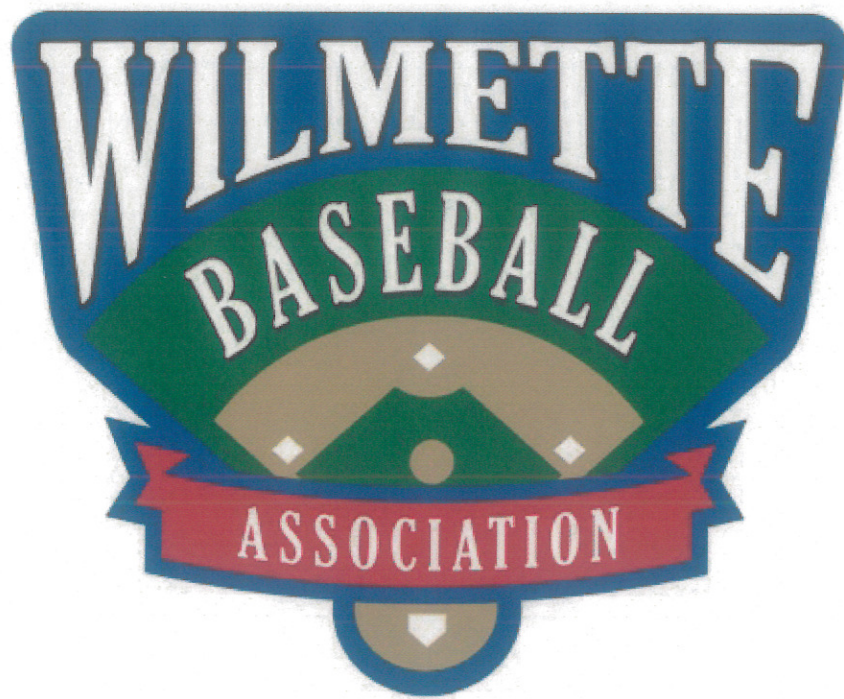


Intro to Baseball
Rules & Regulations



BEFORE THE GAME

- A. It is the responsibility of the home team manager to determine and notify the opposing team manager if the weather or playing conditions do not permit the start of the game. The home team manager is also responsible for setting up the bases. Each team provides their own set of “coach pitch” game balls.
- B. In the event of lightning or thunder the game MUST be halted. Play will resume only when (1) at least 30 minutes have passed since the last occurrence of thunder or lightning, and (2) both managers agree that play can be safely resumed.
- C. In the event a game is cancelled, the home team manager should contact the league president. See emailed handout for new website instructions.

RULES OF THE GAME

- A. A game is complete after 3 innings. A game can be continued beyond 3 innings by agreement of both team managers. In no event, however, shall an inning begin after 7:30 pm.
- B. Both team managers are the “umpires” for any calls in the field. We ask that any close calls go the offensive players since hitting and running the bases are usually the highlights of the games for the players.
- C. Batters, base runners, and batters on deck must wear helmets, fielders must wear baseball caps and have gloves.
- D. Only the manager or a coach for the batting team is permitted to “coach pitch” to the batting team. Under no circumstances may a player on the defensive team pitch to the batting team. The hitting team also provides the coach to play Catcher. He only retrieves pitches and throws them back to the pitcher. He does not field the position.
- E. Up to 2 coaches can stand in the field when their team is on defense in order to help position them before the pitch and to assist them in knowing where to throw when the ball is hit.
- F. A full defensive team consists of: Pitcher, 1st baseman, 2nd baseman, short-center fielder, shortstop, 3rd baseman, left fielder, left-center fielder, right center fielder and right fielder. All players rotate positions. No player should play the same position more than once in a game. All players must play at least one inning in the infield. Coaches can stand in the field to help instruct the fielders during the inning.
- G. Every player must bat every inning. An inning is over only when a team has batted around its full roster. The batting order is reversed each inning; the player that bats last in the first inning, bats first in the second inning etc.
- H. There are no balls and strikes. Every batter remains at bat until he hits the ball into fair play. Bunting is not allowed.

- I. Whenever a player is out, whether while batting or while running the bases, they need to leave the field. They do not stay on the bases once they are out.
- J. The tee will be used only after the pitcher has thrown 6 pitches to the batter and the batter has not hit the ball into fair play. The batter is allowed as many swings at the ball on the tee as needed. To encourage proper swing technique, hitting the tee is not equivalent to hitting the ball, regardless of whether the ball goes into fair play. As soon as the ball is properly hit, a manager or coach of the batting team must remove the tee from the field.
- K. Each batter and base runner can advance no more than 2 bases upon a ball being hit into fair play, even when there is an overthrow on the play. The only exception is the last batter, who is entitled to take as many bases he is able before being tagged out. The runners on base when the last batter is up are also entitled to take as many bases as possible.
- L. Batter crossing first base and turning to second base are not out if tagged. Nevertheless, managers and coaches should encourage batters to turn away from second base, unless taking second base is a possibility.
- M. Stealing bases is not permitted.

SAFETY AND CONDUCT

- A. Managers and coaches are expected to lead by example. Managers and coaches are not to swear, smoke, chew tobacco or drink alcohol during the game. Nor are they to argue in any way with the opposing team's managers or coaches.
- B. Managers and coaches must use bench discipline at all times and restrict players so that they are safely away from the field of play, except for: (1) those players at a defensive position (2) the batter, and (3) the player on deck.
- C. At any given time, **only one player shall have a bat in his hands- the batter. The man on deck is NOT permitted to have a bat in his hands.**
- D. Absolutely NO unsportsmanlike conduct toward anyone is allowed by any player, manager, coach or spectator. It is the responsibility of all managers and coaches to insure that all players, managers, coaches, parents and spectators comply with this rule.
- E. This league is about one thing only...THE KIDS HAVING FUN! Please remember that all players, managers, coaches, spectators and parents are representing Wilmette Baseball Association and our great community. Please respect the game and each other.