

Greater Hudson Valley Baseball League - 2021 Key Rules @ A Glance... Emphasis on Sportsmanship, Safety & Being Great Role Models

GAME PLAY	7U & 8U	9U	10U	11U	12U	13U	14U	15U	16U	VARSITY	COLLEGE
Umpire Fee	1 ump @ \$60 split by 2 teams		1 ump @ \$65	2 umps @ \$65		2 umps @ \$75			2 umps @ \$80		2 umps @ \$85
Game Length	6 inning games - No inning starts after 2:00 hr					7 inning games - No inning starts after 2:20 hr					
Extra Innings (Regular)	ALL Games - Play 1 extra inning straight up - Extra inning 2 & 3 use California Rule (last batted out @ 2nd base with NO outs) - After 3 extra Innings - TIE IS AWARDED - unless playoffs (play until decision)										
Minimum Players to Play	8 players must be at the field to start play. When 9th position in order comes up, an automatic out is recorded.										
Offensive Lineup	May bat 9, roster, or in-between - once game starts, team is locked into that number. No automatic outs unless only 8 players or player ejected. Players may "share" spot in batting order - hitting / baserunning										
Minimum Play Rule	Min 2 innings in field / 1 at bat		No minimum play requirements in 10U+								
Defensive Lineup	7U & 8U ONLY has 4 outfielders, all other divisions have 9 fielders. Open, free substitution for all divisions.										
Infield Fly Rule	7U & 8U ONLY NO infield fly rule, infield fly rule in effect for all divisions 9U & above										
Mercy Rules	10 runs after 4 innings or 10 runs after next full inning (home team gets last licks)					10 runs after 5 innings or 10 runs after next full inning (home team gets last licks)					
Dropped Third Strike	NO dropped 3rd strike (8U - 10U)			Dropped 3rd strike is in effect & ALLOWED (11U+)							
Trips to Mound	2 mound trips per inning (3 trip maximum for any pitcher - must remove on 3rd trip)					3 free pitcher conferences per game - removing pitcher does not count as a conference					
Balks	Not applicable in 8U, 9U, 10U			One warning / pitcher, no warning in playoffs.			No balk warnings 14U+				
"31" Pickoff Play	Not applicable in 8U, 9U, 10U			"31" Play - Defined as pitcher fake to 3rd, Pickoff to 1st is LEGAL in all divisions where there is leading and stealing.							
SAFETY	8U	9U	10U	11U	12U	13U	14U	15U	16U	VARSITY	COLLEGE
Bat Rules*	Wood or USABat			Wood, USABat, or BBCOR			Wood or BBCOR				
Footwear	Plastic or molded cleats (NO METAL)					Metal cleats allowed on 60/90 fields ONLY					
Catcher's Mask	Dangling throat protector is required for masks - unless a "Hockey Style" mask is used with extended throat protection. All masks must provide FULL EAR PROTECTION.										
Warm Up Batter	Allowed at fields with enclosed area for batter warm up (No open area bat swinging)					Open area bat swinging is allowed on 60/90 fields - please use appropriate safety judgement					
Warm Up Pitcher	Coaches not required to wear facemask - but ALL PLAYERS MUST WEAR FACEMASK to warm up pitcher at all times (on and off the field of play)										
Courtesy Runners Anytime	Run for CURRENT OR INCOMING CATCHER OR PITCHER @ ANYTIME - Replace with last batted out.										
Pitch Count / PitchSmart**	Remind at pregame - PITCHSMART is a GHVBL RULE - coaches must communicate between innings to stay current - HOME TEAM holds official pitch count. Pitch limits & daily maximum are HARD STOPS.										
Slap Bunt / Slash Bunt	Not Permitted - Automatic out - Warning to batter (ejection on second offense)					Fake bunt, slash is legal on the 60/90 field					
Sliding	GHVBL is a "SLIDE OR AVOID CONTACT" league. NO RULE FORCING YOU TO SLIDE. Forceful, purposeful, COLLISIONS are grounds for immediate ejection at umpire discretion.										
Head 1st Sliding	NO head 1st sliding on 46/60 fields. May dive BACK.					Head first slide (dive) into any base is allowed on 50/70 & 60/90 fields.					
Thunder & Lightning	Once game starts - Umpire discretion - thunder and/or lightning necessitates suspension of play. Wait 30 minutes after last thunder and/or lightning to begin play.										
SPORTSMANSHIP	8U	9U	10U	11U	12U	13U	14U	15U	16U	VARSITY	COLLEGE
Baseballs	Each Team is required to provide 2 new game balls to umpire to start. 5th ball provided by visiting team, then alternating. Teams may agree to each provide game balls for one game of a doubleheader.										
Heckling / Distraction***	League of gentlemen. Sportsmanship is the RULE. Outbursts when pitcher starts motion is NOT PERMITTED. More rope given on the 60/90 field - but sportsmanship should be adhered to at all levels.										
*RULE CONSEQUENCES	8U	9U	10U	11U	12U	13U	14U	15U	16U	VARSITY	COLLEGE
Bat Rules*	Use of illegal bat is prohibited. In the event an illegal bat is identified before AB - bat is removed and warning issued. If bat is used (1 pitch) in at bat, player is automatically out. Second offense - ejection.										
PitchSmart**	Pitch limits are GHVBL RULES. Avoid discipline by counting pitches & communicating with opposing scorekeeper each inning. Disregard (after communication) subjects team to forfeit and/or coach suspension.										
Heckling / Distraction***	1st offence - TEAM warning 2nd offense - umpire awards pitch (ball or strike) to team subjected to offense. 3rd offense - umpire may award base or out. 4th offense - GAME DECISION (umpire discretion)										