

Belleville Baseball 2026

APPROVED PLAYING RULES FOR ROOKIE DIVISION

SECTION 1.1 DIAMOND LAYOUT

- a) The pitcher is directly in front of home plate at a distance of 44 ft

SECTION 1.2 PLAYING RULES

- a) A maximum of 10 players may take the field at any given time. 4 of which will be outfielders that must remain on the outfield grass until the ball is hit by the batter
- b) Each team playing with 10 players will have a catcher, a 1st baseman, 2nd baseman, 3rd baseman, shortstop, a left fielder, a right fielder, 1 pitcher helper, 2 centre fielders.
- c) The pitcher helper must stand beside the pitcher and behind the release point of the ball. Once the ball is released, the pitcher helper may move in front of the release point. The pitcher helper must wear an approved batting helmet with facemask and chinstrap and may not remove it until the play is completed.
- d) A ball hit in the infield can only result in the runners moving 1 base max. A ball hit to the outfield will allow runners to run as many bases as possible until the ball is back in the infield at which point the runners may continue to their next base if they have passed to previous one already, but a play to get them out is still in affect.
- e) The time limit for all rookie division games shall be 1 hour and 15 minutes with no new inning starting after 1 hour 10 minutes
- f) Each batter shall receive a maximum of 5 pitches. The batter shall not be called out if the 5th pitch is called a foul ball.
- g) Batters cannot walk or bunt
- h) There shall be no passed balls or wild pitches (runners can only advance on a hit)

- i) Base runners cannot leave the base until the batter makes contact with the ball. If an infraction occurs, the ball will be declared dead and runners may not advance.
- j) If a batted ball hits the coach pitcher then the ball is declared dead and the batter is out, and all runners must return to their last base.
- k) The on-deck batter, the batter and all base runners must wear an approved batting helmet with chinstrap or cheek guard.
- l) All catchers are required to wear a mask, chest protector, shin guards and glove (Catcher's mitt is not required)
- m) An inning will be 3 outs, 7 runs or 10 batters (if playing with less than 10 players then the number of players present will be all you can bat in 1 inning) if in a last batter situation any out recorded ahead of the last batter/runner will end the inning
- n) Infield fly rule does not apply in Rookie
- o) No players can advance on an overthrow