



# 2018 GGBL Rule Changes & GGBL Points of Emphasis

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# 2018 GGBL Rule Changes



- **Roster Changes – All GGBL teams are required to have between 10 and 13 Registered Players and no more than 4 Registered Coaches.**
  - The requirement to have a minimum of 11 registered players has been changed.
- **Roster changes:**
  - March 1 – All rosters must be certified by League Director
  - March 1 until May 1: League Director Approval for changes to the roster – Certified Rec Player only
  - After May 1: GGBL Board Approval for changes to the roster – Certified Rec Player Only
  - No Changes during tournament



# 2018 GGBL Rule Changes



- **9U Effective 2018 Season:**

- 65 feet and open bases – leadoffs/stealing
- Balks are called and enforced. Umpires use good judgement for 9U.
- Managers may request an explanation for balk call.
  - Visit is not charged if the coach does not coach on other matters
- No Head First slides
- NFHS Rules for Dropped Third Strikes



# 2018 GGBL Rule Changes



- **New Line-up Options Apply beginning Spring 2018**
  - **EXTRA HITTER – 9 defensive players with EH**
    - 10 total players in the line-up
    - EH not required to play defense
    - Any player not in line-up (Substitute) must play minimum requirements
      - Not enforced if game is shortened by Mercy Rule
  - **DESIGNATED HITTER - 9 defensive players with DH for Pitcher**
    - 10 total players in the line-up
    - DH not required to play defense
    - Any player not in line-up (Substitute) must play minimum requirements
      - Not enforced if game is shortened by Mercy Rule

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# 2018 GGBL Rule Changes



- **New Line-up Options Apply beginning Spring 2018**
  - **NINE PLAYER LINEUP – 9 defensive players – No DH or EH**
    - 9 players in line-up
    - Any player not in line-up (Substitute) must play minimum requirements
      - Not enforced if game is shortened by Mercy Rule
  - **CONTINUOUS BATTING ORDER - Bat all players present**
    - 10+ total players in the line-up
    - Free Defensive Substitutions
- **Must designate line-up Option during Plate Pre-Game Meeting with Coaches and Umpires**



# 2018 GGBL Rule Changes



- **ALL BATS FOR USE BY 8U-13U MUST BE SANCTIONED FOR PLAY BY AN TOURNAMENT ORGANIZING BODY REQUIRING A DISPLAYED “THUMBPRINT” AND BE CERTIFIED 1.15 BPF**
  - 8U-9U can be up to -13 drop
  - 10U-13U can be up to -10 drop
- **ALL BATS FOR 14U MUST BE CERTIFIED BBCOR .50 BPF**
  - 14U can be up to -3 drop



# 2018 GGBL Rules Points of Emphasis



- Each year the GGBL has specific points of emphasis (POEs) on existing rules to:
  - Improve game play
  - Clarify issues/questions from the previous year about current rules and/or rulings
  - Encourage coaches and players to teach and learn skills/rules/areas of the game that are being emphasized by NFHS and area high school baseball coaches.
  - GGBL asks umpire associations to pay special attention to these POEs.



# 2018 GGBL Rules

## Points of Emphasis



- **Time Limits**
  - 8U: 1:30 Minutes
  - 9U-12U: 1:40 Minutes
  - 13U-14U: 1:50 Minutes
- **Only 3 coaches permitted on the field to coach**
  - 4 coaches on the field coaching (Penalties)
    - First offense – Head Coach gets a warning
    - Second offense – Head Coach is restricted to dugout
    - Third offense – Head Coach is ejected from the game
      - And Head Coach will serve a mandatory one game suspension
- **Lineup Cards**
  - Exchanged lineup cards during plate meeting must indicate
    - Batting Order and line-up type (DH, EH, Nine w/Subs, or Continuous)
    - Players names and assigned jersey numbers
    - Starting pitcher of record





# 2018 GGBL Rules Points of Emphasis



- **Player Minimum Participation**
  - EH and DH not required to play defense
  - Pitcher with DH is not required to be a batter
    - If DH enters field on defense, replaced player's spot in order must be filled by pitcher
  - Substitutes must play minimums
    - Bat once
    - At least one inning defense in a three inning game
    - At least two innings defense in a four or more inning game
  - Player minimum participation is waived if Mercy Rule shortens game
- **Game Absence**
  - Any player missing four of his teams officially scheduled games is not eligible to play in the GGBL Post Season Tournament.
- **Winning Coach Responsible to Submit Game Report**
  - Sent to League Director who maintains the database
  - Include date, location, score, pitchers and absent players (with jersey number)



# 2018 GGBL Rules Points of Emphasis



- **GGBL Pitching Rules:**

- **No pitcher re-entry in the same game**

- Pitcher in “rest period” may play any other position
- NFHS Rules allow re-entry, GGBL prohibits re-entry

- **Mandatory rest rule**

- 36 hours for any pitcher pitching more than **TWO** innings in a day
- Double header on same day – pitcher can pitch in second game under the following restrictions
  - No more than 2 innings in 24 hours (8U)
  - No more than 3 innings in 24 hours (9U-12U)
  - No more than 4 innings in 24 hours (13U-14U)

- **Post Season Tournament**

- **Mandatory Rest Rule Waived**
- **Tournament Total Inning Pitching Limits Enforced.**



# 2018 GGBL Rules Points of Emphasis



- **GGBL Schedule Minimums:**
  - 8U through 13U: 14 Games
  - 14U: 12 games
  - League Age Levels may schedule a number of games above the minimums if it is
    - Agreed upon by at least 70% of coaches and
    - Convenient for the purposes of league play



# 2018 GGBL Rules Points of Emphasis



- **Head First Slides – Clarification**
  - **8U-10U: No head First Sliding**
    - **Penalty: Runner is out**
    - **Can go head first into a retreating base**
  - **11U-14U: NFHS Rules**
    - **Helmet cannot have a facemask or flap unless medically required**
    - **Players with a facemask or flap cannot slide head first**
- **Buckets**
  - **Not Permitted on Field of Play – Enforcing NFHS rule.**
    - **Penalty: Unsportsmanlike Conduct**
    - **Considered a liability**
  - **Coaches can sit on a bucket in the dugout**



# 2018 GGBL Rules Points of Emphasis



- **Unintentionally Throwing Bat**
  - **Warning to offending team**
    - **Second offense by any player on that team is an out**
  - **If second team has a player unintentionally throwing bat**
    - **First offense results in a team warning**
    - **Second offense by any player on that team is an out**



# 2018 GGBL Rules Points of Emphasis



- **Courtesy Runners**
  - Are Permitted and Encouraged
  - Can be inserted anytime – consistent with NFHS rule
  - Must be the last batter who “batted” out.
    - Courtesy runner can be substitute.



# 2018 GGBL Rules Points of Emphasis



- **Speeding up the game**
  - **NFHS rules require only 60 seconds between half innings**
  - **At 8U and 10U – 60-90 seconds is reasonable**
    - **IF your team is not hustling, umpires are directed to give pitcher less warm up pitches**
  - **New pitchers get 8 pitches**
    - **Coaches – warm them up between innings**
    - **Coaches off the field by the 8<sup>th</sup> pitch**



# 2018 GGBL Rules Points of Emphasis



- **Balks**

- **All Balks result in a dead ball**

- **If the pitcher is called for a balk while delivering the ball to the plate and hitter hits a home run, the offense does not keep the home run. It is a no pitch and runner(s) advance on the balk.**

- **The third to first pickoff move is legal**

- **First and Third must both be occupied**
- **Pitcher must be disengaged from the rubber when throwing to first base**





# 2018 GGBL Rules Points of Emphasis



- **Balks**

- Throwing to an unoccupied base may or may not be a balk – umpire's judgment.

- Scenario 1 – Runner on second breaks for third too early (no runner on third), pitcher sees runner and throws to third baseman. Obvious play going to take place at third – no balk.
- Scenario 2 – Runner on first, pitcher in set position starts delivery, and runner breaks for second. In obvious effort to deceive runner, pitcher uses a non-spin move to throw to second (unoccupied base). **Balk.**



# 2018 GGBL Rules Points of Emphasis



## • **Charged Defensive Visits 9U-14U**

- A coach can have three defensive visits without making a mandatory pitching change
- On the forth and any subsequent defensive visit, the pitcher must be changed
- If you change pitchers, it is not counted against your three allowed visits
- Any coach requesting a stoppage of play for defensive reasons – even if you don't visit the pitcher is a charged defensive visit
- If you are base coach crossing the infield as your pitcher takes the mound and you talk to him, it is not a charged defensive visit unless you delay the warm up period.
- Extra Innings = 1 defensive visit per inning



# 2018 GGBL Rules Points of Emphasis



- **Sportsmanship**

- Enjoy your victories, home runs, etc.
- Celebrate among yourselves
- DO NOT direct comments to opposing players, fans, or coaches
  - Unsportsmanlike conduct
    - Warnings and ejections are both warranted
    - Umpire Judgment
- **Social Media**
  - Player threats observed through any social media source – Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, etc.
    - Immediate suspension
    - Please inform your players and parents of this GGBL Policy



# 2018 GGBL Rules Points of Emphasis



## • **Umpire Reporting**

- The umpire shall be required to maintain a copy of the lineup to verify any discrepancies claimed by an opposing team of the substitution rule when DH, EH and substitutes are included in the line-up.
- Coaches - Protests regarding line-up and minimum play requirements must be made immediately after the game to the chief umpire.
- Coaches - Failure to request an immediate protest prior to the umpires leaving the field results in an unenforceable protest.
  - Line-up cards are not retained unless a protest is filed



# 2018 GGBL Rules Points of Emphasis



- **Umpire Jurisdiction**

- **NFHS Gives Umpires Full Jurisdiction after the game until they leave the field**
  - **Anyone acting in an unsportsmanlike manner after the game is still subject to umpire jurisdiction and can be ejected.**
- **GGBL Jurisdiction extends to the parking lot**
  - **Any coach acting in an unsportsmanlike manner toward an umpire in a parking lot is subject to suspension or expulsion.**