

**NEAAU SUMMER BASEBALL LEAGUE – RI/CT**  
**PLAYING RULES**  
**AUGUST 22-23, 2020**

**Cvoid-19 Guidelines**

- See separate document available regarding COVID-10 guidelines
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**Coaches Responsibility**

- It is the coach's responsibility to know the playoff rules
  - Do not assume all umpires will know each AAU rule
  - Keep the rules handy at all times
  - Make sure read the protest section of these rules below
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**Major League Baseball & NFHS RULES**

- NEAAU League plays under MLB rules, except where identified
- Some NFHS rules are used. Please read all rules below to ensure you and your entire coaching staff are aware

**Playoff Format**

- Pool Play - August 22, 2020
- Bracket Play – August 23
- Who advances to bracket play? - [www.neaabaseball.org/league-playoff-format](http://www.neaabaseball.org/league-playoff-format)

**Seeding / Home Team**

- Playoff Team Seeds - [www.neaabaseball.org/league-playoff-teams-ri-ct](http://www.neaabaseball.org/league-playoff-teams-ri-ct)
- Higher seed is the home team in pool play
- Home team is the official score book

**Bracket Play Seeding**

- Teams will NOT be reseeded after pool play
- High seed is home team in Bracket Play
- Tiebreakers to Advance to Bracket Play
- #1. Head to head
- #2. Runs allowed
- #3. Runs scored
- #4. Flip of a coin

## **Umpires**

- Teams split the cost of the umpires at all playoff games

## **Baseballs**

- Each team will supply 3 new balls for each game

## **Arrival Before Game**

- Teams are NOT to arrive at the field any more than 20 minutes prior to the schedule start time. This is to help reduce crowd size and congesting common areas with respect to COVID-19 concerns.

## **Home Plate Meeting**

- Limited to both umpires, as well as one coach from each team. Face mask must be worn and social distancing must be practiced

## **Agree on the Start Time**

- Both coaches should confirm with the umpires the official start time of each game.
- There is NO excuse for there to be a dispute over the official start time of a game
- Any protest regarding the start time of game may be disregarded immediately by NEAAU Baseball

## **Warm Up**

- No infield practice
- 1st pitch is expected to be thrown on time
- At least 10 minutes before the scheduled start of the game coaches will have line cards completed with all substitutes listed
- 5 minutes prior to scheduled start time, coaches and umpires shall meet at home plate for ground rule and exchange lineup cards

## **Rosters**

- Only those players on the team roster are eligible to participate
- If you wish to protest the eligibility of a player the game must be stopped immediately and a protest filed with both the umpires and opposing team's coaching staff.
- See protest rules for more details

## Innings / Time Limits

### Pool Play Games

- 9- 12U will play 6 inning games. **Pool Play** Games will have 2 hour time limit
- 13-18U will play 7 inning games. **Pool Play** Games will have a 2 hour time limit
- *\*Not a Drop Dead Time Limit*

### Tied Pool Play Games

- If game is tied after regulation innings are complete, but before the time limit is reached, extra innings can be played
- If game is tied after the last inning when the time limit was reached, one (1) extra inning will be played
- Pool play games can end in a tie

### Bracket Play

- No time limit in **bracket play** games
- Games will be played until a winner is determined

## Injuries

- If a player is injured on the field the game time must be stopped if treatment on the field is necessary. We ask that coaches and umpires communicate if this occurs.

## Mercy Rules

- 9-12U – 10 runs after 4 innings (3 ½ if home team is ahead)
- 13U+ - 10 runs after 5 innings (4 ½ if the home team is ahead)
- In all age groups 15 runs after 3 innings (2 ½ if the home team is ahead)

## Pitching Rules

- Like in NEAAU Baseball tournaments and regular season league games, there will be no pitching restrictions in the League Playoffs.
- We strongly encourage and trust the club directors, coaches, team administrators and parents will make sure that their player's health is their first priority

## Bat Rules

- 13u and Younger - no restrictions
- 14u and Older - BBCOR -3

## Batting Lineup (**Different than Regular Season**)

- You can only bat a maximum of 10 players
- No continuous batting order in League Playoffs
- You can use the extra hitter

- DH can bat for anyone in the batting order
- EP is locked into batting order
- Allowed to start game with 8 players. 9th spot in the lineup will be recorded as an out

### **Courtesy Runner**

- Courtesy runner can only be used for the pitcher or catcher
- The Courtesy runner must be a player that has never been in the game
- The same player cannot run for multiple players

### **Substitutions**

- NFHS rules apply
- The EP can freelance around the game, inning to inning and they are not a substitute

### **Ejections**

- If a player or coach is ejected from a game. They must leave the field and must sit out the next scheduled game.
- If a player or coach is ejected for fighting they are removed from the rest of the event and cannot be present at any of the fields
- Protests regarding an ejected player or coach will not be allowed

### **Protests**

- Play must be immediately before the next pitch stopped to announce a protest
- Protest must be declared to both the umpires & opposing coaching staff
- **Must then call the appropriate NEAAU contact immediately** to resolve the protest before resuming the game. Todd will be managing the Massachusetts Playoffs, but can be used as back-up.

9-13u – Mike Giard, 401-391-1648

14, 15/16u – Phil Dupras, 401-497-8661

Back-up – Todd Skovron, 401-757-1857

- Only decisions involving the misinterpretation or misapplication of a rule, as well as player eligibility may be protested
- No protest shall be allowed in matters involving solely the umpire's judgment
- **NO ruling will be made if the proper protest procedure is not followed**
- Protests regarding an ejected player or coach will not be allowed
- All decisions of the protest committee shall be final

### **Forfeits**

- Any team that forfeits a playoff game will also forfeit their club's \$250 bond & considered for removal of the league

- Any team that forfeits a playoff game will be ineligible to advance in the Playoffs
- Committee will review all forfeits to determine extenuating circumstances

## Rain

- If rain occurs before games start for the day: Each Playoff Host and umpires will best be able to determine field conditions. The NEAAU Baseball Committee and Playoff Host will determine any scheduling revisions.
- If rain occurs during a game: The game will be suspended and picked up from that point if game has not reached official status. The game will become complete if the game has reached official status.
- Official Status (Regulation Game): 12u and younger: Four full innings have been played, or the home team has scored an equal or greater number of runs in four, or four and a fraction, turns at bat than the visiting team has scored in five turns at bat. 13u and older: Five full innings have been played, or the home team has scored an equal or greater number of runs in four, or four and a fraction, turns at bat than the visiting team has scored in five turns at bat.
- NOTE: *If the game is suspended when the teams have not had an equal number of completed times at bat, the score shall be the same as it was at the end of the last completed inning; except that if the home team in its half of the incomplete inning, scores a run (or runs) which equals or exceeds the opponent's score, the final score shall be as recorded when the game is called.*
- For all divisions, the umpire may suspend a game, but not declare the game complete, in order to hold discussions with AAU tournament officials.