

# Warren Park Youth Baseball

## Rookie League Rules

Revised 4/2013

1. Games are played at the times and locations shown on the schedule.
2. Each player must be in complete uniform, including mitt, in order to play.
3. No players may leave base until play forces them to the next base.
4. Each player bats once each inning. A half-inning is over after each player has batted once, whether or not three outs are made. Scores are not kept. The batted ball must go at least 5 feet or it is a foul ball. Coaches should inscribe a line in the dirt 5' from home plate.
5. Each coach will pitch to their respective team. It is at the coach's discretion to determine a distance from which to pitch to each player. A ball may be pitched underhand, if necessary.
6. If a player swings and misses three times, or five pitches have been made, the assistant coach and/or parent assisting at home plate should bring out the tee.
7. If a batter reaches three strikes from the tee, the home-plate Coach/Parent should assist in hitting. Batters do not strike out.
8. Players may advance as many bases as possible if the ball breaks the plane of the base paths. Once the ball has been returned to the infield (breaking the imaginary plane of the base paths), the runners may not advance any further and should return to their previous base.
9. Bases are 45' apart; pitcher's mound is 30' from home.
10. All players will play in the field. Coaches are allowed in the field with their team to help with defensive alignments and verbally direct the action. Coaches must not touch live balls. Players should be placed at positions, not exceeding 1 pitcher, 1 catcher, 5 infielders, 4 outfielders. If a roster is carrying 12 players, a second pitcher may be used.
11. Defensive players should be encouraged to attempt to complete an out at the nearest base possible. Any out recorded in the field, with the exception of the batter, will stand and the base runner should leave the bases. The batter will not be asked to leave the bases if an out is recorded at first base. If the batter is tagged out while attempting to advance beyond first, the out will stand and the base runner should leave the base paths.
12. Bats can be wood or metal. The barrel of the bat cannot be more than 2-1/4" in diameter.
13. Home team coaches, assistants or parents set up the field prior to the start of the game, and return the equipment to the equipment box after the game. Both coaches must check that the equipment box is securely locked using both locks, before leaving the field.
14. All coaches must fill out a Chicago Park District Volunteer Application and return the completed application to the Board.
15. Rules not listed here are covered by the NFHS 2004 Rules Book available through the National Federation of State High School Associations, website address [www.nfhs.org](http://www.nfhs.org)