

## Takoma Park-Silver Spring Baseball Majors-60 Division Rules

The rules of the Majors-60 Division are the rules stated in TPSS General Rules, with the exception or addition of the following rules:

1. **Lineup.** Each player present before the start of the game must play defense on the field at least one-half of the game. All players present, whether or not they are in the defensive lineup for a particular inning, must be in the batting lineup.
2. **Number & Position of Players.** A minimum of seven players is needed to begin a game. A team can use up to 9 players in the field. No infielder may be positioned on a base when the pitch is delivered
3. **Dimensions.** Base paths will be 60 feet apart. The pitching rubber will be 46 feet from home plate.
4. **Bunting.** Allowed.
5. **Infield Fly Rule.** In effect.
6. **Stealing.** A runner may attempt to steal any base, but may not leave until the ball has reached home plate. Steals may be attempted after a passed ball. If the runner is stealing home, the batter must step out of the batter's box, and must not obstruct the catcher's effort to tag the runner. Intentional obstruction of the plate shall lead to the runner being called out.
7. **Leading:** Leading is not allowed. Runners may only leave base when the ball reaches home plate or the batter makes contact with the ball.. If a runner leaves a base early the player is called out.
8. **Runs Per Inning.** In order to allow for full games to be played and to minimize lopsided, uncompetitive games, the team at bat generally will be limited to scoring 5 runs each inning, provided however that a team which begins its at bat behind in the score is allowed to score as many runs as is necessary to tie the score and then may score a maximum of 5 more runs. However, the 5 run limit does not apply in the entire sixth inning (or in an extra inning) when an unlimited number of runs may be scored by either team within their three outs. Of course, all innings end once three outs are recorded.
9. **Length of Game.** Games will be six innings long, if possible. However, no new inning can begin after 90 minutes have passed on a weeknight or after 1 hr. 45 minutes have passed on a weekend. Extra innings in a tie game can be played if both managers agree. Otherwise the score is recorded as a tie. [Note: this is constrained by General Rule #21.]
10. **Sliding.** Head-first sliding is not allowed. The runner is automatically out. However, if a player over-runs a base, the player may slide head-first to get back to the base. Runners are not required to slide, but they cannot deliberately run into a fielder. If a collision is deemed the fault of the runner, the runner may be called out for interference.
11. **Dropped 3rd Strike.** The batter cannot attempt to steal first base if the catcher drops the third strike.
12. **Courtesy runner.** When there are two outs in an inning and the catcher in the next half-

inning is a runner on base, a courtesy runner will be sent in to run for the catcher, so that the catcher may put on his catcher's equipment for the next inning. The courtesy runner must be the player who made the last out in the current half-inning, unless that player is injured.

13. **Time Out.** Normal baseball rules apply for time-outs. A player may ask the umpire for time, but only the umpire may call time and only after the play is dead.
14. **Pitching Eligibility.** A pitcher may only pitch six innings per calendar week. A calendar week is Sunday through and including Saturday. A pitcher may only pitch two innings per game. Delivering one pitch constitutes 1 inning pitched. Players who pitch two innings are ineligible for the next game if it is played on the following day. If a game is rescheduled, pitching eligibility and limits are determined by when the game is actually played.
15. **Pitching Wildness.** The League recommends removing a pitcher who walks four batters in a row. ***Pitchers who hit two batters at any point during a single game are automatically removed and cannot return for the duration of the game.***
16. **Curve Balls and Breaking Pitches.** A pitcher may not throw an intentional curve or a breaking ball.
17. **Reinsertion of a Pitcher.** A pitcher removed from the mound may not return in the same inning.
18. **Balks.** The balk rule is not in effect.
19. **Cancellations.** The division president may cancel games when field conditions are not playable. Otherwise teams are expected to show up at the field where the umpire is the final authority on cancellations.
20. **Thunder and Lightning.** Play will be immediately stopped at the first instance of thunder, whether lightning is visible. Players will vacate the area of the diamond (and backstops), and will not take shelter under trees. Play will not resume until 10 minutes have passed without additional thunder being heard.
21. **Official Game.** A game in which the losing side has batted at least four innings will be considered an official game. Games that are stopped short of that mark will be rescheduled.