

# ONTURF BASEBALL LEAGUE

## (8u Divisions)

*The ONTURF BASEBALL LEAGUE (LEAGUE) – 8u Divisions – provides a general league structure for participating teams to compete with other member teams throughout the designated season. Each member team agrees to abide by the rules as set forth annually by the coaches/managers of the teams. The LEAGUE will meet requirements for membership with BASEBALL PLAYERS ASSOCIATION (BPA).*

### ONTURF BASEBALL LEAGUE RULES

1. See [www.onturfsports.com](http://www.onturfsports.com) for the latest entry fee breakdown and deadline for payment/entry.
2. LEAGUE President and/or Secretary is responsible for –
  - a. Collection of team entry fees and disbursement of funds to cover expenses.
  - b. Obtaining awards for top team in each division.
  - c. Development of Web Page to publicize LEAGUE Standings, Game Results – [www.onturfsports.com](http://www.onturfsports.com). Each head coach is responsible to insure that game results are forwarded to the LEAGUE President - [onturfsports@gmail.com](mailto:onturfsports@gmail.com). **ONLY LEAGUE SCORES POSTED TO THE WEBSITE WILL BE USED TO DETERMINE LEAGUE DIVISION CHAMPION.** Scores and LEAGUE standings are posted on [www.onturfsports.com](http://www.onturfsports.com).
  - d. Monitoring of the LEAGUE to insure problems are resolved / conflicts settled
3. General Information –
  - a. Teams must be registered with the BPA to participate in any BPA postseason tournament. Teams may register with other national organizations as “independent teams” thereby allowing them to compete in other tournaments throughout the season.
  - b. Base Paths - 60 ft Pitching Distance – 46 ft. is the official playing distances for LEAGUE play.
  - c. A regulation game consists of six (6) innings, unless extended because of a tie score, or shortened due to any of the following circumstances: inclement weather, darkness, power outage, or mercy run rule. A game is considered “official” if four innings are completed (or the visiting team is trailing after 3 ½ innings). If a game is halted after becoming an “official” game, the game is considered complete. (If a tie results, teams shall either use the international tie breaking system or reschedule the remaining portion of the game and complete the innings required to determine a winner.) If a game is halted before becoming an “official game”, it will be considered “No Game” and a new six inning game will be played on the rescheduled date.
  - d. Home Team is responsible for scheduling umpires. Teams should split the costs associated with each game and baseballs for game play. The home team must brief umpires on LEAGUE and ground rules prior to start of a game.
  - e. Roster size is limited to **14 players**. Rosters must be submitted to LEAGUE President before your team begins playing **any** games. Teams who do not have a designated “home field” may be required to pay a stipend for field usage by the site you use.
4. BPA Official baseball rules are to be followed. For convenience, certain rules are noted below:
  - a. Seven (7) run limit per inning per team.
  - b. 12 run rule after 3 innings, 10 run rule after 4 innings, and 8 run rule after 5 innings.
  - c. Three (3) outs per inning.
  - d. Batters shall get six (6) pitches or three (3) strikes. If the sixth (6th) pitch is a foul ball, the batter shall receive an additional pitch or pitches until the ball is hit fair or the batter’s turn at bat is completed.
  - e. Each team on defense will field ten (10) players consisting of six (6) infielders (1B, 2B, SS, 3B, catcher and pitcher) and four (4) outfielders who must stay in the outfield until the ball is hit. Teams may start the game and play with nine (9) players, however they must play with all infielders including the pitcher. If a team drops below nine (9) players, the game will be forfeited.
  - f. Play will be stopped and “Time” will be called, when an infielder has control of the ball on the infield. The umpire will award bases based on where the runner(s) are at when “Time” was called. Any runner(s) not to the halfway point on the base path will go back to the previous base.
  - g. Baserunner(s) may not leave their base until the ball is hit. Runners(s) will be called out for leaving the base early.
  - h. If the batted ball hits an adult pitcher, the ball becomes dead. An adult pitcher must make an effort to keep from being hit by the batted ball (umpire’s judgment), and if no effort is made, the batter shall be declared out. **The youth pitcher must wear a helmet and stand on either side of the adult pitcher with one foot no more than 4 feet from the pitching plate. Youth pitcher shall not be in front of the adult pitcher.**
  - i. Offensive team will be allowed three (3) coaches on the field and should be positioned as follows: one (1) first base coach; one (1) third base coach; one (1) coach serving as the pitcher for their team. No coach(s) will be allowed on or in the field of play while a team is on defense.



- j. Courtesy runners are allowed for the catcher at anytime during the inning. The runner must be a player not currently in the lineup unless all players are in the lineup then the last offensive player who has just finished his/her turn at bat and has been put out shall be used as the courtesy runner. If there is no player put out at bat available, use the last completed at bat via a runner put out at a base, or that has scored if no runner has been put out at a base. Use of a courtesy runner does not affect player's eligibility to enter the game.
  - k. Catchers must use a catcher's mitt and all necessary protective gear, to include a protective cup.
  - l. No Metal cleats are authorized for LEAGUE play.
  - m. All games shall have a 1.5 hour time limit. No inning can start after 9:00 P.M. (Local ball parks may impose more stringent restrictions)
  - n. Use of profanity results in ejection of player or coach involved. Umpires may, at their discretion, eject a coach/manager for the conduct of the players.
  - o. Use of tobacco is prohibited on playing field and dugout areas. This rule applies to coaches, players, and helpers.
  - p. All players must wear NOCSAE approved protective headgear when at the plate, on deck, or on the base paths.
  - q. All players must wear a hat and shirt corresponding to their respective teammates prior to entering a game.
  - r. Any protest must be submitted to LEAGUE president (in writing) within 24 hours of the game being protested – team protesting the game is required to submit a check for \$100.00 for protest to be considered. If protest is upheld, check will be returned.
5. Base Running: BPA Rule 8, Section 14.
6. Teams will develop their own schedules directly with the other teams. The LEAGUE will host a date in February to discuss rules and allow scheduling to take place. Rescheduling of games does not require approval of LEAGUE President. (Coaches are responsible to coordinate game adjustments!)
7. ***Umpires must have uniformity in their attire. Home plate umpire should be a certified/sanctioned umpire. Securing/paying for umpires is the responsibility of the home team.***
8. Baseballs must be recognized as "suitable" for this age group. No restricted flight baseballs shall be used.
9. Each team must have in their possession at all games, a copy of a Board of Health Certificate for each player. These should be available to resolve a question regarding a player's age eligibility.