DIVISIONAL GROUND RULES  
Minor League - 2021  
A. GENERAL

1. Everyone is required to conduct themselves in a manner that sets a good example for the players. GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP IS A MUST (at practice and games).
2. No arguing balls & strike calls under ANY circumstances.
3. The strike zone is a LIBERAL one. Pitches over the plate from batters knees to armpits will be a strike. A close pitch should favor the pitcher. Coaches should encourage all players to swing the bat… do not encourage players to walk.
4. If you feel a gross mistake has been made (NOT on judgment call over a strike zone or whether a runner beat the throw to a base), please conference the opposing coach & umpire for a calm discussion to resolve the issue. Umpires have the final decision.
5. Intimidation of umpires will NOT be tolerated. Do NOT call out plays before they are finished or yell SAFE or OUT (or use over exaggerated hand signals) prior to the umpires call. There is a Zero Tolerance policy in place related to coach aggression.
6. Players and parents should be directed to review the EBLL “Code of Conduct” prior to the start of the season <https://bsbproduction.s3.amazonaws.com/portals/52230/docs/ebll-code-of-conduct.pdf>:
7. Both teams are responsible for preparing the field (grooming/lining) prior to games. Each team to provide one new game baseball to umpire prior to start of game. Home team is responsible for putting away all umpire equipment & field equipment, as well as  
   reporting the final scores to the Division Rep.
8. Both teams should leave the dugouts clean of water bottles and general rubbish. Please transfer full trash bins to the dumpster located in the parking lot.
9. Make-up games to be scheduled through the Player Agent and Division Rep. Please cancel and re-schedule games as far in advance as possible to allow for umpire coverage working with the Division Rep. Make EVERY effort to stay within the scheduled games.   If you personally cannot attend a scheduled game, please ask one of your assistant coaches to administer the game on your behalf. If you can field a team of at least 8 players, proceed with the game as planned.
10. No more than 4 adult coaches on the bench/dugout at one time. No coach is allowed on the field (other than coaches box) while play is in action. Do not stand closer to home plate than the dugout fence while play is in action. Coaches, please refrain from yelling back & forth to one another between dugouts.
11. Children ages 13-16 will umpire regular season games. EBLL will attempt to find adult volunteers to administer umpiring duties for the playoffs.
12. Every team makes the playoffs. The seeding will be determined at random.
13. All-Stars - At the end of the regular season, all coaches are required to nominate worthy players from their respective teams for Travel/All-Star consideration. All coaches for each age group will meet to discuss in open forum each candidate, and a voting process will take place. Please watch opposing players as the season progresses with this in mind.

B. EBLL MINOR LEAGUE BASEBALL GAME PLAY

1. Six inning game (maximum), no extra innings (exception: Playoffs). All players present must be in a continuous batting order. No player to sit out from a defensive position for consecutive innings. All players must play at least 9 defensive outs (in a six inning game). If a player becomes ill, injured or needs to leave the game prior to a scheduled at bat, his/her position in the batting order is skipped without penalty and batters continue in their regular order. A player who arrives late to the game can be inserted at the end of the batting order.
2. No inning can start after 7:45 on non-lighted fields.
3. Five runs per inning maximum. A game is considered complete & official if after 4 innings (3½ if home team is leading), for reasons of poor weather conditions, darkness, or mercy rule. Mercy Rule: If a team is leading by 11 or more runs by the completion of 4 full innings (3½ if home team is ahead), the game is considered complete & official. If the lead surpasses 11 runs at any point during the 5th inning, the game is considered complete & official. If a team is leading by 6 or more runs going into the 6th inning, or at any point into the 6th inning, scores the 6th lead run, the game is considered complete &official. No games will continue after the mercy rule is reached.
4. Once the ball is put in play, it is live, and play does not officially stop until the ball is in control of the defensive team on the pitcher’s mound.
5. Base Running Rules:  
   • No leading off bases.  
   • Runners may not leave the base until the ball crosses home plate.  
   • Runners advance one base at a time on a passed ball or steal. Runners may not advance an additional base as a result of an overthrow on an attempted steal. (Catchers should be encouraged to make the throw to the base on attempted steals)  
   • Runners may not advance once the catcher throws the ball back to the pitcher (no  
   delayed steals).  
   • Runners may not advance bases on overthrows from catcher to pitcher.  
   • Runners may not advance home on passed balls or steals.  
   • Do not attempt to take second base on a walk or when ball four is a passed ball.  
   • No head first slides other than BACK to a base. Any head first slides will result with the umpire calling the runner out.  
   • Runners must SLIDE or AVOID contact on any play being made to a base. Any contact between a runner & fielder as a result of a runner failing to slide, with the ball being thrown to the base in which the contact is made, will result with the umpire calling the runner out.  
   • Coaches should teach players to slide if there is any question to a play coming to the base they are running (including home plate, where incidental contact with a catcher can cause a run being taken away from the offensive team). Please note, a player can only be called out for not sliding if he/she comes in contact with a defensive player, while the ball is in route or at the base which the runner is sliding. It is SLIDE or AVOID….but it should be standard practice to continue to instruct the players to slide whenever a play is going to be close or is questionable.
6. No Infield Fly Rule (do not teach players to purposely drop a ball in order to make a double play).
7. Little League pitching rules apply. 12 year olds are NOT eligible to pitch in the minor league. No curveballs are allowed. Pitchers are limited to 4 innings per game or when pitcher reaches the limit for his age group as noted below. One pitch thrown equals one inning. A pitcher once removed from the mound cannot return as a pitcher.
8. Pitch Count Limitations:  
   11 year old 85 pitches per day  
   9-10 yr old 75 pitches per day  
   If a player pitches 66 or more pitches in a day, four (4) calendar days rest must be  
   observed.  
   51 – 65 pitches require three (3) calendar days rest.  
   36 – 50 pitches require two (2) calendar day rest.  
   21 – 35 pitches require one (1) calendar day rest.  
   1-20 pitches require no calendar days rest before pitching again.  
   Example: If a pitcher throws 50 pitches on Monday, his 2 calendar days rest would be Tuesday and Wednesday. So, he cannot pitch again until Thursday.  
   EXCEPTION: If a pitcher reaches a day(s) of rest threshold while facing a batter the pitcher may continue to pitch until any one of the following conditions occurs: 1. That batter reaches base; 2. That batter is retired; 3. The third out is made to complete the half-inning. The pitcher will only be required to observe the calendar day(s) of rest for the threshold he/she reached during that at-bat, provided that pitcher is removed before delivering a pitch to another batter. A Pitcher that throws 41 or more pitches in a game CANNOT play the position of Catcher for the remainder of the day. Also, a player who plays the Catcher position for four (4) or more innings is not eligible to pitch for the remainder of the day. Pitchers with 2 hit batters in one inning or 3 hit batters in one game must be replaced as  
   pitcher by a player currently in the field.
9. Home Teams must report your games scores and pitch counts in a timely manner (preferably the night of the game). Scores and pitch counts can be recorded on the online form located on the League website.
10. Concussions: If a medical professional, Umpire in Chief, the player's coach, the player's manager  
    or the player's parent has determined a player sustains a possible concussion, the player must, at a minimum, be removed from the game and/or practice for the remainder of that day. The league must also be aware of its respective state/provincial/municipal laws with regards to concussions and impose any additional requirements as necessary. His/her return to full participation is subject to:  
    1. The league's adherence to its respective state/provincial/municipal laws,  
    2. An evaluation and a written clearance from a physician or other accredited medical provider and  
    3. Written acknowledgement of the parents if a player is suspected of having a concussion, notification must be made as soon as possible to the VP of Baseball.
11. If a player is injured during a practice or game, the Coach must fill out and submit an Incident Report to the League Safety Officer. The Incident Report form is located her <https://s3.amazonaws.com/my.llfiles.com/00267776/IncidentReportForm.pdf>
12. Illegal Bats – it is the coach’s responsibility to inspect each of its player’s bats to ensure that it conforms to Little League Rules. This will not be the responsibility of the umpires in the Minor Division. Please refer to Little League Rules at [www.littleleague.org](http://www.littleleague.org/). If you suspect that a player is using an illegal bat please consult/discuss with the other coach. If it determined that an illegal bat is used, the bat must be taken out of play immediately. All other Little League Rules apply to illegal bat use.
13. All Catchers must wear cups and catcher’s masks are required to have throat protectors. East Bridgewater Little League is governed by Little League rules and regulations. This Ground Rule Document provides a general guideline for Little League rules. Any Other rules and regulations not included in this document can be found in the Official Little League Rule Book which will be provided to every coach. Please bring to all games.

EBLL Key Contacts - 2021  
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