

# Alden – Akron AA Division 2018

*NO REVISIONS FOR 2019*

**FIELD SPECIFICATION:**

As per Little League Rule Book. Bases will be at 60 feet.

**PLAYING RULES:**

The game shall be played in accordance with the "Playing Rules of the Little League Rule Book" with the exceptions outlined in this Rule Book.

Each player must play at least three complete innings in the field and be in the batting order throughout the game. These innings need not run consecutively. The only exceptions being games called for the time limit or weather. Games will be played during light rain or cold conditions, until lightning strikes or field conditions are unplayable and unsafe. There will be a decision made by both coaches ½ hour prior to game if game will not be played because of conditions.

A player cannot play the same position for more than two (2) consecutive innings. Each player should be given the opportunity to play every position based on skill level and safety.

All games will consist of six (6) innings but not more than two hours in length. If the score is tied after 6 innings and under the two hour time limit, teams will play extra innings until winner is decided or two hour time limit expires. If the home team is ahead in score at the start of the bottom of the 6<sup>th</sup> inning they will still be allowed to bat providing time is still available in the 2 hour rule for instructional purposes. Any scores made will not count towards the final score.

No inning may be started after the two (2) hour time limit has run out. Upon the two (2) hour limit from the scheduled start time, innings not completed revert to previous full inning score. It is considered a legal game if 4 innings, 3 ½ if the home team is winning, have been played. If time allows for more play after 6 innings any scoring will not count towards the outcome of the game. This time is allowed for additional coaching.

The infield fly rule will not be in effect.

There is no dropped third (3rd) strike rule. Players may not attempt to gain first base if the catcher drops the ball on the third (3rd) strike.

All games will start at the scheduled start time. Weeknight games will begin at 6:00 pm.

**PLAYING RULES:**

As per Little League rules no head first sliding will be allowed. Runners will be called out for sliding headfirst. The only exception being a player diving back to the base they were on if a play was made on them.

Metal spikes will not be allowed.

There will be unlimited substitutions allowed in the field.

Coaches may call time out to discuss issues or explain situations of game play for instructional purposes.

If a hit ball hits the pitching machine or field equipment (generator) the umpire will call a dead ball single. See umpire rules for further details.

There will be a maximum of 2 coaches in the field at any time. All other coaches will remain off the playing field.

Foul language will not be tolerated by players, coaches or fans. Any player or coach using foul language will be immediately thrown out of the game and must be removed from the playing area. Any fan using foul language directed at players, coaches or umpires will be asked to leave the playing area. If they refuse to leave, their team will forfeit the game.

Any unsportsmanlike acts such as slamming bats or throwing helmets by a player or coach will result in a warning to the player or coach. On the next offense by that player or coach, it will result in that player or coach being thrown out of the game. They must leave the playing area.

#### **TEAMS:**

Each team will field no more than ten (10) players but no less than eight (8) players. Outfielders must be positioned in the outfield (the grass line beyond the infield dirt) so that the base paths do not become crowded. Regardless of the number of players in the field no more than six (6) players may be positioned in the infield (1.Pitcher 2.Catcher 3.1st Base 4.2nd Base 5.3rd Base 6.Short Stop).

The batting order will consist of the full roster, with a maximum of ten

#### **BATTING:**

(10) batters per inning. If three outs are not recorded and the 10<sup>th</sup> batter for that inning has reached base, the inning will end when the ball is returned to the pitching mound.

The batting order will remain constant throughout the game.

Batting out of order will result in an out.

The first time through the batting order for each team, the batter will be allowed seven (7) strikes as this is the maximum number of pitches allowed. This is only for the first time through the lineup. This rule is to encourage the batter to swing the bat.

If a player must leave or is injured he/she will be skipped in the order with no out taken. Players not wanting to bat when their turn in the order comes, will be taken as an out.

Strikes will be called for foul balls and a player swinging and missing a pitch. The batter will strike out after three (3) swinging strikes or be called out for a failure to put the ball in play (hit a fair ball) after seven (7) pitches. A foul ball on the seventh and subsequent pitches will not be called an out.

No batting through the order in the first inning, (10 batters per inning rule) The 3 out rule will be in effect immediately.

Walks will not be issued.

Bunting is not allowed.

If a batter hits a ball which lands in the outfield grass, all runners may advance two bases max under the threat of being put out. For all other hits, runners may advance one base only.

## **PITCHING:**

A Pitching machine will be used with a player standing near the machine to field that position. The speed of the machine should remain consistent throughout the game at 36mph. No changes to the speed should be made unless both coaches are in agreement that an adjustment is needed. The umpire will place the ball into the machine.

The pitcher must be positioned to have at least 1 foot on the pitchers mound (dirt) or on the designated marked or chalked area. Do not allow player to stand in front of machine for safety reasons.

A batted ball hitting the pitching machine or field equipment will be played the same as a ball hitting an umpire. It will be a dead ball and the batter will be awarded first base. All other runners will advance one base only if forced.

As per little league regulations, the pitching rubber distance will be 46 feet from home plate. The pitching machine will be set up over the pitching rubber.

If the weather has affected the pitching machine whereas pitches are not consistently in the strike zone and both coaches agree, the coach will then pitch to the batters so the game may continue. The rule will also apply for equipment (pitching machine) that is not working properly, i.e. the pitching machine breaks or malfunctions

## **RUNNERS:**

Stealing is not allowed.

Leading off is not allowed. The runner cannot leave the base until the batter makes contact with the ball.

**On batted balls in the air that land in the outfield grass, the base runners and/or batter can advance two bases max at the runners risk of being put out. On batted balls on the ground that reach the outfield grass, the base runners and/or batter can advance one base max at the runners risk of being put out. There are no exceptions to the two base (or one base) maximum base rule.**

**Once the batter/runners have reached the maximum bases allowed, the ball is dead and runners may not advance further.**

Runners will not be allowed to advance on an over-throw to any base, regardless if it becomes out of play. This is to encourage players to throw the ball creating an opportunity for a possible out.

**BATS:**

Only bats with the "USA" stamp with max barrel diameter of 2-1/4" will be allowed. The maximum barrel size of bats is 2-1/4 inches. Any bat with a barrel larger than this will be ruled illegal and removed from the game. If a batter reaches base using an illegal bat he/she will be called out and removed from the base. Any runners advancing from the play will be returned to the base from which they started at before the play. All bats are required to have the USA stamp

**BALLS:**

An official little league baseball will be used for more consistent and accurate pitching from the pitching machine.

**UMPIRES:**

The designated umpire is the coach of the batting team and will feed the balls into the machine. Base coaches may be asked for opinion but the umpire will make the calls.

Umpires decisions are final. Excessive arguing with an umpire will be reported to and reviewed by the league board.

**SCORING:**

Both teams will keep a score book and compared during the game for accuracy. The lineups must be set prior to the game for opposing team to have ample time to copy lineups down.

**CALL UPS:**

If a team is in need of players to fill their roster for a game, they may call up players from the A Division. These called up players will be allowed to play only if it does not cause an AA player to have to sit. These A players will also only be allowed to play an outfield position.

**GAME RESULTS:**

Coaches must report scores to [president@akronsportsbaseball.com](mailto:president@akronsportsbaseball.com)

**RESCHEDULING GAMES:**

Cancelled games should be rescheduled within a week. The game does not need to be played within a week, but must have a date set for the make-up game.

The websites for our baseball leagues are as follows:

Alden Youth Baseball

[www.aldenyouthbaseball.com](http://www.aldenyouthbaseball.com)

Akron Youth Baseball

[www.akronsportsbaseball.com](http://www.akronsportsbaseball.com)

Game results and standings will be posted weekly on the appropriate website.

**The AKRON ALDEN Baseball League 2019 Representatives**

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Alden: Ben Baker, President

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