

## **2017 PCA Fall League Rules**

### **Game Rules**

#### 1) Game Length

- a) All games are 7 innings w/ a 1:50 hour time limit (no inning will begin after 1:50 hours from start of game).
- b) If game is tied at the end of 7 innings or at the end of time limit, California Tie-Breaker will take place - runner on 2<sup>nd</sup> base w/ nobody out and a 1-1 count on the batter.
- c) There will be a max of only one (1) extra inning. If game is still tied after that, it will be considered a tie.

#### 2) Courtesy Runner for Pitcher & Catcher

- a) Mandatory w/ 2 outs, optional if less than 2 outs.
- b) Courtesy runner must be the last batted out - unless it's the pitcher or catcher, then it's the out before them.

#### 3) Mercy Rule

- a) No more than 6 runs can be scored in any inning, unless it is the last inning.
- b) If a team is down 10 runs after 5 innings, or 8 runs after 6, the game is over, regardless of time left on the clock.

#### 4) Pitching Limitations

- a) There is a MANDATORY 3 inning limit per pitcher per game - GET MORE KIDS THROWING!!

#### 5) Batting

- a) Teams must bat their entire line up.

#### 6) Mound Visits

- a) Each team will be permitted 2 mound visits for the game. The 3<sup>rd</sup> mound visit (and thereafter) you will be required to remove current pitcher from the game.

#### 7) Pitcher Balks

- a) There will be no warning for balks
- b) The 3<sup>rd</sup> to 1<sup>st</sup> pick off will not be allowed

### **General Rules**

1) No pregame warm ups will be allowed. We need time to get the field ready for the next game. You can use the outfield for ground/fly balls.

2) When warming up prior to game, have your players stay off the foul lines at all times!

3) No live hitting on fields unless it's whiffle balls. Hard balls must be hit into net. Have players stay on gravel by fence when hitting. AGAIN...Stay off foul lines!

4) Please arrive at your game at least 30 minutes prior to start time. If a game ends early, we will try to start the next game within 15-20 minutes. Be ready to play and have your pitchers warmed up and ready to go!!

5) No player can play without payment and having filled out medical release and program waiver consent form.

6) Home team will be responsible for keeping the book. Scorebook will be provided to home team before game. If you are 1<sup>st</sup> team please return scorebook to PCA Staff, or leave in dugout for next home team. If you are last game of night/day, please return scorebook to PCA Staff. Please do not take them home.

7) This is a WOOD BAT only fall league. No metal/composite metal bats will be allowed. No restrictions on wood bats.

8) Weather/Info - in case of bad weather I will notify coaches through text message. Coaches, it is your responsibility to contact your players. Please tell everyone NOT to call PCA asking about updates. I will make sure I communicate as best I can when it comes to updates.

9) Please clean up dugout area after game (water bottles, seed bags, athletic tape, etc.).

10) If you are first games on Thursday or Sunday, and the mound and plate are still tarped, please have your players help take the tarp off the field. We will be out there getting them ready and it just helps us out a little bit. Same thing goes if you are the last games on Thursdays. When a game is finished, we will be raking the mound and plate area on that particular field, so if the other field gets finished, a little rake of the mound and plate area, along with getting tarps out is greatly appreciated. We will be doing our best to get the fields prepped for the next games, but a little help is always appreciated and goes a long way.

11) Game balls will be provided. PLEASE HAVE YOUR TEAM (players, coaches, parents) HELP RETRIEVE FOUL BALLS. Please return all baseballs after game to PCA Staff Member. This helps speed the game up. We will not keep providing baseballs if your teams refuse to help retrieve them. Baseballs can get expensive and if they are not returned, it will delay the game.

12) Make sure all players are prepared with long sleeves. It gets cold as the fall moves on. BE PREPARED!

13) Players must be in our league, paid up and have all 3 forms filled out in order to participate. If we catch a team using an ineligible player, you will forfeit that game. If it happens a second time, your team will be removed from the fall league. This is an insurance reason, and I don't want to be liable for someone's selfishness!

14) As the year moves on, sometimes it gets tough with players not being able to make a game. If you are ever left without enough players, please contact me ASAP so I can try and find some players. Or, if you know a coach in the league, I don't mind you asking to use their players - as long as that player is in our league. I would rather get a few extra players than completely cancel the game. The team you are playing wants to get their games in.

15) Lay off the umpires. I'm talking coaches, players, fans, anyone affiliated with your team. The umpires we get are pretty darn good compared to most umpires we all get during the summer season, and their decision is final. If a coach or player gets thrown out of a game once, they are suspended for the next game. If it happens twice, they are removed from the fall league for the remainder of the season. It's fall ball. This league is designed to be competitive, but more importantly to get players some extra work in so they are prepared for their upcoming HS season.

16) Make sure you, your players, and your fans, show sportsmanship! I have coached a lot over the last 10 years and it never ceases to amaze me the BS I see from other teams. Respect the game and your opponent. Bad sportsmanship is just not tolerable. I understand things can get heated between the players sometimes when they are competing, but make sure you teach them how to handle those situations by setting a good example for them.