

**Each team must have an official scorebook properly filled out before each game.**

**Each team should bring a First Aid Kit to the field.**

**There must be a runner's base for first base.**

**Equipment:**

The following equipment is mandatory and must be used:

- (A) Batting helmet (for batters).
- (B) Catcher's mask with throat protector or extension.

The following equipment is strongly recommended:

- (A) Chest protector
- (B) Shin guards.

**Eligibility Rules:** Boys Schools fielding a JV team cannot have any juniors or seniors playing on the JV squad, unless they fall under the "small school rule", in which case a small number of juniors may participate. If you desire, you may have freshmen or sophomores play on the varsity, but once any player appears in a varsity game, he becomes ineligible for future JV games during that season. Any player playing in any game must be listed on the team's official roster on the league website. No movement of players or additions to the roster are permitted after Pesach. Any violations of these rules may lead to game forfeits.

Please remember that our common goal must be the timely completion of the regular schedule and playoffs. Any dereliction of this objective by any one school creates an unfair burden on everybody else and will not be tolerated. Therefore, kindly be flexible and considerate when scheduling games with opponents. There is no reason why home games cannot be played on visitors' playing fields when necessary in order to expedite your schedule. This has always been done in the past with no problems. Triple headers can also be scheduled. ***If necessary, when scheduling double headers and time is crucial in the evening, you can play two five-inning games or one seven and one five. Keep in mind that the brevity of the season and a rainy spring are our greatest obstacles in completing the schedule. It is absolutely essential that double headers be played wherever and whenever possible. You can even schedule double headers with different teams on the same day.*** Home field is not a priority; completing your schedule is.

Please make sure to check your school's other activities before scheduling your games. If a game has to be cancelled because of inclement weather, get in touch with me at 917-612-6125 immediately. Do not wait until the last minute or you risk a forfeit. Any non-weather related schedule change will require a \$100 fee.

Yeshivas, by paying a fee, enter the league to play their full schedule of games; not win games by default. Therefore, any school which forfeits a game because of poor scheduling, apathy or unwillingness to be flexible or cooperative, will risk future participation in the league

**Umpires:** If an umpire is delayed in arriving at a game, or fails to show up for some reason, coaches should select someone (or two) to serve as umpires until the umpire arrives. Coaches may view the name and cell # of the umpire scheduled to work that day's game by logging into the website and viewing your schedule. Note: Umpires are in complete charge of the game. No calls should be made to the commissioner in the middle of a game for rule interpretation or whatever. There is no mechanism for protests. All Umpire's calls and decisions will stand.

**Questionable weather:** In the event of inclement weather, even if it is pouring, and especially when the condition of the playing field is **in doubt**, it is the responsibility of the *home team coach* to call the opposing team's coach and the commissioner within enough reasonable time before a road team starts to incur travel expenses, informing them whether the game can be played. *No call means the game is on!* Do not assume that if it is raining where you are that it is also raining where the game is being played. Once again, my # is 917-612-6125. If your cancellation call comes after the road team's bus has been dispatched

or after the umpire has begun to travel to the field, the home team will be charged to reschedule the game, in addition to possibly having to play the make-up game on the road.

## RULES

1. There will be a **10-run mercy rule**: any game in which the trailing team is behind by 10 or more runs after having batted in at least **four innings**, will be complete and over. This includes playoff games.
2. There is no free substitution rule. Any player removed from the game may **not** re-enter.
3. Rain or dark shortened games will be an official game if the trailing team has batted **four innings**. If the team behind goes ahead in the top of the inning, the home team must have the opportunity to bat in the bottom half of the inning.
4. If a game is decided by both managers to be a **five** inning game, then the prevailing regulations outlined in rule #3 will still apply with 3 ½ or 4 full innings required for the game to be considered official.
5. Managers must decide and let the umpire know **before** the game as to how many innings the game will be. You cannot make this decision once the game starts.
6. **Do not** start an inning if there is the possibility that it cannot be completed in its entirety.
7. Do not abuse the privilege of using designated runners. Only physical incapacities should necessitate the use of substitute runners during the game. If a designated runner is used, it must be the last player to make out preceding the runner who will be replaced. The umpire and opposing coach must be notified before the start of the game that a player will have a substitute runner if he gets on base.
8. Your lineup may include one Designated Hitter, and one "Extra Hitter". Bear in mind if you remove the extra hitter from the lineup, you must replace him in the lineup or it is an automatic out.
9. The "Clincher" is the official softball of our league. Each team must provide the umpire one new ball per game. Both new balls should be handed to the umpire at game time.
10. The Pitching "Rubber" must be 43 feet from the back tip of home plate and the bases must be 65 feet apart. (Blacktop Parks with pre-painted bases at 60 feet apart will be deemed acceptable for only those parks.)
11. A runner is not allowed to leave the base until the ball crosses home plate or contact is made by the hitter.
12. A throw by the catcher to a base remains a live ball if it gets by the fielder.
13. A throw by a catcher to a base to "pick off" a runner who has taken a lead, simply has to beat the runner; no tag is necessary. (The play is enforced as a force play).
14. The umpire can call a runner out if he observes the runner leaving the base early.
15. **There is a non collision rule.** When a fielder clearly has the ball and is waiting for the runner and the runner deliberately, with intent and force, crashes into the fielder, the runner is declared out. The runner is also not allowed to swipe at the ball with intent of knocking it loose. The runner is out and the ball is dead and other runners must return to the base they had at the time of the collision or swipe. If a fielder has legal position, the runner must avoid any physical contact with the fielder by sliding or going around the fielder legally. The umpire should only invoke the non collision rule when he is convinced that the runner's action was intended to cause injury or "jar" the ball loose. On any reasonably close play, (when the ball and runner get to the base at approximately the same time, "bang, bang") or when the fielder has not received the ball yet, or does not have the ball securely in his possession waiting to make the tag, then incidental contact will occur between the runner and the fielder. **Only incidental contact is allowed. No catcher is allowed to block home plate without the ball. There is no mandatory sliding rule!!!**
16. *Any questions or clarifications should be reviewed with the umpire in the pre-game conference.*
17. All other rules will apply as per ASA guidelines and regulations.
18. *Any school not exhibiting proper behavior and sportsmanship risks non-participation in the league. Do not embarrass yourselves, the league or your yeshiva.*
19. *Any untoward incident committed by team personnel or players can result in permanent expulsion for the season. There is no appeal.*