

NATIONAL DIVISION RULES

GAMES:

- Play two 7 inning games.
- Play 2 innings at a time.
- Flip-flop if home team is behind by five or more runs in the last inning.
- 7th inning is an open inning. When the score is tied at end of the seventh, one extra inning is played. Last batter out in the 7th starts half-inning on second.
- Home and visiting teams will be determined in advance and indicated on the schedule.
- Play 10- 11 players in the field, 12 if both managers agree.
- If 12 players, the 2 short fielders cannot play on the same side of a mid-field line from home to second to the outfield. Shortstop and 2nd baseman play on opposite sides of second base.
- 3 balls, 2 strikes count and one Courtesy Foul allowed.
- No home run limits.
- If walked, batter can get a pinch runner, then bat again.
- Pool players added to rosters- lowest team in standings get preference unless numbers dictate otherwise.
- If one team has more players than the other team, they will give players to balance numbers within one player. (Choice of three.) The goal is to have both teams play with close to even number of players. However, if a team with a large roster wants to keep all players they can do so.

PINCH RUNNING

- A player can only pinch run once per inning. A pinch runner caught on base when it is his turn to bat is out.
- No pinch runners from home, batters must advance themselves to 1st base, and then a pinch runner is allowed. If a situation occurs when a batter needs a pinch runner for one at bat only, such as a leg cramp, the previous batter out (last out) pinch runs.

PITCHING

- Pitching screen required or must use mask and shin pads.
- Top of screen is 12 feet from rubber.
- Pitcher must face batter and hold ball 1 second before pitch. No quick pitch to catch batter when not ready, called a no pitch.
- Arch on pitches- minimum 6 ft. to maximum 12 ft.

Modifications to the above rules can be made if opposing managers agree. This should be used in specific situations, not permanently changing the above rules. For example, bases are slippery due to rain; managers may agree that a runner can step near a bag for safety.

Reviewed 4-2021