

2011 AN/JO BASEBALL RULES
Rookie Division

Play Hard, Have Fun!

The following rules are to be read by all the managers before the season starts. It is the managers' responsibility to be sure the rules are understood and carried out.

Rules of National Baseball League will govern games played in the An/Jo Baseball League unless superseded by a rule printed here in. The Board of Directors will make final interpretations of the rules and all rulings are final.

1. **SPORTSMANSHIP**

- A. Fair play and good sportsmanship are main objectives.
- B. Fighting or abusive language will not be tolerated by players, coaches or team parents.
- C. **Smoking is *prohibited* at New Era Fields at An/Jo Park and Sports Complex.**
- D. Players not participating will remain on the bench at all times.
- E. Only players, managers, batboys, coaches, and scorekeepers will be allowed on the bench.
- F. All managers will conduct themselves as gentlemen and good sports, setting a good example for the players. Please respectfully discuss any issues during the game with the umpire and opposing coach in a responsible manner.
 - a. **NOTE: All managers and coaches will wear Team Jersey or An/Jo wear during the games.**
- G. Any spectators or players who harass players or disrupt the ball game will be ejected by request of managers, the umpire in charge of the game, or the park attendant.
- H. Alcoholic beverages on ball fields before, during, or immediately following games or practices are strictly prohibited by managers, coaches, players, or parents. This rule will be in effect on all baseball diamonds that the An/Jo Baseball League participates on. The manager of each team is responsible for enforcing this rule. Any violation of this rule will be subject to dismissal of the manager in question.

2. **ELIGIBILITY**

- A. Age, Rookie Division-eligible players between the ages of 6 and 8 years of age.
- B. Players and parents (guardians) must have signed, completed and paid registration form before practice commences.
- C. All players must have their age verified by birth certificate or baptismal records. Any falsification of age will terminate playing in the An/Jo Baseball League and result in a forfeit loss of all games the offending player participated in.
- D. All fees must be paid by the first week of practice at the latest.

- E. Please make players and parents responsible for respecting the team and coach by contacting the coach if they are not able to attend a game or practice. Encourage the players to let coaches know in advance when they are not available for a game.
- F. If a manager questions the eligibility of a player from an opposing team, he must enter a protest with the Board of Directors. Teams using ineligible players will forfeit all games the player in question participated in.
- G. No player can be added to a team roster after the season commences without Board approval

3. EQUIPMENT

- A. All managers will sign for equipment at the beginning of the season, and will be responsible at the close of the season that such equipment will be turned in at the designated date set by the Board of Directors. All baseballs must be turned in with the equipment.
- B. No catcher is permitted to take his position during the game without full equipment. This rule must not be violated. This includes warm-ups. Full equipment includes helmet and cup.**
- C. All players must wear full uniforms. Players must wear helmets when batting and when playing the position of pitcher. Players must use regulation gloves according to the position played. Failure to wear the proper uniform will exempt players from participating without the approval of the managers.
 - a. NOTE- This rule can not be protested. A minimum of shirt, pants, and hat should be worn. It is the responsibility of the managers to make sure that players are attired in the proper uniform.
- D. A bat can not be greater than 2 ¼ in diameter and -13 to be legal.

6. GENERAL

- A. Games must be played as scheduled. On all rained out games or postponements the game will be played at 5:00 PM on the immediately following Sunday.
- B. Grounds crew in conjunction with the An/Jo Board Members will be responsible for calling off the games, if fields become unsuitable for playing. *A decision will be made in a timely fashion to contact the coaches who should in turn contact their team.*
- C. All managers will be issued rules. Schedules are on the website.
- D. No player under suspension by his/her manager for an infraction of team or league rules will sit out more than 1 game. The league reserves the right to suspend players for a period longer than two consecutive games depending on the seriousness of the infraction. Suspended player **MUST** attend the game in which they are suspended.
- E. It is the responsibility of the team manager to insure his team is represented by himself or a team representative, at each managers meeting.

7. GAME RULES

- A. All games will be played 4 innings in the **Rookie** Division.
- B. **No new innings may be started after 8:15 PM. Games are scheduled to begin at 6:00 PM, and no later than 6:15 PM. Failure to field a team within fifteen minutes of the scheduled start of the game will result in immediate forfeiture of the game.**
- C. The home team will sit on the first base side and bats last.
- D. The home team must setup the pitching machine before the game and must bring the machine back into the garage at the conclusion of the game.
- E. Players handle baseball bats only under the supervision of managers and coaches and in designated areas only. Helmets are to be worn when handling baseball bats.
- F. Each team will bat through their entire order in both the first and second innings. The batting order for those innings shall be 1-12 in the first inning and 12-1 in the second inning. The batter or base runners must return to the dugout if called out. All runs scored during these two innings will count regardless of whether three outs were reached.
- G. Innings 3 and 4 will be real baseball. The batting order shall be 1-12 for these innings. If a base runner or batter is called out, the out counts and the base runner or batter must return to the dugout. Teams switch sides after 3 outs or if the offensive team bats around in that half inning of play.
- H. Batters will be given 6 pitches. If the last pitch is fouled off or is an obvious ball, then the batter shall receive another pitch.
- I. The batting order limit will be determined by the team with the most amount of batters. For example, if team #1 has 10 batters and team #2 has 12 batters, then team #1 may bat the first 2 batters of an inning twice.
- J. All players on a team's roster shall play in the field at all times. In the infield a team will play with a first baseman, a second baseman, a third baseman, a catcher, and two pitchers (one on each side of the pitching machine and they must wear a helmet). The remaining players will be spread out evenly in the outfield.
- K. Coaches are to be on the field with their players at all times.
- L. Promote sportsmanship for all players; shake hands at the end of play.
- M. The manager or a responsible person shall keep the score book.

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