



League Rules

High School Federation Rules

The National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) 2011 Baseball Rules are used by NVTBL as the primary rules to govern play. These rules are only superseded by AAU Age Group Competition Rules and NVTBL Local Rules as shown below.

AAU Age Group Competition Rules

- **Head first slide** - Age 12u, 13u, & 14u divisions: A player sliding head first into home base will be called out.
- **Bat Size** - Age 12u, 13u, & 14u divisions: Players shall **NOT** be limited by the 2011 High School Baseball Rules published by the NFHS regarding bat dimensions.

NVTBL Pitching Rules/Guidelines

Managers are responsible for implementing & administering safe pitching guidelines for each pitcher. NVTBL recommends that each team establish & adhere to written guidelines that have been reviewed with all parents involved in the team.

NVTBL Local Rules:

- 10-run rule will not be in effect.
- Uniforms –
 - All Players must have uniforms with numbers visible on the back of the jersey.
 - All on-field coaches for Middle School and older teams must be in uniform consistent with players. At a minimum, Baseball Pants and appropriate Coaches shirt/jacket. Matching team jerseys are NOT required. A fine of \$100 will be levied on each occurrence against teams violating this rule.
 - On-field coaches for 12u teams must be neatly dressed with appropriate shirts.
- Helmets must provide full-ear protection.
- Time limits on games shall be strictly enforced for all NVTBL games. No new inning can begin after 2:10 from the start of the game for 6- and 7-inning games. These restrictions shall be changed on unlit fields when necessary to assure all scheduled games are completed before dark.
- Lightning Policy – Teams, spectators, and umpires should seek safe shelter when thunder is heard or lightning is seen. A delay in game caused by thunder and/or lightning does not take time away from the game time.
- Official Book – The home team shall keep the official book.



- Bat Size –
 - No restrictions for 11u, 12u, 13u, & 14u teams.
 - JV, Varsity, and ODL teams are restricted to: –3 AND the Ball Exit-Speed Ratio (BESR) performance standard. Only those bats meeting both weight (-3) and BESR standards will be approved for JV, Varsity and ODL use. Approved hollow composite BESR baseball bats can be found on the NFHS website at:
<http://www.nfhs.org/content.aspx?id=4155&terms=composite+bats>)
- Double headers shall be 7 innings for 13u and older teams.
- Game Balls - Each team must provide 2 game balls at the start of each game & additional balls as needed. Baseballs will be NVTBL logo or Rawlings R200-NFHS or Diamond NFHS.
- DH/EH shall be in affect.
- Free defensive substitution shall be allowed for any player in the batting order. Substitutes not in the batting order shall enter the game under NFHS substitution rules.
- Batting Order – When batting the entire order with no available substitutes, injured players removed from the line-up are replaced by any available substitutes. The injured player is removed from the batting order with no penalty. This rule is in effect even if the team drops below 9 players.
- Courtesy Runners for the pitcher and catcher are allowed, regardless of the number of outs. A courtesy runner shall be an eligible substitute per NFHS rules. If no official eligible substitutes are available, the last batted out may be used as a courtesy runner. A starter who is eligible to reenter the game will be considered an eligible substitute for the purpose of determining a courtesy runner. Under no circumstances shall the same player be allowed to run for both pitcher & catcher in the same inning.
- Balks will be called under NFHS rules. (Exception: during Fall season, 13U divisions and under – umpires shall give 1 warning per pitcher).
- Protests - No protests will be recognized. All umpire decisions are final.
- Team Size - Teams may play games with fewer than 9 players if necessary. If requested, the opponents may provide additional defensive players.
- Player Ejection Policy – Player is suspended from participation in NVTBL for the next game.
- Parent Ejection Policy – Parent is suspended from participation in NVTBL for 8 calendar days from the date of ejection. Ejected parent's child is also suspended for 8 calendar days and may not participate in any NVTBL practices or games.
- Manager/Coach Ejection Policy – 1st occurrence - Manager/coach is suspended from participation in NVTBL for 8 calendar days from the date of ejection. 2nd occurrence – Manager/coach is suspended from participation in NVTBL for the remainder of the season and *may* not be allowed to participate in future seasons.