

## ALTB Colt League Baseball

### RULES OF PLAY

1. All games shall be played according to IHSA Baseball Rules, except as noted within these rules.
2. A regulation game will be seven (7) innings, five (5) innings must be played to constitute a legal, "official" contest, except as follows:
  - (a.) A game will be considered a legal contest, if after 4 completed innings, either team is leading by fifteen (15) runs, or after the completion of the 5<sup>th</sup> inning or later innings, either team is leading by ten (10) runs or more.
  - (b.) Any game terminated before becoming a legal contest, as described above, will be considered a suspended game, and will be rescheduled for continued play from the point of suspension. This action should be recorded in the home team scorebook, and would pertain to games suspended due to weather, mechanical failures, or any other instances determined by the Officers. These games will be continued, only if such game has a bearing on the championship of the division or determining the team(s) which may become eligible for the post-season playoffs.
  - (c.) All single regular season games will have no time limit, except if field lights are needed. If an official game can't be completed due to darkness, the official score will revert back to the last full inning completed.
  - (d.) **Doubleheader time limits are as follows:** No new inning can start after the two-hour time limit mark. There will be an absolute complete game time limit of (2) two hours and 30 minutes. If the absolute complete game time limit is reached and each team hasn't received equal inning outs, the final score to be recorded will be the last full completed inning played.
3. All tie games will be official as ½ game won and ½ game lost.
4. Any ties in the Final Standings will be broken down as follows for determining the playoff seeds:
  - (a.) Head-to-Head competition during the regular season
  - (b.) If more than two (2) teams are tied, combined records among those teams will be used.
  - (c.) Run differential between teams with maximum of 10 runs allowed per game.
5. All games will be played according to a schedule provided or adjusted by opposing team managers.
  - (a.) Each rained-out game should be rescheduled *on the next available open date*, as determined by opposing managers.
6. The Home Plate umpire is responsible for establishing the official time of each game and shall notify each manager of the official time, so that both teams can record the time in their scorebooks.
7. No team can be fielded with less than **eight (8) players**. Teams will have their players properly uniformed; however, no game will be forfeited because of lack of uniformed players.
8. The umpires will be furnished by each home team at their own expense. Program requires at least (1) IHSA patched umpire or (2) uncertified umpires.
9. Officers of ALTB will decide upon protests. Any protests must be made immediately on the field to the Umpire in charge, as to the specific point of the protest. The umpire must see that the Official (home team) scorebook is marked accordingly. Such protests must be forwarded, in writing, to the League Secretary, before midnight of the following day.

10. If any difficulty arises during a League function which is not covered by these by laws, the decision relative thereto will be made by the ALTB Board of Directors.
11. The Home team will furnish three (3) IHSA approved baseballs per game.
12. When no official scorekeeper is present, the *home team* is responsible for these duties. **The Home team** is responsible for recording the score to the league within 24 hours.
13. All teams must submit and carry a current Certificate of Insurance with the league.

#### 14. **Player Eligibility:**

- (a.) Age: A player is eligible if he has not reached his 18<sup>th</sup> birthday before May 1<sup>st</sup> of the current season.
- (b.) Each player must present to the League the appropriate registration and a copy of their birth certificate.
- (c.) All teams are required to provide team rosters prior to the start of the season.
- (d.) Teams must inform ALTB of player injuries and time expected to be on injured reserve.
- (e.) Players must attend (10) regular season games to qualify for the ALTB Championship Series.
- (f.) All teams are required to supply their own team equipment. (IHSA Approved)
- (g.) Any Manager, Coach or Player ejected from a game will automatically sit out a minimum of one additional (1) regular season/playoff game. **No appeals will be heard. Should the ejection involve any disrespect of the Umpires, fellow participants, fans, equipment, etc., the penalty will be two (2) full games suspension.** The ALTB League Officers will have the authority to increase the number of games should they deem the offending action warrants so – **but only by a majority vote of greater than 2/3rd in favor of additional games**
- (h.) Use of any ineligible player will cause forfeiture of game(s), in which such ineligible player participated.

>> IHSA Courtesy runner rule is amended for League play: Any player who is *currently not in the game* is eligible to be a courtesy runner (even if said player has been in the game previously)

>> Please try to keep warming up in between innings to 3 minutes. All pitchers will get (8) warm up tosses per inning and fielders should hustle on and off the field to keep play moving.

>> Each team should obey the pitch count guidelines set forth by the IHSA. Pitch counts can easily be kept track of using your Game Changer App.

>> **All bats are to be -3 BBCOR certified for IHSA league play.** If any player enters the batter's box with an illegal bat, the penalty is an automatic recorded out. The manager will be warned of the equipment violation and put on notice. If the manager allows an illegal bat to be used after the notice, that player and manager will be automatically ejected from the game.

>> Any game participant who is ejected during a game will automatically be ineligible for the next game his team plays with no appeal process available.

## Playoff Rules of Play

- Playoff brackets will be out at the conclusion of the season.
- All games will have no time limit, any suspended games will be completed at the next available date.
- All games will be single elimination until we are down to four (4) teams left. The remaining games will be double elimination until we have a champion.
- Awards will be presented to 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners. Champion's name will be added to the ALTB Championship Cup Trophy held by ALTB