play four (4) innings. (For called up players see Local Rule 3J.) When there is a difference of two or more players between the two teams in a game, the minimum number of innings per player is reduced to three innings.
- 11H If a substitute player enters at the beginning of the third inning and the game ends after the player has played three-and-a-half (3 -1/2) innings, the substitute player is considered as having fulfilled the four (4) innings of play rule, provided that the player has batted at least once.
- 11I A player playing less than three (3) innings in a game shortened by rain, darkness, inclement weather, or the slaughter rule and who has not batted, must be placed in the starting lineup for the next game if he is present at the next game.
- 11J Any player who arrives after the game starts forfeits the right to play. The manager has the option of playing the tardy player. The intention of this rule is to promote player responsibility to the team. This rule must be applied uniformly by the manager of the team. A late arriving player will be added at the bottom of the batting line-up, if the manager exercises the option that he play.
- 11K An injured player can be replaced by any player except that a player who is not eligible to pitch for any reason shall not replace an injured pitcher.
- 11L Any person who is rostered by or who plays for or in any Illinois High School Association baseball team, conference, league, association, or the like, is not eligible to play in the NSYBA. Exception: a person who plays on a traveling team for a Community which requires a player to play in that Community's "house league" as a condition to playing on the traveling team, may play in the NSYBA if the Community deems playing in the NSYBA to satisfy the house league requirement for all its players.

- 11M No team may roster more than two (2) fifteen (15) year old players, unless, for good cause shown, the Board permits a third 15-year-old player.
- 11N League age shall be determined as of the first day of August, unless a later date is required by the rules of the sponsoring team or community.
- 11O No player may be rostered by and play for more than one (1) NSYBA team.

## ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

- AR1 As a condition of participation, each Community sponsoring a team(s) in the NSYBA shall, prior to the first day of scheduled play, provide the Association Commissioner with a certificate of insurance identifying the insurer, the insurance producer, and the sponsoring Community or its youth baseball association as an insured and the NSYBA as an additional insured. Failure to provide proof of such insurance will result in a loss for all of the Community's teams for each game until the required insurance certificate is provided.
- AR2 As a condition of participation, each Community sponsoring a team(s) in NSYBA must provide the Association Commissioner with a roster on a roster form supplied by the NSYBA accompanied by a copy of the birth certificate for each player on each team sponsored by each Community. These shall be provided prior to the start of the first game of the season, and failure to do so will result in a loss of that game and each game thereafter until the birth certificates are provided. A vacant roster spot may not be permanently filled without Commissioner approval and submission of birth certificate and consent form in advance.
- AR3 The managers or head coaches of each team shall bring copies of his/her team's roster and birth certificates to each game and at the beginning of or during each game, shall produce, upon reasonable request, to the other team's manager or coach all such birth certificates and shall identify them with proper players present. If any or all of the birth certificates are not available, the team has until the end of the game to produce the missing birth certificates or the team will forfeit the game.
- AR4 As a condition of participating in this NSYBA baseball program, each player and his/her parent and/or guardian shall agree in writing to hold harmless NSYBA and its directors and to abide by these Local Rules and any Administrative Rules. Agreements and releases on forms provided by NSYBA and signed by each player and each player's parent, guardian, or in loco parentis, shall be turned in by each team's manager to the Association Commissioner prior to the start of the first game of the season, and failure to do so will disqualify each player for whom the agreement and release is not turned in until full compliance with the Rules.
- AR5 Deadlines imposed by these Administrative Rules may be reasonably modified by the Association Commissioner for good cause shown.
- AR6 Forms for use in complying with these Local Rules may be obtained from the NSYBA website (<http://www.nsyba.org>) or from the team's community director.