

NORTHWOODS DIVISION RULES

SUMMER 2020

- Play Two, 7 inning games
- Tie games after 7 innings end in a tie.
- Play a maximum of 12 players per team in the field, with a minimum of 9 players per team, with the opposing team providing a catcher and 3rd or 1st baseman when needed.
- Flip-flop rule if the home team is behind by 1 or more runs. Can only go up by 5 runs in 7th – if visiting team goes up by 5 in 7th, home team can only tie.
- 3-2 Count, One Courtesy foul.
- Outfielders must start each play behind - or the distance equal to - the first light pole.
- If needed, players from the National Division must bat last and play in the outfield or pitch. They cannot play the infield or as a short fielder.

BASE RUNNING

- To avoid contact and maintain distancing, we will adopt the “Canadian run-through” rule at 2nd and 3rd base as follows:
 - Every play at those bases will be a force play, with the runner able to “run through” the base (just like 1st base).
 - If the runner chooses to attempt advancing to the next base (in case of overthrow, etc.), they must return to and tag the base before advancing.
 - Tagging runners between bases will still be allowed. If the runner does not want to be tagged, he can concede the out by raising his hands.
- A player can only pinch run once per inning. A pinch runner caught on base when it is his turn to bat is NOT an out.
- If walked, a player can get a pinch runner and can bat again.
- Runner from home starts behind line at pole to right of home plate.
- When crossing the Scoring Line, the player’s foot must touch the ground, not just cross the line.
- Managers should mark a “Commit Line,” 30 ft up the line from home plate.

PITCHING

- Pitching screen required.
- Arc on pitches- minimum 6 ft. to maximum 12 ft.
- Top of screen is 12 ft from rubber. Pitcher can stand up to 10 ft behind rubber.
- Maximum of 3 practice pitches between innings.
- No quick-pitch to catch batter when not ready. Pitcher must face batter and hold ball 1 second before pitch. Umpire should call a no pitch.

Modifications to these rules can be made on a single-day basis if managers agree. This should be used in specific situations, not permanently changing the basic rules. For example, bases are slippery due to rain – managers may agree that a runner can step near a bag for safety.

Reviewed 7-2020