

BERNARD HOLLAND

BENTON YOUTH SPORTS ASSOCIATION

9 & 10 Year Old Live Arm – Rules of Play

1. **TIME LIMIT:** One hour and fifteen minutes or six (6) innings whichever comes first.
2. **BATTING ORDER:** All teams will bat round-robin.
3. **DEFENSE:** Will consist of nine (9) regular players.
4. **RUNS PER INNING:** Four (4) runs per inning.
5. **THE BATTER:** All batters will wear a batting helmet when on the field of play, whether as on deck hitter, a batter, or a base runner.
6. **THE CATCHER:** Must wear a face mask with throat protector, mitt, chest protector, shin guards, and a protective supporter with cup.
7. **COURTESY RUNNER:** Will not be allowed.
8. **INFIELD FLY:** Rule will not be in effect.
9. **BUNTING:** Will be allowed. (The batter may square to bunt and pull the bat back to take a pitch, but he cannot square and then swing away.) **Penalty:** The batter is out, no runners advance. This is NOT an appeal play.
10. **STEALING:** Will be allowed once the pitched ball has crossed the plate. **Penalty:** If the ball is put in play, the runner will be out. This will be a delayed deal ball and is NOT an appeal play. If the ball is NOT put in play, the runner shall return to the base he left early from.
11. **PITCHING:** MAX innings pitched per player per game is two (2) innings (6 outs). MUST pitch a 9-year-old 1 inning (3 outs) per game. Failure to do so will result in a forfeiture of game. The starting pitcher can be pulled and re-entered into the game if he/she has innings/outs remaining.
12. **COACHES:** On offense, a first base coach and a third base coach will be allowed on the field. On defense, coaches may sit or stand immediately in front of their dugouts as long as they are not in the way of play.
13. **BASE AWARDS:** All overthrown balls are live unless the ball leaves the field of play, in which case, a one (1) base limit will be given to the runners. Any (fair) batted ball that bounces over, rolls through, or under a fence will be a ground rule double.
14. **RUN RULE:** If a team is ahead by ten (10) runs after four (4) complete innings (3 ½ for the home team), the game will be called. If a team is ahead by seven (7) runs after five (5) complete innings (4 ½ for the home team), the game will be called.
15. **UMPIRES:** Two (2) umpires shall be present for games. The home plate umpire shall call fair or foul, plays at home plate and assist in making calls at bases. Both umpires may stop play by calling time out, ANY thrown ball striking an umpire is in play.
16. **OTHER:** Refer to the USSSA National By-Laws and/or Official Baseball Rules for situations not covered by these rules.