**2024 Major Boys Rules**

**Harlan/Hoagland/Monroeville/New Haven/Woodburn**

1. The home team must supply one new DSLL-1 (or equivalent) game ball. The visiting team will supply one good ball for backup.

1. Base lines are 70 feet, with the pitching rubber being 50 feet.

1. Teams must have a coach at first and third base, no players.

1. Games are six innings long. There is a 1 hour 45-minute time limit. For the purposes of time, the next inning begins at the time of the third out of the previous inning. No new inning will be started after the time limit, unless the game is tied. One inning will be played to break the tie. If the game is still tied after one extra inning, the game will be rescheduled and played from the point where the tied game stopped. A tied game may be played out if there isn't a game scheduled after it or it is the last game of the night.

1. A team must have a minimum of eight (8) players, or the game will be declared a forfeit. If needed, teams may bring up players from the minor league. A ninth player may be added to the lineup before the start of the second inning and will be added at the bottom of the batting order. Players brought up from Minor league may not be used as pitchers but may fill any other position.

1. There is a 15-run rule after 4 innings, and a 10-run rule after 5 innings.

1. For pitching, (5) innings per game and (9) innings per week and (11) innings for tournaments. Pitching rules will stand regardless of make-up games. (Week is defined as Monday-Sunday). In addition to innings, a pitch count will also be in place. \*\*\*\* A pitcher who has thrown more than 60 pitches in a single game must have a rest of 2 total days before pitching again. No more than 80 pitches total shall be pitched in a game. A pitcher who has thrown 80 pitches in a game must have a rest period of 4 total days. There is a 130-pitch maximum per week for any pitcher and 130-pitch maximum for the tournament. If a player hits a pitch limit in the middle of an at bat, the remaining pitches will not go against their pitch total if they are replaced immediately following the faced batter. (Example, a player hits 60 pitches with a 2-0 count on a batter. They can finish the batter and if the total pitches go above 60, it will only count for a 60 total pitch count game.) Coaches are responsible for tracking pitch counts and shall report the numbers with an opposing coach or umpire and have a pitch validation sheet signed by either one after the game for validation. If a coach shows up to a game without their pitch validation sheet from the previous game signed for validation, any pitcher for that team will have a 30-pitch count maximum for that game. A week is constituted as Monday through Sunday. One legal pitch in an inning constitutes a full inning pitched. A pitcher removed from the mound (and a replacement pitcher delivers a legal pitch) may not return for the remainder of the game

 Total pitch and inning counts are for the whole tournament and do not reset due to a reschedule.

1. Once a pitcher has been pulled, he may not return to the game as a pitcher.

1. One "balk" warning with free visit to mound by coach and or umpire, per player, per game until June 1st, then no warning. This visit will not count against the coach.

1. Each player is required to play two full innings of defense, and bat once when the game goes a full six innings. Except for the pitcher, there will be free substitutions when teams are on defense.

1. No metal cleats allowed.

1. Teams will bat a nine (9) man roster. The batting order does not change during the game. There will not be an out charged in the 9th position if a team must play the game with 8 players. Coaches may choose to bat 10 but face an out in the lineup if a player is ejected and no replacement available for the 10th batter position. Injury does not constitute an out in the line-up. An injured player may not re-enter a game.

1. There is a no slash rule. A batter cannot square to bunt, then pull back and swing.

 If this occurs, even if only an unsuccessful attempt, the play is ruled dead, and the batter is out.

1. USA stamped big barrels’ bats are allowed. Barrel size and drop weight are not a factor. 2 1/4 bats are still allowed.

 \*\*\*Big barrel bats without the USA stamp will be grounds for coach and player ejection.\*\*\*

1. A player must avoid contact but does not have to slide when there is a play being made on them.

Headfirst sliding is permitted.(2024 Revision)

1. Base runners may steal any base at any time. Leadoffs are permitted in this league.

1. First and second place league and tournament trophies (or other awards) only, will be awarded. League standings are based on the following: team’s overall record, head-to-head record, defensive runs allowed, offensive runs allowed.

 Coaches are responsible for reporting game scores to the division representative or “rep”.

 The division rep will gather and maintain standings for tournament seeding.

 These standings are only against teams in that league.

1. Any rule not listed above and approved at the joint park meeting will follow IHSAA rules.

1. There is no “coaches’ option” regarding these rules. Coaches who agree to override any

 general rule or league rule will result in an automatic forfeit

1. Infield fly rule applies in this league.

1. Drop third strike rule applies. When there are 2 outs, the batter may try to take first on a dropped third strike even if the base is occupied.