

Playoff rules for 2023

All regular season rules apply, minor changes and reminders to some rules are below.

Game Play

- The home team for each game except the championship game will be the team with the higher ranking in regular season standings.
- All games are scheduled for 7 innings. The umpire will declare the **NEXT** inning to be open at **1 hour and 15 minutes** from the scheduled start time, if not already in the 7th inning
- All open innings will be completed unless the home team score is higher after visitors complete their open inning.
- The minimum number of players is 8 to field a team. A 5-minute grace period will be given to a team(s) to allow 8 players to show up. Game clock for 1 hour and 15 minutes starts at scheduled game time.
- Call-ups are prohibited in the playoffs. Players must be from their own team roster.
- Rule #9 will be enforced in the playoffs. All players **MUST** wear their team jersey. Unless approved by Sam, **NO** jersey no game. If you cannot field a team of 8 players with your team jersey, you will forfeit the game. Jersey must be buttoned up.
- Any team forfeiting a game in playoffs will receive a loss. A \$300 fine is also applied.
- Mercy rules are in effect, therefore any team losing by more than 20 runs at the end of an inning is considered a mercy. Umpires have been instructed to move games along at a fair pace. Balls and strikes will be called by umpire against defending/offending team delaying the game if necessary.
- If the game is tied after the open inning, it will continue following the 'International Tiebreaker rule.' Under this rule, each team will start the inning with the player who completed the last official at-bat as a baserunner on second base. This baserunner cannot be replaced with a courtesy runner and must remain on the bases until they cross the home plate line. Furthermore, the inning will begin with one out. Subsequent innings will start in the same way until a winner is determined. It's essential to understand that this is not a sudden-death scenario, as both teams have an opportunity to bat in each inning. The game will conclude when one team is ahead at the end of an inning. If the game has not reached the time limit and

the umpire has not declared an open inning before the seventh inning, then the seventh inning and all subsequent innings will be considered open innings.

- Only 5 substitute runners per game. Must be a different person every time. NO extra substitutes if extra innings are played. In case of rain, four complete innings must be played to be deemed a completed game. The only exception is if in the middle of the fourth inning the home team is winning, then the game can be considered complete if called by the umpire.
- No injured player can be removed in the 6th or following innings. A player unable to bat due to injury will be counted as an out.
- You can pull 1 player per inning if injured, but only 1 player at a time unless it was obvious that two players need to leave the game from same team. Team still needs 8 players to play or forfeit game.

Championship Game

- The Home team for the final championship game is the undefeated team in the upper tier, no matter what the regular season standing.
- The Home team will have the choice of being HOME or Visitors for the championship game. If a rubber match is required, the Home and Visitor will be switched for the rubber match.
- If a rubber match is necessary to determine the division champion, it will be scheduled after the completion of the first championship game in other divisions, provided a free diamond is available and umpires are ready to officiate the game

Game Misconduct

- Any team that is caught drinking (Alcohol) or smoking (Tobacco/Weed) during the game will result in the team captain being thrown out of the game and given a one game suspension as per rule #30. As captains it is your responsibility to control the actions of your team. If you don't do that then you will be suspended. Bleachers and surrounding area are considered part of the dugout.
- Any arguments with umpires that are deemed unnecessary will cause players to be thrown out the game with no possible appeal. That individual will also be suspended for the remainder of the game plus the next game.
- No profanity or unsportsmanlike conduct will be allowed. Violation will result in player ejection; continued verbal abuse

and or threats will result in further disciplinary action, the result depending on the extent, the severity and nature of abuse.

Roster

- All players playing in the playoffs must have played 8 regular season games to be qualified for playoffs. Any teams that use a player or attempts to use a player that is not qualified will have that player removed from the roster and risk forfeiting their game.
- Please review the photo roster supplied of qualified players.
- Anyone proven to be impersonating someone else on the team roster will have their team disqualified from the playoffs.
- The convenor has the right to disqualify the team attempting to mislead the league to gain an unfair advantage.
- All Bats used in games must have symbols as indicated in rule #8. If in doubt, ask Sam or umpire before the game.



Homerun Rule

- Homerun Rule [3 plus 1]: At no time during a game will the number of over the fence homeruns (untouched) allowed hit by one team, be more than three (3) above the number hit by the opposing team. Any homerun more than 3, the batter will be declared out.
- A homerun is defined as a hit over the fence untouched. If a ball is going over the fence and deflected by a glove because of an attempt to catch the ball. It will not be counted part of the homerun rule but concerned a four base error.