

Wilmington, Delaware
Men's Senior Baseball League



2021

**Michael K. Ingram II
Baseball League
Rules**

1. All games will be seven innings long. There is no time limit on games. There will be no extra innings.
2. A game shall be considered complete in the case of inclement weather; after the home team has been batted in the fourth inning.
3. Games called on account of darkness shall be continued at a later date. The game will continue from the exact point where it left off.
4. Rain-outs shall be determined by the league office in conjunction with team managers. When a rainout occurs and the same two teams have another scheduled single game, the date will become a double-header. If no additional game is scheduled between the same two teams, the two teams involved have 21 days from the date of the rainout to reschedule another date. When teams can't agree the league will select the time date and place for this game. This will be done prior to the start of the playoffs.
5. Protests must be filed, in writing, within twenty-four hours after said occurrence. Protests will be ruled on solely by the league office. Protests will be ruled on by the protest committee. A panel of one manager from each team not involved in the game in dispute will rule on any dispute or protest. No member of the protest committee will be allowed to rule on a dispute or protest in which they played. When an umpire misinterprets a league rule and neither team has a copy of the rules at the field, the umpires decision will stand and no protest will be accepted.
6. All players must wear complete uniforms while on the field of play.
7. Players may wear metal or plastic spiked shoes.
8. All players must wear protective helmet while at bat and while running the bases.
9. All teams will use wood bats only in all games. Wood composite bats are acceptable.
10. All game balls will be supplied by individual teams. All baseballs used in gameplay must be NFHS certified or higher
11. All team catchers will wear complete catching equipment consisting of chest protector, mask, and leg guards.
12. No alcoholic beverages or smoking on the bench or field, No drinking or smoking of same during the game. Anyone drinking or smoking during the game will not be allowed to continue in that game.
13. No family or friends on the bench during the game.

14. If a team is ahead by ten or more runs at the end of the fourth inning, the team with ten or more runs will be awarded the victory. The game will be declared complete at that point. All playoff games will be scheduled for seven innings. The mercy rule is in effect for playoff games.

15. All teams may bat up to 13 players. All players may be interchanged freely on defense. In the event a player is replaced in the batting order, he may not re-enter the game as a batter. In the event a team is batting ten or more players and the batting order should shrink for any reason, the team must take one out for every lost position in the batting order. This out must be taken when the lost spot in the order becomes due. This out will be taken only once for each spot lost. After the out has been taken one time, the team will skip over that spot in the batting order. The vacant spot must be pointed out to the umpire as the spot becomes due. When the defensive team fails to notify the umpire as the spot becomes due, this advantage will be lost and no penalty will be applied. Once the order has shrunk, it may not be expanded. Pitchers must bat, when a team selects not to use the Designated Hitter rule. *If a team falls below eight players, the game is over at that time. Players may be added to the bottom of the batting order at any time during the game. There will be free substitutions in the field throughout the game. Any player, whether or not in the hitting lineup, may play any position in the field and players may be freely substituted in and out of the field throughout the game. Teams will have to option to share or split one spot in the batting order. A shared spot and the players sharing the spots must be declared before the game. Either can hit or both can play defense on the shared spot. A player in the shared spot cannot be a courtesy runner for the other player in the shared spot. If a player in the shared spot is injured or otherwise leaves the game, the remaining player can continue alone in that spot, or a player who was not in the batting order can replace the player who left the game from the shared spot. Due to the adoption of the shared spot rule the designated hitter rule no longer exists. Each team may use a courtesy runner for the catcher and the pitcher. The courtesy runner must be the last batted out or a player not in the batting order.

16. Playing time shall be determined solely by the team manager. The league strongly suggest that each team give the maximum amount of playing time to the maximum amount of players.

17. There are no roster caps for teams in 2021. With no limits on an amount of players on a team, there will be no additional players added to rosters after Opening Day. If a player is dropped from the roster a new player cannot be added. If a player is dropped from the roster and wants to return to the team, he must qualify for the play-offs with an appearance in 25% of the team's scheduled games played.

18. A team may begin and end a game with 8 players. Teams with less than 9 players may ask to borrow a defensive player from their opponent. The opponent will have the option to deny the request. In the event the total amount of players drop below 8, the game will be declared over. The team with less than 8 players will forfeit the game.

19. All players must be 25 by December 31, 2020 to participate in the Michael K. Ingram II Baseball League. Any team found with an under-aged player will forfeit all games in which the under-aged player participated unless the player was grandfathered in at the start of the season by the league or issued a waiver.

20. All players must appear in at least 25% of their team's games to be eligible for playoffs.

21. When teams finish in a tie for a playoff or a tournament spot the following tie breaking formula will be used. When two teams are tied:

A - Best record based on head-to-head competition

B - Best run differential between the two tied teams in games played against each other.

C - Fewest runs given against mutual opponents. Games counted will be equal and games played last will be eliminated until both teams are equal.

D - Coin flip

22. A player may not switch teams once registered. A switch can only occur if the managers of both teams agree in writing. The league will not make a decision on any team or roster changes that have been submitted without written consent. It is further understood (that a player switching teams during the season, must appear in at least 25% of the team's regular season games with the team he has been reassigned in order to be eligible for the playoffs. If a player switches teams, he may not switch back to his former team to participate in playoffs. Playoff eligibility will begin the day the player changes teams.

23. If a player is not registered, and participates in a game, the game played will result in a forfeit. No appearance will be registered for any player on the forfeiting team. Players on the forfeiting team will receive no credit for innings or game games played.

24. If/When a team has folded during the season, players essentially become free agents, and can play for any team.

25. All Sunday games will start at 9:00 AM or later unless otherwise posted

26. Umpire Payment - After first pitch umpires are entitled to full pay. If a game never starts, umpires are entitled to travel money, equal to half of pay. If after thirty minutes the first game of a doubleheader is forfeited, the umpire must wait another thirty minutes before declaring the second game a forfeit. The umpires will then be paid for one full game.