

Preston Rec Youth Baseball 12U Majors Rules

1. Eligibility: players who are 12 years old or younger by April 30th of the season's year.
2. Sportsmanship: good sportsmanship by coaches, parents, players, other volunteers, spectators, and umpires is of highest importance and will be maintained at all times.
3. Coach volunteers: each team will have one head coach volunteer. Other coaches will be assistants.
 - 3.1. Coach volunteers are expected to exhibit a high degree of good sportsmanship and will strive to teach this to their players as an essential aspect of playing baseball with integrity.
4. Game Play: will follow Little League Baseball® rules unless otherwise indicated in this document. It is the responsibility of coaches to be familiar with and understand these rules.
 - 4.1. Decisions for calls on the field lie with the umpire(s). Players, spectators, and coaches cannot make official calls on the field. It is expected for disagreements to be handled respectfully and in a manner worthy of representing the city of Preston and the great sport of baseball.
 - 4.2. The home team dugout will be on the 1st base side, visiting team will be on the 3rd base side.
 - 4.3. This is a player pitch league. Pitchers will throw from 48 feet. Pitchers can throw a maximum of 4 innings per game and no more than 85 pitches per day. Coaches are responsible for monitoring a pitcher's pitch count.
 - 4.3.1. Coaches may make one mound visit per pitcher per inning. If a second mound visit is taken, then that pitcher must be substituted.
 - 4.3.2. Pitchers will receive 1 balk warning before balk penalty is given.
 - 4.3.3. Intentional walks are allowed and do not count against a pitcher's pitch count.
 - 4.3.4. New pitchers substituted during an inning may have up to 9 warm up pitches.
 - 4.3.5. If a pitcher is removed from the pitcher position, he may continue to play the game but may not pitch at all during the rest of the game.
 - 4.4. All players present will be in the batting order. Players arriving late will be put at the bottom of the order.
 - 4.4.1. If fewer than 9 players are present, an out must be taken when the absent player(s) position in the lineup comes up
 - 4.4.1.1. A coach may recruit a substitute player only if there are less than 9 players. A player from within the Preston Rec 10U Minors league or a lateral move from another Preston Rec 12U Majors team may be used, with approval by the league director. Players from older leagues (14U) *may not* play down a level, regardless of age. In order to give preference to the team, this recruit will be placed last in the lineup and cannot pitch.

Preston Rec Youth Baseball 12U Majors Rules

- 4.5.** A maximum of 9 players can be in the field to play defense. This must include a catcher, pitcher, 4 infielders, and 3 outfielders.
- 4.5.1.** The catcher must wear all catchers gear (helmet, facemask, chest protector, and shin guards). Catchers must also wear a cup.
- 4.5.2.** Infield shifts will be allowed
- 4.6. Batting**
- 4.6.1.** Bunting is allowed
- 4.6.2.** There are no bat size restrictions
- 4.6.3.** Batters must get out of the batter's box in between pitches if a runner on third is attempting to advance home. If there is going to be a play at home and the batter has not tried to get out of the way, the runner will be immediately called out.
- 4.7.** A ball in play becomes dead when any of the following occurs:
- 4.7.1.**(1) once the lead runner is contained to a base and time-out is called; other runners must return to their base, play is over.
- 4.7.2.**(2) if the ball leaves the field of play, which is on or past the 1st and 3rd base fence lines, on an errant throw. Runners advance on a throw that leaves the field of play.
- 4.7.2.1.** For example, if a runner is on 1st base when the ball leaves the field of play, he advances to 2nd base; if a runner is *between* 1st and 2nd base when the ball leaves the field of play, he will automatically advance to 3rd base.
- 4.7.3.**(3) if a batter is hit by a pitch. If the batter swings at a pitch but in the process he is hit by the ball, the ball is dead and the call is a strike. It is also a dead ball and a strike if the batter steps into a pitch that would have been a strike.
- 4.8.** Base paths will be 65 feet
- 4.8.1.** Leading-off bases is allowed as well as pickoff attempts.
- 4.8.2.** Stealing bases is allowed
- 4.8.2.1.** Once the ball has been returned to the pitcher within an 8-foot radius from the rubber, a base runner must immediately return to the base they were at or advance at their own risk. "Hot-dogging" on the bases dramatically reduces the quality of the game and will not be tolerated. Teams will receive one warning after the first infraction. A second infraction will result in the runner being called out at the umpires' discretion.
- 4.8.3.** Runners must slide into 2nd base, 3rd base and home, especially if there is going to be a play there. If they do not slide and it interferes with the defenders' ability to make a play, the runner will be called out.
- 4.8.4.** If the catcher blocks home plate before having possession of the ball, then the runner will be called safe.

Preston Rec Youth Baseball

12U Majors Rules

- 4.8.5.** The batter can advance to 1st on a dropped 3rd strike as long as the base is open or if there are 2 outs. If the batter does not realize he can advance and starts back to the dugout, he will be called out at the umpire's discretion
- 4.9.** The batting team must remain in the dugout during their team's at bat. No bats are allowed in the dugout. One player is allowed to be outside the dugout in an on deck circle warming up and must be wearing a helmet. Batters and all base runners are required to wear helmets at all times.
- 4.10.** Games will be 5 innings, with no new inning beginning after 75 minutes from the start of the game.
- 4.10.1.** There will be a run limit of 5 runs per inning including the final inning and extra innings.
- **For example: if the game begins at 5:30, and at 6:45 (the 75-minute mark) there is 1 out in the top of the 4th, the 4th inning will be the last inning. The top of the 4th will be completed and then the bottom of the 4th will be played if necessary.**
- 4.10.2.** There will be a maximum of 2 minutes between inning halves
- 4.10.3.** There will not be any ties. A game that is tied at the end of the final inning will continue into extra innings until a winner can be decided. Extra inning play will begin with a runner on 2nd base; this runner will be the player who batted last in the previous inning.
- 4.10.4.** Attempts will be made to complete games at a later time/date that need to be delayed due to inclement weather or other unforeseen circumstances.
- 4.10.4.1.** For safety, games will be delayed if lightning is seen. Games will not resume until no lightning is seen for at least 20 minutes.
- 4.10.4.2.** A game will be considered complete if 4 innings have been played in full and inclement weather causes the game to be ended.
- 4.11.** Each team must have their own score keeper. Score keepers are encouraged to sit next to each other and communicate every ½ inning to maintain the same score.
- 5. Playoffs:** each team will be seeded according to their win-loss record. Every attempt should be made to make up any missed games during the regular season.
- 5.1.** In the event that win-loss records are tied, the head-to-head record will be used. If that is also tied, then record breaker will be decided by a coin toss.
- 5.2.** All the above rules apply to playoff games.
- 5.3.** The final championship game will play a minimum of 5 innings and will not be timed. The 5-run rule will be maintained as described above.