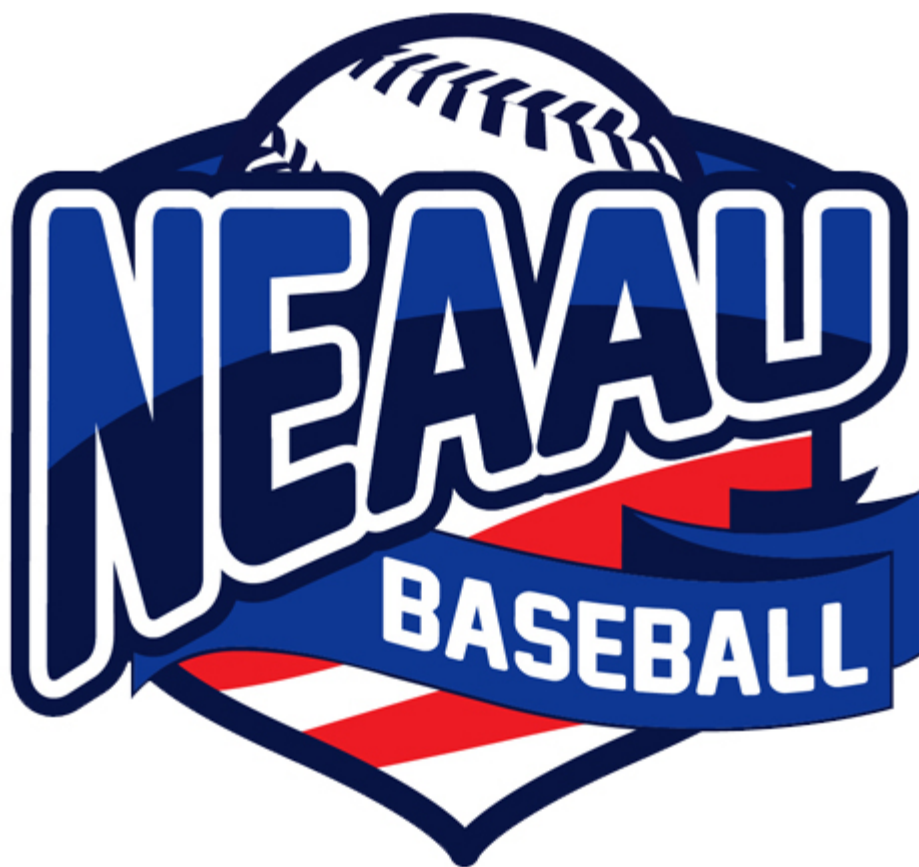


2012 NEW ENGLAND AAU SPRING BASEBALL LEAGUE RULEBOOK



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**rule book may be updated before the start of the 2012 season*

NEAAU BASEBALL LEADERSHIP

NEAAU BASEBALL CHAIRPERSON

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NEAAU BASEBALL COMMITTEE

South

Jerry Coro
Mike Giard
Todd Skovron

North

Rich Gilbride
Jeff Mejia

NEAAU TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE

South

TBA

North

TBA

NEAAU DIRECTOR of UMPIRING

Rob Healey
401-230-0168
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PAYMENTS

LEAGUE FEE

- \$350 per team
- \$2500 maximum per club (8th or more teams in club do not pay league fee)
- Payment can be made at www.neaaau.org/membrs/register

REFUNDABLE BOND

- \$250 per club
- Club bond is used to cover league infractions incurred by the club. If the club bond is used to pay for penalties the club must replace the bond immediately.
- Payment can be made at www.neaaau.org/membrs/register

FIELD/PRACTICE INSURANCE

- Please contact the NEAAU Office at 401-349-4304 or email neaaau2@aol.com

AAU MEMBERSHIP

- Your Baseball Club, its coaches and players must be registered AAU members.
- Membership can be acquired at www.aausports.org/joinnow.aspx

ROSTERS

9-14U

- Due March 31st
- Players can be added to roster until April 30th
- After April 30th you need to receive Baseball Committee approval to add players
- 20 players and 3 coaches maximum and one score keeper

15U

- Due by June 1st
- Players can be added to roster until June 20th
- After June 20th you need to receive Baseball Committee approval
- 25 players and 4 coaches maximum

16U

- Due by June 1st
- Players can be added to roster until June 20th
- After June 20th you need to receive Baseball Committee approval
- 30 players and 4 coaches maximum

Important Roster information

- A player can be rostered on two different teams in two different age groups, but the player must be with the same baseball club.
- Player can only play up, not down
- Player must meet age eligibility requirements
- A player cannot be rostered on two different teams with the same age group

PLAYER RELEASE

- If you wish to roster a player that is currently playing for another club, that player **MUST** be released by his current club before joining your team
- If the team or coach doesn't want to release a player, the player can choose to leave that team to join another team but must sit out 60 days before he is eligible to play for his new team.
- Player release must be documented, signed and sent to the NEAAU
- Any game played with an illegal player will count as a forfeit

SCHEDULE, SCORES & STANDINGS

OPENING WEEKEND

- 9-12U – April 7-8, 2012
- 13-14U – April 21-22, 2012
- 15-16U – June 9-10, 2012

SCHEDULE

- Must play every divisional opponent **TWICE**
- **ONLY** divisional games count towards your team record on www.neaaau.org
- Do **NOT** report **NON** divisional games
- Pre-scheduling will be done for the following: All Open and Super Division teams
- If a game **MUST** be rescheduled, teams are to contact the baseball committee for rescheduling.

REPORTING SCORES

- **ONLY** divisional games must be reported
- Only the **HOST** team is required to report the scores
- Score Must be reported within 24 hours following the completion of the game(s)
- Scores are reported to your divisional leader (list of divisional leaders will be available on www.neaaau.org/baseball.aspx prior to the start of the season.
- Game date, game score, winning pitcher, age division must be reported. Coaches are encouraged to use the Game Report Form available on www.neaaau.org/baseball.aspx when reporting scores

STANDINGS

- Baseball Standings will be updated every Tuesday on www.neaaau.org
- Divisional game scores must be reported by host club immediately to ensure online standings are accurate throughout the season.

DIVISIONAL GAME RULES

Both coaches should meet and decides on the following:

- Payment of the umpires
- Baseballs should be placed into the game
- Continuous batting order?
- All teams are playing High School Baseball Rules in which the state is being played in RI, NH, CT, VT, ME, MA

TIME LIMIT / TIEBREAKER

There s NO time limit in Divisional games. If the game is tied at the end of regulation the game will be recorded as a tie.

CANCELING/FOREITS

- If a team cancels a scheduled game(s) within 72 hours of scheduled game(s) a forfeit(s) will be awarded to the other team
- If a team has a scheduled game and the weather is questionable they must contact the Host team to see what the weather is like at the game site. If the home team does not cancel the game, the game is to be played as scheduled.
- If a team forfeits a game they lose their bond and the bond needs to be replaced before their next game.
- NEAAU Baseball Committee must be notified of all cancellations and/or forfeits immediately
- Any game(s) cancelled before the 72 hour deadline must be rescheduled on the rain date(s) provided.

MERCY RULE

Ages 12U and Under -15 runs after 3 innings, 10 runs after 3 ½

Age 13U and Older -15 runs after 4 innings, 10 runs after 4 ½

PITCHING RULES

- There are NO Pitching rules for league play during the regular season
- We encourage coaches to make their player's health their first priority
- Pitching rules are implemented during the League Playoffs

BAT RULES/RESTRICTIONS

14U and Under -No Restrictions

Age 15U and Older High School rule or - 3

CLEATS

- 12 and under cannot use metal spikes

UMPIRES

- Host club responsible for scheduling umpires
- Teams will split cost of umpires
- Umpires should be provided with 3 new baseballs from each team
- 9-10U games can use 1 patched umpire
- 11U- 18u games MUST use 2 patched umpires

OPEN & CLOSED BASES

- 9-10U cannot take leads (closed bases)
- 11U+ use open bases

SUBSTITUTIONS/RE-ENTRY

- Teams are using the High School reentry rules of the State they are playing in
- Teams can use a DH and EH/EP
- In the case of injury the DH can enter the game as a player but the team loses the DH
- EH/EP can enter the game but must stay in the same spot in the batting order. The EH/EP can enter the game like any other starter but can only enter the game once, just like any other starter

BATTING ORDER

- Teams can bat 10 and use the EH
- Team must decide before the game if they will use a continues batting order
- If a team is using a continues batting order they cannot change
- If a player is injured while using a continues batting order and they come to the injured players spot in the batting order, an out is recorded and then they can continue with the batting order

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

HEAD FIRST SLIDE

- Headfirst slides will be allowed in all age groups.

COMPLETE GAME

- 8u – 12u: Four (4) innings (3 1/2 innings if home team is ahead).
- 13u - Five (5) innings (4 1/2 innings if home team is ahead)
- **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.

EXTRA PLAYER (EP) AND/OR DESIGNATED HITTER (DH)

- At the beginning of a game, either the EP and and/or the DH may be elected.
- The Designated Hitter (DH) provision as covered in the rulebook published by the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) applies.
- The Extra Player (EP) is listed in the batting order and may assume any of the nine defensive positions (including pitcher) without being counted as a substitution.
- Under all of the following options, there are never more than the standard nine defensive positions.
- Use neither DH nor EP: Nine (9) players in the batting order and the same nine (9) players on defense.
- Use only the DH, and not the EP: Nine (9) players in the batting order, one of which is replaced by another line up player on defense.
- Use only the EP, and not the DH: Ten (10) players in the batting order, of which nine play on defense.

- Use both the DH and EP: Ten players in the batting order. One of the nine (9) defensive players is replaced by the DH in that batting order. The DH can be removed during the game. The EP position may not be removed during the game.
- The same number of players that are listed in the batting order to begin the game will continue throughout the game. If the game is started using an EP, the game must be finished using an EP.
- Players not listed in the starting line-up may serve as substitutes.
- In case of injury, the NFHS rule book applies except that if an EP is being used and injury prevents that slot in the batting order from being filled, an automatic “out” applies in that slot.

UMPIRES

- Host club responsible for scheduling umpires
- Teams will split cost of umpires
- Umpires should be provided with 3 new baseballs from each team
- 9-10U games can use 1 patched umpire
- 11U- 18u games MUST use 2 patched umpires

HOW to ADVANCE to SUPER/DIAMOND

HOW to ADVANCE from OPEN to SUPER DIVISION

1. Must have played in NEAAU League for at least one year
2. Win League Playoffs
3. Any team can petition the NEAAU Baseball Committee to be placed in Super Division

HOW to ADVANCE from SUPER to DIAMOND DIVISION

1. Must have played in NEAAU League for at least one year
2. Finish 1st in your division (north, south or central)
3. Win League Playoffs
4. Any team can petition the NEAAU Baseball Committee to be placed in Diamond Division

**NEAAU Baseball Committee has right make exceptions when it feels it is warranted*

**As a result of league growth, adjustments may be needed to support growth*

WHICH TEAMS will be DROPPED to LOWER DIVISION

- Teams that do not qualify for the Playoffs in the Super or Diamond Divisions
- All teams with less than a .500 winning percentage
- All teams that do not complete their Divisional Schedules
- Any team that forfeits Divisional games will be removed

*Note: if a team is removed from a division for any of these reasons, it does not mean they cannot be placed back in the same division by the NEAAU Baseball committee.

*If a team changes their name without notifying the NEAAU Office or the NEAAU Baseball Committee will not be guaranteed a spot in their respective division.

LEAGUE PLAYOFFS 2012

LOCATIONS

- TBA in April 2012

DATES

- TBA on www.neaaau.org in December 2011

ROSTERS

- All teams should have a roster and all players MUST have AAU Membership cards as well as birth certificates with you at each game

ARRIVAL

- All teams are expected to arrive at game site at least 45 minutes prior to the start of the game. Games will start earlier when possible.

UNIFORMS

- All teams/players must be in full uniform. Coaches must be in uniform or dress shorts, slacks

INNINGS

- 9u, 10u 11u and 12u will play 6 inning games. All Games will have 2 hour time limit
- 13u, 14u, 15u, 16U+ will play 7 inning games. All Games will have a 2:15 hour time limit.
- No inning will start after the time limit. Pool play games can end in a tie.

FORMAT

- TBA at January 28, 2012 League Meeting

TIEBREAKERS

- **Pool Play:** Pool Play games can end in a tie
- **Bracket Play:** In the event a game is tied after the time limit or a game is ruled a complete game, NE AAU will be using the USA Baseball Tie Breaker. Coaches from each team will meet at home plate and indicate to the umpire where they want to begin the batting order. Each team has the option of beginning the extra inning anywhere in the batting order that was in effect when the final inning in regulation ended. As an example, if a team wanted its No. 3 hitter to bat first in the inning, the No. 2 batter would start off on first base and the No. 1 batter would start off on second base.
- **TIEBREAKER to ADVANCE to BRACKET PLAY:** Directly from the AAU Baseball Handbook
 - #1. Head to head
 - #2. Runs allowed
 - #3. Runs scored
 - #4. Flip of a coin

MERCY RULE

- **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)

BASEBALLS

- Each team should bring ½ dozen baseballs to each game. The baseballs should be given to the site director prior to the game and he/she will supply the umpire with game balls. The site director should then split the remaining new balls at the end of the game.

HOME TEAM

- Home Team will always be the higher seeded team (#1 seed being the highest) in each round. Seeding changes from round to round and the particular round you are in determines your seed. Home team will occupy the 3rd base dugout.

WARM-UP

- No infield practice.
- 1st pitch is expected to be thrown on time

- 25 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.
- Home team is the official score book.

UMPIRES

- Umpires are to be paid at the start of each game, by each team. Please have a separate check for each game you are playing that day since it could be four different umpires for your three games.

PITCHING

- TBA at January 28, 2012 League Meeting

BATTING

- You can only bat 10 players. You can use the extra hitter

EJECTION

- 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 tournament and cannot be present at any of the fields.

PROTESTS

- Protests must be made verbally with the umpire by the offended team at the time of the play and before the next pitch.
- A fee of \$100.00 cash (refunded if protest is upheld) must accompany the protest.
- All decisions of the protest committee shall be final.
- Only decisions involving the misinterpretation or misapplication of a rule may be protested. No protest shall be allowed in matters involving solely the umpire's judgment.

FORFEITS

- The National High School Federation rule shall apply and AAU tournament officials shall administer the rule so that any team which causes a forfeit will not benefit and may not advance to bracket play unless the tournament committee determines there were extenuating circumstances causing the forfeit.
- The offended team shall be credited with a win. 6-0 for a six inning game or 7-0 for a seven inning game

AAU RAIN POLICY

- **If rain occurs before games start for the day:** Those early games are *usually* moved to end of that day's schedule. If this is not possible other arrangements will be made by NEAAU Tournament Committee.
- **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.

ADDITIONALS

- Teams are responsible for bringing their own water and cups. Teams are expected to clean the dugouts when they are finished with the game.
- Teams should try to communicate prior to the day of the game to see which uniform they will be wearing. Teams should have an alternate shirt with them in case of conflict.
- Prior to game time, only the site director can cancel a game. Once the game starts it is in the umpires' hands whether or not to continue play.

HOW to ADVANCE from OPEN to SUPER DIVISION

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