

April 2009

St. Johns Youth Baseball Association (SJYBA)  
Pee-Wee League Rules

The rules for all games will be taken from the Pony League Baseball rulebook unless otherwise addressed below.

General:

1. The days and times for games will be determined by the league director. No league standings will be kept.
2. Games will be played for 5 innings with a 1.25 hour time limit. No team is to take the field when there is less than 10 minutes to go in the allotted 1.25 hours. If time elapses while the visiting or home team is batting, they shall continue to bat and finish their portion of the inning. At the end of their at bat the game will be over, regardless of whether the home team had its "last bats". It will be the responsibility of the coaches to make sure the games are kept moving.
  - a. The Home team will be responsible for keeping the time.
  - b. Be considerate of the teams that play after you.
3. The Board of SJYBA will cancel games for inclement weather or poor field conditions. The league director will contact the coaches if games are cancelled or check the website [WWW.SJYBA.COM](http://WWW.SJYBA.COM).
  - a. "Rain-Outs" will not be rescheduled by the league. Coaches may reschedule amongst themselves. League director must be notified of reschedules to coordinate the availability of the fields.
  - b. Lightning/Thunder – 15 minute postponement rule
    - i. All players must seek shelter (vehicles)
    - ii. If after 15 minutes, the lightning has not subsided, wait an additional 15 minutes, for a maximum of 30 minutes
    - iii. If Lightning/Thunder return after play has resumed, the 15 minute rule will again be in effect and will start over.
    - iv. The 1.5 hour time limit is still in effect
    - v. The cancellation of an earlier game due to lightning/thunder does not cancel all later games
4. Practices - One practice per week according to the practice schedule provided by league director.
  - a. Helmets must be worn when batting in practice as well as games
  - b. The kids need to start hitting and fielding right away
  - c. Break kids into groups (get parents/assistants involved) for hitting, infield, flyballs
  - d. Limit the time kids stand around in line
  - e. Consider using tennis balls for fly balls
    - i. Alleviates fear
    - ii. Increases softness of catches and use of 2 hands

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5. Protective equipment should be worn by the players for practices and games:
  - a. Pants
  - b. Protective cup
  - c. Helmets (must wear for practices and games)
6. Base settings: 50 foot base paths with 45 feet to pitchers mound.
7. Games
  - a. No protests will be heard
  - b. The coaches will call outs, there will not be umpires
  - c. 5 Run per inning limit – once scored, the inning is over
  - d. 7 pitches per batter
    - i. Out:
      1. Swings and misses 3 pitches
      2. Ball not put in play after 7 pitches
      3. 3<sup>rd</sup> strike cannot be a foul, unless it is the 7<sup>th</sup> pitch
  - e. No Bunting
  - f. No infield fly rule
  - g. No leading off or stealing
  - h. All players will bat
    - i. Late arrivals must be inserted at the end of the order
  - i. All players can play in the field
    - i. Infield can only consist of 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, Shortstop, Third, pitcher, catcher – remaining players will play in outfield
  - j. Batting team's coach pitches
    - i. Coaches must pitch overhand
  - k. Sliding to 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, Home is encouraged
  - l. If a baserunner purposely runs into a fielder, the coach will remove the player from the game
  - m. Any unintentional contact by the baserunner will result in a caution and a second incident will result in the player being removed from the game
8. Players
  - a. League hats and team shirts must be worn during games
  - b. Long pants must be worn during practices AND games (NO EXCEPTIONS)
  - c. No watches or jewelry
  - d. Must wear batting helmet when on deck
  - e. No steel cleats
9. Coaches
  - a. Encourage, Encourage, Encourage
  - b. Instruct fundamentals of hitting, catching, running, sportsmanship
    - i. Proper hitting form
      1. Properly weighted bat for the size kid
    - ii. Proper throwing form
  - c. Encourage parents to work with the kids between games
  - d. No tobacco products are allowed on the fields or bench area
  - e. No alcoholic beverages are permitted near fields
  - f. Verbal or physical abuse will not be tolerated
  - g. All complaints against a coach should be directed to the league director
  - h. Only adults may coach bases