



SHLB 2024



PLAYING RULES

9U Division

Updated: 06/14/2024



PLAYING RULES

Diamond Dimensions

- i. Pitching Machine at 44' – with 8' circumference safety circle.
- ii. Bases at 65'

Game Lengths

- i. 6 Innings or;
- ii. 80 minutes (*No new inning starts after 80 minutes, based on time of last out*).

Players

- i. 10 players field on defense.
- ii. 4 outfielders 15' behind basepaths.
- iii. 1 pitcher behind machine (Pitcher cannot enter safety circle.)
- iv. Catcher wearing all catcher gear.

Player Affiliation

- i. If a team is short players for a game, it can call up any player who plays within the municipality at a younger level. (Example: 13U NG Thunder could call up a player from the 11U NG Thunder, 11U NG Comets, or 11U NG Forresters.) 9U teams can call up 7 year-olds from Rally Cap.

Play

- i. All players in the lineup bat.
- ii. Maximum 5 runs per inning or 3 outs.
- iii. Each batter will receive a maximum of 5 hittable pitches. If the batter does not hit a fair ball within 5 pitches, the batter will be declared out (unless a foul ball is hit and not caught).
- iv. If a batter is hit by a pitch, the ball is declared dead and the batter is awarded an additional pitch.
- v. No bunting (batter out).
- vi. No base stealing.
- vii. Dead ball will be declared if the hit ball hits the machine or pitching coach - the batter will be awarded first base.
- viii. Runners may not lead off until the ball is hit. A runner who leads off will be declared out.
- ix. Base runners may only advance on a ball which is hit in fair territory or a foul ball caught in play. Usual rules apply about tagging up before advancing and at their own risk would apply to caught foul balls.
- x. Base runners may not advance on a passed ball (a pitch from the pitching machine that passes the catcher) or a pitched ball returned to the pitcher by the catcher.
- xi. A batter/runner may advance at their own peril in the event of an overthrow at any base.
- xii. There is no infield fly rule.
- xiii. There is no mercy rule.



LEAGUE RULES

16 Teams in the League; 8 in East Division; 8 in the West Division.

- i. Each team will play 10 regular season games in total.

After each game, the coach/manager of the home team will email the final score to scores@seawaysurge.com. Please make sure to include the Age Level and the full names of both teams in the email.

The top 8 teams will play in the A Playoff:

- i. The top 2 teams in each division will get a bye.
A QF #1: #3E @ #2W; winner @ #1E
A QF #2: #3W @ #2E; winner @ #1W
- ii. Winners will play in A final; Home team of final will be the highest seed of remaining teams.

The bottom 8 teams will play in the B Playoff:

- i. The fourth place teams in each division get a bye.
#6W @ #5E; winner @ #4W
#6E @ #5W; winner @ #4E
- ii. Winners will play in B final; Home team of final will be the highest seed of remaining teams.

If there is a tie in the standings, it will be broken in the following way:

1. Head-to-head record
2. Lowest amount of runs allowed in head to head meetings.
3. Most runs scored in head to head meetings.
4. Coin toss

Note: Playoff format may be altered due to diamond availability.

The final date of the regular season will be Friday, July 21, 2023.

- i. If there are a large number of rained out games, the regular season may be extended by one week.
- ii. All playoff games will be completed no later than Thursday, August 3, 2023.
- iii. If there are a large amount of rainouts and games cannot be rescheduled, the team with the best record in the regular season will be named league champion.

If there is a Severe Weather Warning that covers the diamond locations, games and practices will be canceled.

- i. Refer to our Severe Weather policy here: <https://www.seawaysurge.com/severe-weather/>
- ii. All attempts to provide notification of cancellations will be made 90 minutes before the scheduled game time.
- iii. There will be an attempt to reschedule all rained out games, depending on diamond availability. *It is the responsibility of the Home Field Head Coach and Away Team Head Coach to re-schedule games and to notify the Club of the re-scheduled date, time and location.*
- iv. Prior to the start of a game, it will be the responsibility of the Home Field Head Coach, in consultation with the Away Team Head Coach, to determine whether a game is to be played. In the event of a cancellation, it will be the responsibility of the Home Field Head Coach to notify the Club of the cancellation. During the game, coaches and umpires will collectively decide on the safety of the field and weather conditions, and may choose to stop the game at any time. If present, umpire(s) will make the final decision. The Executive Committee of the Seaway Surge Baseball Club shall retain the right to reverse any decision made by coaches and/or umpires.

