

Suffolk County P.A.L./B.O.S./TOWN OF BROOKHAVEN 2009

PLEASE NOTE

Important changes and clarifications included in the 2009 PAL-BOS/TOB Baseball Rules. For use in the 9,10,11,12 and the PAL Varsity & JV Divisions, along with the Little League and High School Federation Rules.

- Page 2 – PAL Chairman’s page
Change in Number of teams in an age division from one (1) organization
Clarifies when exceptions to the schedule will be permitted.
- Page 6 – Schedules – Clarifies when schedule changes will be permitted. Rule#1 & #4
- Page 6 – Make-up Games – clarifies when make-up games are to be re-scheduled.
- Page 7 – Protesting the Game – Rule #4 clarified
- Page 8 – Umpire Fees – amends clarifies Rule’s #1, #5 & #6 regarding travel fees and payment to one (1) umpire when two (2) are scheduled. Also expands notification to the Umpire Coordinators of game cancellation to two (2) hours prior to game time.
- Page 12 Pitching Rules - Amends the definition of when a player will be charged with an inning pitched.

Suffolk County P.A.L./B.O.S./TOWN OF BROOKHAVEN 2009

Dear PAL/BOS Representative

The following changes in PAL were instituted for the 2007 season....

- ❑ Only two (2) teams in each age division will be permitted, from any one organization, in age groups 9 through 12
- ❑ In each age division, if applicable, there will be only one (1) conference winner. If needed tie breaker rules will apply
- ❑ Each team should have a field. For teams that do not, an additional fee may be assessed for field use.
- ❑ Teams whose fields are not available until after the season begins may not have a balanced home game schedule
- ❑ Managers will be held accountable for their conduct and the conduct of their players, coaches, parents and other spectators.
- ❑ All paperwork will be filed on time; i.e. TEAM INFO SHEET, TEAM ROSTER (with birth certificate copies, if required), FIELD AVAILABILITY SHEET AND SCHEDULE EXCEPTION DATES SHEET, etc.

Exceptions in the schedule will be permitted for Religious and School Functions. In addition, exceptions will be permitted to accommodate possible conflicts with in-house programs, school games and for teams wishing to participate in outside tournaments.

Teams wishing to participate in outside tournaments must advise of same, prior to finalizing the game schedule, so any time that will be missed can be incorporated into the Game Schedule.

IN-HOUSE & SCHOOL GAMES – Schedules changes will be permitted, up to June 30th, to allow for conflicts with in-house programs and/or school games, provided notification is given to your division coordinator, 48 hours prior to the change.

TOURNAMENTS – Exception dates in the schedule will be recognized for teams participating in Tournaments, provided PAL-BOS/TOB is advised PRIOR to game scheduling (exception is the 12 year old division participating in the Williamsport Tournament. Notification as soon as District notifies regarding a team's schedule.)

The conduct of players, spectators and coaches must be without incident. The Suffolk County Policy Athletic League had initiated a ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY, regarding the conduct of their players, managers, coaches and fans, before, during and after PAL/TOB games.

This league was established, in 1979, to foster competition, as well as good sportsmanship and to provide the youth in our communities with a Travel Baseball Program to play baseball during the summer months. The PAL Board feels that the fervor of competition in a few of the leagues in our area and across the country, has overshadowed the true purpose of athletic competition, which is to foster good sportsmanship and character building. The PAL Baseball Board intends to be aggressive in identifying and eliminating from the league anyone who fails to control themselves and in turn puts others in jeopardy, either physically or verbally.

Jon Zatur

Suffolk County P.A.L./B.O.S./TOWN OF BROOKHAVEN 2009

Chairman
Suffolk County Police Athletic League
Baseball Board

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AGE GROUP	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>15 /16</u>	<u>18u</u>
							JV	VARSITY
BASES	60'	60'	75'	75'	90'	90'	90'	90'
PITCHING MOUND	46'	46'	51'	51'	60'6"	60'6"	60'6"	60'6"
INNINGS PLAYED	6*	6	6	6	7	7	7	7
OFFICIAL GAME	*****3 INNINGS***** 2 ½ IF HOME TEAM AHEAD				*****4 INNINGS***** 3 ½ IF HOME TEAM AHEAD			

****FOR PLAY OFF - REFERENCE SUSPENDED GAME RULE ****

MERCY RUN RULE: 10 run differential *****4 INNINGS *****
3 ½ IF HOME TEAM AHEAD

*** FOR ALL DIVISIONS ACTIVATED UPON 10 RUNS OR MORE- ***

STEALING	YES	YES	YES	- YES-09 and above (9yr olds NO stealing home plate)
LEADING	NO	YES	YES	- YES 10 YEAR OLD AND ABOVE
DROP 3RD STRIKE	NO	NO	YES	- YES-11 YEAR OLD AND ABOVE
INFIELD FLY RULE	NO	NO	NO	- YES-12 YEAR OLD AND ABOVE
BALKS	NO	NO	NO	YES 12and above (12u-one warning per pitcher ,per game)
STANDINGS	** WIN = 3 POINTS TIE = 2 POINTS LOSS=1 POINTS **			

RULES	MODIFIED LITTLE LEAGUE		MODIFIED HIGH SCHOOL (NATIONAL FEDERATION H.S. B/B)
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NOTE:

P.A.L.-B.O.S./TOB DOES NOT HAVE A 2 HOUR TIME LIMIT. THE ONLY RESTRICTIONS ARE

- 1. NO INNING MAY START AFTER TWO (2) HOURS (OLD PAL RULE AFTER 8 P.M.- UNLESS THE FIELD IS LIT)**
- 2. BASE PATHS MAY BE ACROSS GRASS/TURF,IF SAID FIELD IS DESIGNED IN THAT FASHION (OLD PAL RULE EXCEPTION: 9 YEAR OLD DIVISION-A NEW INNING CAN NOT START AFTER 2 ½ HOURS FROM THE START OF THE GAME. REGARDLESS OF THE INNINGS PLAYED, IT BECOMES AN OFFICIAL GAME .)**

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SUFFOLK COUNTY P.A.L. BASEBALL CODE OF ETHICS-

The *Suffolk County P.A.L. Baseball League* was established in 1979 for the purpose of providing friendly, high-level baseball competition between the various youth oriented community organizations in Suffolk County.

Member organizations should have as their primary purpose the best interest of the your involved and the best interest of P.A.L., as a whole. To achieve this purpose, the following *code of ethics* will be strictly adhered to by the member organizations and strictly enforced by the P.A.L./B.O.S. Baseball Board of Directors.

1. Good sportsmanship will be exhibited at all times by all persons involved in a P.A.L./B.O.S. sanctioned event.
2. Team managers are responsible for the players, coaches and the fans for their teams and shall maintain an atmosphere of good sportsmanship.
3. Officials are not to be berated and judgment calls are not to be questioned.
4. If a question arises pertaining to a rule interpretation, only the team manager shall have a discussion with an umpire/official and the discussion shall be carried on calmly. The umpire/official will have the final say while the game is in progress. The manager has the right to protest the game. See page # 7 -Protesting a Game.
5. Alcoholic beverages, foul language, abusive language or gestures are strictly prohibited.
6. Throwing of equipment or fighting will result in ejection from the game, and the next game. Based on severity of the incident; further action, including expulsion from PAL-BOS may result.
7. Field areas should be kept clean and free of litter.
8. Any organization failing to cooperate and adhere to P.A.L./B.O.S. policy; may, at the discretion of the P.A.L./B.O.S. Board of Directors, be expelled from the League. Forfeiture of All Fees will be imposed.
9. Any three ejection's', **will** result in automatic expulsion from PAL./B.O.S.
Exception: jewelry
10. Rules will be enforced according to the intent of said rules as
Interpreted by the PAL/B.O.S. Board.

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SCHEDULES

Schedule changes will be permitted after the schedule is finalized only for religious or school functions. ALL OTHER EXCEPTIONS SHOULD HAVE BEEN PLACED ON AN **EXCEPTION DATES SHEET**, PRIOR TO GAME SCHEDULING AND THEREFORE BEEN INCLUDED IN THE SCHEDULE.

Exceptions will be permitted to accommodate conflicts with in-house and school games up to June 30th. provide notification is given to the division coordinator, 72 hours prior to the change. This rule does not apply to the 12 year old division participating in the Williamsport Tournament.

In extreme circumstances the PAL / BOS Baseball Board reserves the right to authorize a schedule change.

WEATHER CONDITIONS/LIGHTNING:

1. Every effort should be made to allow a game to be played. A suspension of game play for 15 minutes without improvement of weather conditions, would result in a called and rescheduled game or an official game based on the age division regarding the number of innings for an official game. See page # 4-official game.
2. Extreme temperatures ,re; heat index, during the summer months may constitute a reason to cancel a game. The scheduled games are to be rescheduled by the managers and reported to the Division Coordinator for umpire scheduling..
3. **As soon as lightning is visible, the game is to be stopped! Appropriate rules will apply; re. CALLED GAME or OFFICIAL GAME.**
4. Umpire or P.A.L. official may prevent, stop or terminate any game due to weather or dangerous field conditions, which will result in a called or official game.

Definition:

- *Called Game - If a game is called before completion of the number of required innings, the umpire shall declare the contest "NO GAME".*
- *Official Game - Refer to Page #4 on number of innings declared by PAL/BOS as an official game.*

MAKE-UP GAME(S)

1. Games must be rescheduled within 7 calendar days of cancellation.
2. Home team is responsible to contact their coordinator for re-scheduling of the game(s).
3. If the game/games are not rescheduled within 7 calendar days, a double forfeit may result (no split in points.)
4. If it is brought to the attention of the Board that one team is not cooperating to reschedule the game/games within the 7 days and/or if the teams refuse to play the games, the Board reserves the right to reschedule a game when the two (2) teams can not agree.

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PROTESTING THE GAME

1. The only person who may register a protest is the team manager, AKA the person in charge of the team.
2. The only grounds for a protest is a decision based on an interpretation of the rules, or the use of an ineligible player.
3. The protest must be made immediately prior to the resumption of play (BEFORE THE NEXT PITCH), and indicated to both umpires in a highly visible manner. EXCEPTION: In the case of an ineligible player, the protest must be made before the final out of the game.
4. The protest may be removed any time during or immediately after the game. Protesting Manager must produce the appropriate rulebook and note the rule under protest, OTHERWISE PROTEST WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.
5. After conferring with the umpire in charge and establishing the grounds for a protest, the protesting manager will make a note of all pertinent game information at the time of protest
6. The umpire/official in charge will notify the opposing manager that the game is being played under protest, and after checking for accuracy, the umpire/official in charge will sign the protesting manager's Official scorebook.
7. The protesting manager will notify his P.A.L. Division Coordinator, within 24 hours after the completion of the game, that there is a protest, in person, by e-mail, fax or by phone. The coordinator will notify the appropriate Board members for the purpose of calling a Board meeting to hear/rule on said protest.
8. The protesting manager will be notified by a P.A.L./BOS BOARD MEMBER and he will then be advised when and where to deliver a full written report, a signed (by the umpire) copy of the game information note, and a check for \$100.00.
9. After a review, the Board will make a decision. If the protest is upheld, the game will be resumed from the point of protest and the \$100.00 will be returned. If the protest is not upheld, the \$100. Fee is forfeited.

FORFEITS

1. A forfeit will be awarded under the following conditions:
 - (a) A team is not ready to play 15 minutes after scheduled game time. In case of a double header, both games are forfeited. Forfeiting team will pay all fees.
 - (b) A team is unable to field at least 8 players throughout the entire game.
 - (c) Fields must be in playing condition prior to the start of the game. Forfeits may be awarded if the field is unprepared or deemed hazardous to players by the umpire, due to the neglect of the home team. In case of a double header, if the field can not be made playable within 15 minutes of the starting, the first game will be forfeited. An additional 15 minutes will be allowed for preparation for the 2nd game. After the additional 15 minutes the 2nd game will be forfeited..
 - (d) If in the Board's judgment a forfeit is warranted.
2. Organizations may be subject to additional fines and/or suspensions.

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3. All forfeit fees not paid at the field will be charged to the responsible team. If not paid, within 48 hours of the forfeit, future scheduled games may be cancelled, until payment is made.

UMPIRE FEES

1. Each team is responsible to pay 1 (one) umpire fee for each game. Or ½ (half) the umpire fee for the 9 and 10 year old divisions.
2. Home Team is responsible to pay all travel fees.
3. Forfeit fee(s) is to be paid by forfeiting team. If forfeiting team wants, the Umpires will wait 15 minutes from the scheduled game time for additional players to show. After 15 minutes forfeiting team is responsible to pay the umpires fee for the first game and for the second game, if a double header.
4. All forfeiture and travel fees not paid at the field will be charged to the appropriate team or organizations.
5. A travel fee per umpire will be paid if the umpires drive to a game and it is not played for any reason.

Travel Fees - \$25. Per umpire

6. If only 1 (one) umpire shows where 2 (two) are scheduled:

The Umpire receives a FULL FEE and a Half (1 ½)

Note: Game Cancellations; Umpire Coordinators must be notified **2 HOURS** prior to game time that the game will be cancelled in order for them to notify umpires, otherwise a travel fee will have to be paid to each umpire. Games cancelled for inclement weather only.

APPEAL PLAYS

In ALL DIVISIONS – There are no appeals permitted on Base Runners.

GROUND RULES/FIELD REQUIREMENTS

1. Ground rules will be discussed with the visiting manager and officials prior to the start of the game.
2. It is the responsibility of the home team to notify the visiting team of any cancellations due to weather or weather related conditions, two (2) hours prior to the game, if possible.
3. Every effort should be made to play the games as scheduled.
4. Home teams are solely responsible for conditions of the playing fields.
5. Fields must be in playing condition and lined prior to the start of each game. If a field is not lined, a \$50 fine MAY be imposed, but the game will be played.
6. Highly visible foul poles, cones or other visible apparatus must be in position.
7. Bases and pitching rubber must be anchored.

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8. Organizations should have on deck circles in a safe area. If an umpire ascertains that an on deck circle is not in a safe area, he will have it moved to a safe area.
9. NO game or a Forfeit(s) may be awarded if an official deems the fields to be unsafe.

EQUIPMENT/UNIFORMS

1. Batting and running helmets are mandatory. The Noxsee sticker must be affixed to all helmets.
2. Complete uniforms and hats must be worn while in the line-up. All uniforms should have the P.A.L. patch affixed OR screened to left sleeve, if available.
3. Managers/Coaches will be required to wear suitable attire:
(A Team Hat, Team Type Shirt & Coaches Shorts/Pants.DON'TS.ex. Blue Jeans, Cut off Shorts and flip flops will not be permitted.)

Failure to comply will result in expulsion from the game. If that coach is only adult coaching that game, he/she will be suspended from the NEXT game.

4. Each player's uniform number must be different.
5. Protective cups and appropriate head gear must be worn by catchers. The Noxsee sticker must be affixed to all head protection.
6. Bats must be in good condition and not altered in any unauthorized manner. Aluminum bats must have welded handles.

13 through 18u Divisions:

Will be consistent with Section 11 of the High School Rules.

**REVISION: 9, 10, year old divisions: can use a bat with a diameter up to and including 2 1/4"
11 & 12 year old divisions: can use a bat with a diameter up to and including 2 5/8"**
Bats having other than straight handles are illegal.

7. The officials may remove from the game any equipment that they deem unsuitable for competition.
8. Metal spikes may ***not*** be worn by players in the 9, 10, 11 & 12 year old divisions.
9. Baseballs must be authorized by P.A.L.-B.O.S./TOB Baseballs that are authorized are:

SUB DIV. A: 15/16 and 18u Divisions:

Diamond D1 Pro or D-1 NFHS & Rawlings- R1, R100 & R100NFHS, R200NFHS & WILSON A1010 B, A1010HS1, ANY NFHS RATED BASEBALLS OF THE ABOVE BRANDS

SUB DIV. B: 13 and 14 Year Old Divisions:

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Diamond D1 Pro or D-1 NFHS, DSL & Rawlings- R1, R100NFHS, R200NFHS & RNFHS, Wilson- A1010, A1010HS1, any NFHS BASEBALL OF THE ABOVE BRANDS

SUB DIV. C: 9, 10, 11, and 12 Year Old Divisions:

Rawlings- RLLB, RSL, & R200

Diamond DOLA, DLL, & DSL & Wilson A1074BSST, A1074B1 & A1030

10. Score books issued by PAL will be for PAL games only, and shall contain complete game by game information and must be properly maintained. Pitcher's records (9 through 14 year olds) must be secured to inside of book, kept up to date in ink and signed in ink, by the opposing manager after each game. Failure to do so may result in a forfeit.
11. Steel Bauxite and composite bats are illegal. Composite bats are permitted.

ROSTERS

1. Minimum of 12 players per team at certification. Maximum 20 per team. Exception: 16/18 year old division has a max of 25 Players.
2. Players are not eligible to be registered or play on 2 PAL teams; Exception: Varsity and JV Divisions & SCPAL SPONSORED TOURNAMENT TEAMS
3. Rosters must contain name, and uniform number (if possible).
4. Additional players may be added to any roster, for all divisions, up to July 1st, midnight. After this deadline all rosters will be printed by PAL/BOS and these rosters will be the "OFFICIAL ROSTERS".
5. Under special circumstances, the PAL/BOS Board of Directors could authorize additional players, after July 1st.
6. Official PAL Roster or a legible copy thereof must be at each game. If there is still a question of player eligibility due to a missing Roster, notify the umpire as to which player or players are in question, have the umpire and the player(s) sign the protesting managers scorebook, prior to the end of the game. Failure of the player to cooperate will result in suspension from PAL baseball. Protesting Manager will follow normal protest procedure, except that no check is required.
7. PENALTY - If ineligible player was on winning team, team forfeits game and is fined \$75.00. If ineligible player was on losing team, team is fined \$75.00.

All divisions are subject to playoff eligibility rules.

1. **LINEUPS** : Prior to the start of each game, team managers will be responsible for exchanging lineup cards, containing the names and uniform numbers of the players listed in the order in which they will bat and their defensive positions. Any change in the lineup after the initial exchange must be immediately brought to the attention of the opposing manager in accordance with described rules. A lineup card must be given to the umpire prior to the start of the game. He must also be notified of all substitutions.
2. During a pre-game and prior to the start of each game, opposing manager shall check, each others pitching logs. Failure to present pitching logs will result in fines/suspensions. The pitching logs must be kept in ink.

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3. Winning team is responsible for ENTERING the score(s) to the website. Failure to do so within 2 days could result in the winning team not being awarded the winning points for the game.

CONFERENCES

OFFENSIVE:

- 9, 10, 11 & 12 year old divisions: 2 offensive conferences per inning
- 13, 14, 15/16 & 16/18 year old divisions: refer to FEDERATION RULES, section 11, rule 3 section 2

DEFENSIVE:

- 10, 11 & 12-year-old divisions: 2 defensive conferences per pitcher. The third trip to the same pitcher will cause the pitchers automatic removal. **(for the 9 year old division, refer to the 9 year old division exception page).**
- 13, 14, 15/16 & 16/18 year old divisions: 3 charged conferences per 7 Inning Game (refer to section 11, rule 3 sections 4-1,3,4&5) On the 4th and every other conference, the pitcher must be removed from that position.

SUBSTITUTION RULE

A starting player, who has been removed from the game, maybe re-inserted once, under the following conditions:

1. The player must return to his original spot in the batting order.
2. Only a starting player is eligible to be re-inserted and he may only be re-inserted once per game.
3. The player does not have to return to his original defensive position.
4. In the case of the EH ,he/she is regarded as an EP, an extra player, and follows the substitution rules as stated above.

INJURY/ILLNESS

Any player, who sustains an injury (other than superficial) or becomes ill, may not play anymore that day. Note that swelling, lacerations, etc. will remove an injury from the superficial status. A player who has been rendered unconscious during a game shall not be permitted to play in a P.A.L. game without written authorization from a physician. When a player is removed from a game for injury/illness, all substitution rules apply.

PLAYING WITH 8 PLAYERS

A team may play with eight players. When playing with eight players, the vacant slot in the batting order is an automatic out. If a ninth player arrives, he may be inserted into the game in the vacant slot and is considered a starting player.

(Refer to 9 year old division exception)

INTENTIONAL BASE ON BALLS

All age divisions of the defensive team have the option to either pitch the four balls to the batter or declare to the plate umpire that they wish to issue an intentional base on balls and the umpire will award the batter a base on balls.

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BASE RUNNERS

9, 10, 11-USE THIS ONLY IF STEALING IS NOT PERMITTED.

If runner leaves prior to the ball passing home plate, at the **judgement of the umpire**, the runner will be called out at termination of play, all other results of the play will stand. No warnings will be issued.

PITCHING RESTRICTIONS

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| 9, & 10's | (a) 8 innings MAX. per calendar week.
(b) 6 innings MAX. per calendar day. |
| 11 & 12's | (a) 9 innings MAX. per calendar week.
(b) 6 innings MAX. per calendar day. |
| 13's & 14's | See Section XI, High School Rule |
| 15/16 | See Section XI, High School Rule. |
| 16's, 17's & 18's | See Section XI, High School Rule |

PITCHING RULES

1. The calendar week is Monday to Sunday.
2. The Calendar Week DOES NOT Affect the Mandatory Rest periods.
3. A pitcher must have one (1) complete day of rest for first two (2) innings or part thereof pitched and one (1) additional days rest for every inning or part thereof pitched to a maximum of three (3) full calendar days of rest.

EXAMPLE:

A pitcher who pitches on Tuesday for four (4) innings or more may pitch on Saturday, providing he does not exceed his allowable calendar week limit.

4. A pitcher may pitch only once per calendar day.
5. Once a pitch is actually thrown from the mound, including warm-ups, a player will be charged with an inning pitched.
6. It is the responsibility of the individual team officials to insure the well being of the pitchers, regardless of what the rules allow.
7. In the 12 and 13 year old division only, each pitcher is entitled to receive one balk warning per game.
8. Failure to comply with the pitching restrictions may result in a forfeit of the game or games in which this infraction occurred and a subsequent fine

ALL PITCHING RULES REMAIN IN EFFECT FOR ALL GAMES INCLUDING PLAYOFFS AND FINALS.

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RULE AMENDMENT

In the 9 through 14 year old divisions, a pitcher who was one of the original starting players, may be removed as a hitter from a game, for a pinch hitter offensively and then returned as a pitcher defensively; as long as he returns to start the ½ inning immediately following the ½ inning he was removed.

PLAY OFF RULES

1. P.A.L. Board will assign an on-field coordinator or official to hear any and all protests. Division coordinator or official's decision, made on the field, will be final. Decisions will be made based upon the appropriate rule. There will be no appeals.
2. Host team will be responsible for the field
3. Division winner will be considered home team. If two division winners or two non division winners are meeting a coin flip will determine home team.
4. Home team in the FINAL ROUND of the playoffs will be determined by the flip of a coin.
5. For the Play Offs, **full games** will be played in accordance with the suspended game rule. A suspended game will be continued from the point stopped.

MERCY RULE WILL BE IN EFFECT DURING ALL PLAYOFF GAMES.

PLAYER ELIGIBILITY FOR PLAY OFF

1. 9 year Old Division-A player must appear in at least 4 regular season games, in order to be eligible to play in a playoff game.
2. 10 & 11 Year Old Divisions - A player must appear in at least 4 regular season games for 10 year olds and 5 for 11 yearolds, in order to be eligible to play in a play off game.
3. 12-13-14 Year Old Divisions - A player must appear in at least 5 regular season games for the 12u division and 13-14, 6 games, in order to be eligible to play in a play off game.
4. 15/16 Year Old Division - A player must appear in at least 6 regular season games, in order to be eligible to play in a play off game.
5. 16/18 Year Old Division - A player must appear in at least 25 % of regular season games, in order to be eligible to play in a play off game.
6. Games forfeited to a team will count as a game played for all players in that team's roster.
7. Injured players, who didn't play the minimum amount of games required, may be eligible for play off. (refer to amendment below)
8. Mercy Rule will apply in all play off games.

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The intent of the game rule for player eligibility for play off was to prevent teams from adding players that would enhance their play off potential and not punish players who were disabled due to injury. Therefore, the Board has voted to amend the (5), (6), (8) & (9) game player eligibility rule. This in effect would create a disability list. Verification that a player was injured for a prolonged period and could not complete the eligibility requirement will result in the granting of eligibility for the playoffs by the P.A.L. Board of Directors. It must be established through a physicians' report that an incapacitating injury had occurred, that the player was on the original certified roster and that said player did not participate in any other team or league during that period of time (i.e. was not present at the games, if ambulatory, not playing in Brookhaven, etc.)

Notification must be made to the Division Coordinator who will then present it to the Board at a regular meeting.

MERCY RULE

The mercy rule is ten (10) runs and will go into effect under the following conditions:

A game may end after four (4) complete innings (3 1/2 innings if it is the home team ahead).
If the home team is behind they must always complete their turn at bat, in any inning.

While the game is in progress, any team has the right to concede.

TEAM CONDUCT -- MANAGERS/ COACHES/ PLAYERS-ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY

1. A manager, coach, player, substitute, attendant or other bench personnel, including parents and spectators, shall not:
 - (a) Deliberately throw a bat or a helmet.
 - (b) Call "time" or use any command or commit any act for the purpose of trying to cause the opposing pitcher to balk.
 - (c) Use words or acts to incite spectators to demonstrations, or use profanity or remarks, which reflect upon opposing player, umpire or spectator.
 - (d) Enter the area behind the catcher while the opposing pitcher and catcher are in their positions.
 - (e) Use amplifiers or bull horns on the bench or on the field during the course of the game.
 - (f) Maliciously run into a fielder.
 - (g) Have any object in his possession in the coach's box other than a scorebook, which shall be used for score keeping purposes only
 - (h) Be outside of the vicinity of the designated dugout (bench), bullpen area if not a batter, runner, on deck batter, in the coach's box or one of the nine players on defense.
 - (i) Verbalize in any way with the opposing team for the purpose of intimidation.
 - (j) Exhibit behavior that is not in accordance with the spirit of fair play.

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(k) Charge an umpire.

In (a), (b) and (f), umpire shall eject the offender from the game. Failure to comply will result in the game being forfeited. However, in (c), (d), (e), (g), (h), (i), (j) and (k), if the offense is judged to be of a minor nature, the umpire may warn the offender and then eject him if he repeats the offense. Also, in (f), an ejected player is declared out, unless he has already scored.

2. 9, 10, 11 and 12 Year Old Divisions

While the game is in progress a total of only 3 Managers/Coaches are permitted on the playing field area and/or dugout.

PENALTIES -- TEAM CONDUCT

1. For the first offense, an organization may be fined a minimum of \$50.00 and the manager, coach, player/players may be suspended.
2. Subsequent offenses by the same manager, coach, or player/players, the organization will be fined \$50.00 or more and the manager, coach, player/players may be barred from P.A.L. for the remainder of the season.
3. Organizations with five (5) adult ejections may be barred from P.A.L.
4. Organizations are solely responsible for the conduct of their parents.
5. Umpires will report any manager, coach, player/players or organization that violates any P.A.L. High School or Little League Rule. Record of these complaints will be kept on file by P.A.L. for further reference.
6. Any person or team who receives three (3) or more complaints by umpires or P.A.L. officials, will be subject to a review by the P.A.L. Board and proper fines and penalties may be imposed.
7. When a manager, coach, or player/players are ejected from a game, they must leave the field immediately. Failure to do so will result in a forfeiture.

NOTE: An ejected person will not be able to be seen or heard by the Umpire.

8. Ejection/Suspension - Any player ejected for **unsportsman like conduct** will automatically be suspended for the next game. Managers are responsible to report to the coordinator, the name and uniform number of the ejected player.

NO EXCEPTIONS!! Every ejection will be reviewed by the P.A.L. Baseball Board. Players, coaches, managers and spectators may be fined, suspended and/or barred from PAL Baseball for a period of time to be determined by the Board.

TEAM ETHICS

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1. All organizations shall respect the rights of other organizations with regard to players and P.A.L. rosters from prior year.
2. Any organization or team who attempts to persuade or sign up any player from any P.A.L. team shall be subject to possible suspension and/or fines or other disciplinary action. Direct contact in any form is prohibited.
3. A proper investigation and consequent judgment will be made based on the consideration of all parties concerned.
4. In all cases, the decision of the P.A.L. Board will be final.

EXCEPTION: High School Varsity Teams are not subject to these restrictions while participating in the 16/18 year old division.

(refer to eligibility rules covering 16/18 year old division)

EXTRA PLAYER (EP)

1. 10 through 14 year old divisions will not be able to use a DESIGNATED HITTER.
2. 10 through 14 year old divisions will be able to use an **EXTRA PLAYER (EP)** and the following rules and conditions will apply
 - (a) The team must have 10 or more players prior to the start of the game.
 - (b) The EP can not be added after the start of the game.
 - (c) The team has an option of using or not using an EP
 - (d) The EP is considered a starting player.
 - (e) The EP can be substituted for and is entitled to re-entry.
 - (f) A player removed because of injury, superficial or not, who is not replaced and the lineup is reduced from 10 to 9, the vacant spot in the batting order and an automatic out when it is his turn to bat.
 - (g) If an eligible player arrives after an injured player was replaced defensively by an EP, the newly arrived player must enter the game and bat in the vacant spot in the batting order.

9 Year Old Division RULE EXCEPTIONS

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All Teams, Managers, Coaches and Players are subject to all PAL rules, with the following exceptions:

BASE STEALING

1. Tagging Up allowed
2. No stealing of home plate
3. Any play that started with an attempt to throw out a runner trying to steal a base cannot result in a runner scoring.
4. The ball is live on overthrows that remain in play (fair or foul territory) and runners advance at their own risk to the extent of Base Stealing Rule 3 above, which can not result in a runner scoring.
5. The ball is dead on overthrows that result in the ball going out of bounds (out of the playing field). Follow rules to advance runner to the extent of Rule 3 & 4 as listed above .

BATTING

1. Bunting allowed.
2. Maximum 11 players at bat - 2 EPs (extra hitter/players) or bat whole team-Rule for batters being outs if not in lineup prevails
3. EP is considered a starting player and can be allowed to take the field and switch with a player already on the field.
4. Players CAN NOT be switched in the batting order.

PITCHING RULES

1. Maximum innings pitched and mandatory rest period - same as 10 year old division
2. Strike Zone -Shoulder to Knees (in stance). Normal width of plate.
3. Trips to Mound - One free trip per inning. Must be removed upon 2nd trip.

SCORING

1. Maximum 5 runs per inning. Unlimited runs allowed in the last inning.
2. Mercy Rule in Effect

PLAYING WITH 8 PLAYERS

1. No automatic out for the 9th Batter
2. No automatic out if a player is removed because of injury

SUFFOLK COUNTY COACHES ASSOCIATION **PAL H.S. JV & VARSITY DIVISIONS RULE EXCEPTIONS**

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PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

1. ONLY Section XI or Section VIII HIGH SCHOOL TEAMS are eligible
2. Graduated Seniors are NOT eligible regardless of age.
3. Teams representing High Schools may only be constituted with players from within the School District

NOTE: Eligibility of the players is subject to whether or not the school district has a team participating in the PAL H.S. Varsity (15/18) or the JV(13-15) Division. If questioned, final determination will be made by the PAL Baseball & the current League Members of the SUFFOLK COUNTY COACHES ASSOCIATION.