



League Guidelines (2024)

League Mission

The goal of the Mt. Hood Baseball League is to provide a competitive season outside of tournament play for teams in the Greater Portland area. Teams invited to participate will be like-minded, with a focus on helping players realize their goals of playing college baseball and beyond. Teams will be invited based upon their reputation in the baseball community, consistency of competitiveness on the field, and overall organizational history.

League Format

Each team will play a 12-16 league games depending on the number of teams in each age division. These games can be on mid week or on weekends. The goal is to play 2-3 games per week to supplement the tournament and showcase schedules.

Game season for 16U and 18U will begin on Monday June 3rd - the Monday after the OSAA state championship game - and all league games must be completed by July 19th - the third Friday in July. That provides 7 weeks to complete all the league games and a final week to play a league championship tournament. Game season for 12U, 13U, 14U will begin the first of April.

Championship Tournament

The season will end with a championship tournament. A perpetual trophy will be created for each age division similar to the Stanley Cup. The league tournament format will be decided once the number of teams is determined for each age division.

The ideal tournament format would be two single elimination brackets with the two winners playing a best of three series to determine the champion. The best of three series will be played on a neutral field. 16U and 18U will play on a college field while younger divisions will play on a high quality neutral site.

The league will supply baseballs and umpires for all playoff games and a college field/neutral field for the championship series.

League Fees

Your league fees will include all administrative costs, championship tournament, website, social media, and more.

- 16U & 18U Divisions - \$800
- 12U, 13U, 14U Divisions - \$500

Umpire Fees

Additionally, teams will split all umpire fees equally. The fees will vary based upon the number of teams in each age division and location of games. PBUA will be the exclusive umpire organization for all HS games played in the Portland area. EBUA will be the exclusive umpire organization for all HS games played in the Vancouver area. Umpire fees must be paid prior to the start of the season.



League Guidelines (2024)

Fields

Each team is responsible for securing and paying for their own home field. If teams choose to play a double header, the visiting team should pay for half the field use. The field should be in great condition throughout the summer. Scoreboards are highly encouraged to add to the game experience.

Game Scheduling

There will be a scheduling meeting in late January or early February where a team representative or each individual coach will be required to attend to complete scheduling. Teams need to bring their field availability and calendars to this meeting to schedule games. The format for league play will be determined by then and it will be the responsibility of the coaches to get their games scheduled. This process allows for teams to determine their tournament schedules and have flexibility to schedule around any conflicts such as graduation dates.

Completed schedules will be submitted to the league office. Everything will be taken care of by the league admins - creating a master schedule, posting schedules on league website, scheduling umpires, etc.

Completing the required league games should take preference over non league games.

League games that are postponed due to weather should be made up as quickly as possible and prior to the end of the regular season. If any games are not made up, the league administrators will determine how those games are counted for the standings and playoff seeding. Teams that do not complete all their games may not be invited to participate in future years.

Umpire Protocols

All umpire scheduling will be completed by the league administration after the schedule meeting. In the event of a postponement, the HOME team must communicate to umpire association and league admins a minimum of 2 hours prior to game start time. Any communication after that point will result in you being charged for the umpires.

When calling or emailing to postpone a game, please include age group, home team, game start time, and game location. This must be done 2 hours prior to start time to avoid umpire charges.

Rescheduled games must be communicated to the league administrators and to the umpire association via email. Reschedules must be 48 hours or more in advance so umpires can schedule accordingly.

If you are postponing a game for any reason other than weather or COVID related illness, you must contact the opponent and agree to a makeup date a minimum of 1 week in advance. We should not be rescheduling many games!



League Guidelines (2024)

Roster Rules

You must submit your roster at least one week prior to the start of league play. This will freeze your roster for the summer.

18U teams can carry up to 25 players. 16U teams can carry up to 20 players. 12U, 13U, 14U teams can carry up to 15 players.

Dual rostering of players is allowed as long as it's within your own organization. Players can be dual rostered on a maximum of 2 teams in the league. To be eligible for the post season in that age group, a player must have played in 25% of that team's league games.

Once rosters have been turned in, they freeze. Please do not try to recruit players during the season from other teams. A player may be released from a team but only with written submission and approval from both teams. Said player will not be eligible for post season play.

We want the best teams and the best organizations to be a part of this league. Let's respect each other's rosters and operate in a professional, first class manner. Tryouts for the next season should not take place until after the league tournament is finished.

Score Reporting

All teams will be required to use Game Changer and the winning team needs to report the final score to the league email within 24 hours of the completion of the game. Please include age division, winning team score, and losing team score.

Post Season Tie Breakers

In the event of a tie for post season seeding, we will use the following tie breakers:

- 1 - Head to head record between the two teams. If there's a 3 team tie, this is thrown out.
- 2 - Runs allowed in the games between the tied teams.
- 3 - Overall runs allowed in all league games.
- 4 - Overall runs scored in all league games.

Game Playing Rules

We will use MLB OBR rules with some modifications:

League games are 7 innings in length. If a game is tied after 7 innings, we will use the MLB extra innings rule with the last recorded out starting at 2nd base and no outs.

The mercy rule will be 10 runs after the 5th inning (4 1/2 if home team is ahead). There are no other mercy rules. Our goal is to play competitive games and get players lots of opportunities.



League Guidelines (2024)

Game Playing Rules (con't)

You can bat 9, use a DH for the pitcher only, or use an EH. The EH will operate like an extra defensive position. However many hitters you start the game with is how many you end with. If you lose a player to ejection, injury, etc, you will take an out in the vacant lineup spot.

Re-entry for starters only and they must go back into their original spot in the batting order.

Slide rule - We will use the high school slide rule of straight into the bag. No malicious contact.

Courtsey runners - There will be no courtesy runners. Pitchers and catchers need to learn how to run the bases. Have a bench player ready to warm up pitchers between innings.

Pitching Rules

- 1 - There are no pitch limits. Coaches need to be smart with their pitcher usage.
- 2 - If a pitcher is removed from pitching, he cannot pitch again in the same game.
- 3 - Balks are live. No warnings.
- 4 - Mound visits - 1st visit is free per inning. 2nd visit to the same pitcher, must change pitcher. There is no limit per game on visits.

Bat Rules

These rules apply to all 18U, 16U and 14U age divisions:

1. All bats must be a maximum of -3 weight difference (BBCOR only).
2. Wood or composite wood bats are allowed if they are -3 weight difference or BBCOR.

These rules apply to all 13U and 12U age divisions:

1. All bats must be -10, -8, -5 or -3. It's recommending for 13U division to use -5 and 12U division to use -8 or -10.
2. Bats must be stamped USSSA 1.15 or USA.

It is the responsibility of each team to adhere to these rules. If a team is found to using an illegal bat, the umpires will be called out and all runners return to where they started. If illegal bats are used again in the same game, the player and head coach will be ejected.

Ejections

Any player or coach that is ejected will serve a one game suspension for the next league game. There are no appeals. If a trend of ejections presents itself, the league has the authority to increase suspension time or remove a team from the league. Please treat umpires with respect. We can't play without them.