

# VERSAILLES YOUTH BASEBALL ASSOCIATION

## MINOR LEAGUE RULES

Ohio High School Athletic Association rules govern except as listed below.

- 1) To participate, players must be entering the 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> grade the next school year. The maximum number of years to participate in Minor League is two years.
- 2) All games will be played on Monday and Wednesday evenings at Heritage Park. Games will begin at 6:15 pm (unless noted otherwise in schedule) with no new innings starting after 7:30 pm.
- 3) Umpires will consist of the Batting Team's Coach calling balls and strikes on their own hitters. The bases will be umpired by the coach call pitches and the base coaches. Please be as fair and unbiased as possible. We want the league to be competitive but also fair.
- 4) Players will pitch the entire game with a 2 inning maximum per pitcher. The pitcher must pitch 2 consecutive innings if pitching multiple innings. Little league play will be enforced with walks and strikeouts issued. Throwing with correct mechanics and accuracy, not speed, should be taught to pitchers.
- 5) If a pitcher hits 3 batters during their 2 innings pitched, or walks 4 consecutive batters, they must be removed from pitching and to another position unless agreed upon by both coaches.
- 6) Catchers must wear a helmet, mask, shin guards and chest protector at all times while catching or warming up pitchers. Catchers are strongly encouraged to wear a cup while catching.
- 7) A game consists of six innings or time limit of 1 hour 15 minutes. Score will be kept. The home team keeps the official scorebook. If there is a tie at the end of six innings, and time has not expired, the game can continue until the tie is broken or time expires.
- 8) Ten players can play the field. If a team fields ten players, four must play outfield and all must be in the grass. If a team only has nine players, then three must play outfield with all playing in the grass.
- 9) If a team does not have at least nine regular players, they may elect to play with less or use other Versailles Youth Baseball Minor League team participants.
  - a) Maximum of two extra players allowed.
  - b) Extra players must play the outfield and bat last in the order.
  - c) Any decisions regarding the use of extra players must be agreeable by coaches of both participating teams.
- 10) Every player must play a minimum of three innings in the field. No player shall sit out more than two consecutive innings.
- 11) All players on the team must be in the batting order. Each team shall hit until:
  - a) Three outs are recorded
  - b) A maximum of 7 runs scored per inning
  - c) The complete batting order has hit and play has been stopped via dead ball.
- 12) The ball is dead when a player in the infield has control of the ball and calls time out, so long as the base runners are no longer advancing their position. Baserunners can only advance one base on an over throw. Baserunners cannot advance home on an overthrow.
- 13) No bunting.
- 14) No stealing is allowed. Runners may not lead off and cannot leave the base until the ball has reached the catcher. If runner leaves early he may be called out. No advancement of bases on passed balls thrown by the pitcher.
- 15) No base runner shall intentionally run into a baseman or catcher. If this occurs, the runner will be called out and explained the reason for his being out. The ball becomes automatically dead. Also, if the same runner repeats the mistake, he may be ejected from the game at the coach's discretion.
- 16) The catcher may only block the plate if he has possession of the ball.
- 17) Base runners are permitted to tag up and advance on fly balls.
- 18) A player is called out for throwing any equipment (bat, helmet, catching gear, glove, etc.) after one warning per team.
- 19) Players can be substituted at any time; however, the batting order must remain the same.
- 20) All games cancelled due to weather may be rescheduled at the commissioner's discretion.