



South Metro Community Baseball League Handbook 2011



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1.0 Baseball Commission And Voice Mail Messaging

To contact any of the volunteers, please contact the organization where your child is registered. Our suggestion to you is that you use the web sites as your primary method of contact.

Field locations and other information are available at each organization's web site.

Organization	Phone	Web site
EAA - Eagan		http://eaasports.org/
EVAA - Eastview	952-985-3830	http://www.evaasports.org
LBA - Lakeville	952-334-0512	http://www.lakevillebaseball.org
VAA – Apple Valley	952-432-5618	http://www.valleyathletic.org

2.0 Key Dates

Coaches Call Players

Practices Begin

Games Begin (7-10)

Pictures

No Games Scheduled

Tournaments (7-11)

last week of April

1st week of May

3rd week of May

(get exact time/place from your organization)

during week of July 4

4th weekend in July

3.0 Introduction

Welcome! On behalf of the South Metro Community Baseball League, we would like to welcome you to the baseball program. In our continuing efforts to provide the best for the youth of our community, we designed this handbook to provide you with the fundamental information needed to make your baseball experience fun, interesting, and worthwhile.

This league is a non-profit volunteer organization serving the youth of our communities. We rely heavily on the parents of our participants to provide the volunteer services to make our program successful. The baseball program requires thousands of volunteer hours to be successful. We encourage all parents to contribute their time to support the baseball program; we have many tasks that require a minimal amount of your time.

The volunteers in the baseball program include commissioners, coordinators, directors, coaches and umpires for the younger age levels, and many others who assist with sign-ups, pictures, equipment, uniforms, surveys, and implementing changes to the program. You can share your skills in any of these capacities or any others in which you may have an interest. Please contact any baseball volunteer for more information on how you can be involved.

Please remember that as volunteers we sometimes make decisions with which you may not agree. We ask you to share your concerns in a supportive manner.

We hope this baseball season will be a positive and fun experience for your child...this is our goal!

The South Metro Community Baseball League baseball program thanks you for your participation.

3.1 Philosophy

The South Metro Community baseball program's philosophy is to provide a positive environment in which each individual has equal opportunity to further develop the fundamentals and skills of the game. Every player should experience a variety of fielding positions.

4.0 Coaches' Code of Ethics

- I hereby pledge to live up to the League Guidelines by following the listed Code of Ethics:
- I will place the emotional and physical well being of my players ahead of any personal desire to win.
- I will remember to treat each player as an individual, remembering the large spread of emotional and physical development for the same age group.
- I will do my very best to provide a safe playing situation for my players.
- I promise to review and practice the necessary first-aid principles needed to treat injuries to my players.
- I will do my best to organize practices that are fun and challenging for all my players.
- I will lead by example in demonstrating fair play and sportsmanship to all my players.
- I will ensure that I am knowledgeable in the rules of each sport that I coach, and that I will teach these same rules to my players.
- I will use those coaching techniques appropriate for each of the skills that I teach.
- I will remember that I am a youth coach, and that the game is for children and not adults.

4.1 Coaches Are Responsible:

- for the good sportsmanship and proper behavior of team players and their guests.
- for attending the coaches meeting in April to pick up their team roster, schedule and equipment.
- for the equipment that is issued to them. If any equipment is lost or damaged, coaches should report the problem to the league director or age group coordinator.
- for locking the base boxes after practices and games.
- for attending any type of coaching clinic if possible.
- for holding a parent meeting. At this meeting, the coach should set the tone for the season and distribute their team schedule and roster.
- for enforcing the league rules.
- for picking up uniforms, pictures, and trophies and distributing them to their team.
- for ensuring the playing time requirements are met for each of their players.
- for contacting the league director(s) and umpire coordinators to arrange any make-up games.
- for contacting the umpire coordinator to cancel umpires for canceled games and to report umpire "no shows."
- for both coaching signing the pay vouchers and provide comments.
- for reporting any problems with the fields to the league director.
- for recruiting parent volunteers as necessary.
- for attending the coaches meeting in July to return their equipment.
- for finding someone to attend any of the meetings listed above, if they cannot make the scheduled times.

5.0 Parents' Code of Ethics

- I hereby pledge to live up to the League's Parents' Guidelines by following the listed Code of Ethics:
- I will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches and officials at every game, practice or other youth sports event.
- I will place the emotional and physical well being of my child ahead of any personal desire to win.
- I will insist that my child play in a safe and healthy environment.
- I will provide support for coaches and officials working with my child to provide a positive, enjoyable experience for all.
- I will demand a drug, alcohol and tobacco-free sports environment for my child and agree to assist by refraining from their use at all youth sports events.
- I will remember that the game is for children and not for adults.
- I will do my very best to make youth sports fun for my child.
- I will ask my child to treat other players, coaches, fans and officials with respect regardless of race, sex, creed or ability.
- I will promise to help my child enjoy the youth sports experience within my personal constraints by assisting with coaching, being a respectful fan, providing transportation or whatever I am capable of doing.

5.1 Parents Are Responsible:

- for demonstrating good sportsmanship and proper behavior.
- for the good sportsmanship and proper behavior of their children and their guests.
- for getting their children to practices and games on time.
- for picking up their children from practices and games on time.
- for informing the coach whenever their child will miss or be late to a practice or a game.
- for volunteering to assist the coach whenever possible.

6.0 Players Code of Behavior

- I hereby pledge to live up to the League's Players' Guidelines by following the listed Code of Ethics:
- I will do my best at all practices and during all games.
- I will listen to my coaches when at practices and at games.
- I will practice good sportsmanship by treating all players, coaches, parents and officials with respect.
- I will do my best to help my parents get me to the games and practices on time.
- I will keep my equipment and the equipment of the team in good condition by not throwing it or using in improperly.
- I will play and practice the game to have fun and not be concerned about winning or losing.
- I understand that improvement comes from practice and sometimes I may decide to practice on my own, away from scheduled practices and games.
- I age to use safety equipment when instructed to do so and pay attention to other safe play ideas provided by coaches, players and parents.

6.1 Players Are Responsible

- for demonstrating good sportsmanship and proper behavior.
- for being attentive at practices and games.
- for reminding their parents that they should be at practices or games on time.
- for informing the coach whenever they will miss or be late to a practice or a game.
- for having fun playing the game.

7.0 General Policies

7.1 Behavior

Coaches are responsible for their behavior as well as the behavior of their assistant coaches, their players, and their fans. Harassment of umpires, coaches, or players will not be tolerated. Coaches may have discussions with officials on the interpretation of a rule or a call. They do not have the right to challenge judgment calls (e.g., balls and strikes, safe or out, and rule interpretations). Blatant criticism of the umpires by coaches, players, or fans will not be tolerated. The umpires are responsible for the control of the game and have authority to eject any coach, player, or fan from the playing area. The umpires and/or coaches are responsible for reporting the incident to the league director(s). Subsequent violations may result in suspension from the league.

If you have a problem with the performance of an umpire, please direct your concerns to the home teams umpire coordinator. We must strive to teach the children of the community respect for the officials. Note:

Fans are restricted to the areas that are “out of play” and away from the bench. Participants are expected to be on the bench when they are not actively playing. Coaches should make sure that a single person is in the “on deck” circle at any time.

Players will treat their teammates and opposition with respect. After each game, the participants will line-up and shake hands.

7.2 Inclement Weather

In case of inclement weather, your coach is responsible for determining if there will be a game or practice. If you have any questions regarding inclement weather, please contact your coach.

At all age levels, games and practices shall be suspended when lightning is visible or thunder is heard. A single vote by either of the coaches or the umpires results in the game being suspended. Remember that the safety of the players in inclement weather is the number one concern.

7.3 Blood Policy

Consistent with the League's policy on blood, players are not allowed to participate while bleeding or blood is on the uniform.

7.4 Drug and Alcohol Policy

The league believes that all players and coaches participating in a youth activity should refrain from the use of alcohol and/or a controlled substance.

It shall be a violation of this policy for a player or coach while participating in a youth activity to use a beverage containing alcohol or use or consume, have in possession, buy, sell or give away any controlled substances.

Once a violation has been brought to the attention of the Board and the Board has made a decision, the player or coach will be informed of his or her ineligibility in the sport by a written letter from the Board of Directors.

First Violation: Upon notification by the Board, the player or coach shall lose eligibility for the next two consecutive games or two weeks of a sport season in which the player or coach is participating, whichever is greater. No exception is permitted. This excludes them from dressing at the games or participating in practices during the suspension.

Second Violation: The player or coach shall lose eligibility for that sport season. No exception is permitted.

Accumulative Penalties: Penalties shall be accumulative beginning with and continuing throughout the player or coach's participation in the organization.

7.5 Equipment Abuse

Under no circumstances will the abuse of equipment be tolerated. Umpires and coaches are instructed to give a player one warning. After the warning, each instance of equipment abuse will result in that player sitting on the bench for the remainder of the game. If the abuse of the equipment results in any damage to the equipment, that player and their parents will be responsible for reimbursing the replacement cost of the equipment to the baseball program. Players may be barred from future programs until reimbursement of damaged property is made.

7.6 Tobacco Policy

The league does not condone the use of tobacco by players under the legal tobacco age.

It shall be a violation of this policy for a player participating in any activity to use tobacco.

Once a violation has been brought to the attention of the Board, the player will be informed of his or her ineligibility. Ineligibilities will be the same as for the Drug and Alcohol Policy.

In addition to the league's policy on tobacco, the baseball commission requests that all coaches and parents refrain from tobacco use while participating in a baseball activity. If a coach or parent must use tobacco during a baseball activity, they must remove themselves from the playing area, which includes the bench area.

7.7 Suspensions

The baseball commission reserves the right to suspend any coach, parent, player, or fan that violates the Code of Ethics provided by the Board of Directors. Suspensions will be documented and distributed to the Board of Directors.

A coach or umpire may suspend any player who acts in an unsportsmanlike manner, which includes fighting, swearing, and taunting. The player is given one warning. The second violation results in the player sitting on the bench for the remainder of the game. The third violation results in suspension of the player for the remainder of the game plus the next game played. Subsequent violations may result in the player being suspended from the league. Any violations must be reported to the league director.

A coach may reduce the playing time of any player for failing or refusing to attend practice sessions or games. The coach must give the player one warning and discuss the situation with the player's parents. The warning should include a fair description of intended discipline. The coach must discuss the intended discipline with the league director before discipline is administered.

8.0 Conflict Resolution Guidelines

These guidelines are to be followed whenever there may be concerns or questions regarding the policies and programs of Community Baseball.

When a player or a parent has a concern regarding the policies or procedures of Community Baseball, they should bring those concerns to the attention of the coach.

If the problem persists or is unable to be resolved at the coach level, the player or parent should contact their league director. The league director will involve the baseball commission as necessary.

Once the baseball commission is involved, the commission will act as the mediator between the participant and the coach. All parties involved will discuss together the situation and find a solution.

The baseball commission will communicate with the Board Liaison any necessary mediation and the outcome of the mediation.

If necessary, the parties involved can contact the Community Baseball Liaison to help mediate the dispute. The Board Liaison will meet with all parties to discuss the situation and find a solution.

The Board Liaison will communicate with the Board of Directors any situations that are being mediated in their sport.

If mediation is unable to resolve the issues, and all the above steps have been followed, a letter stating the issues should be written to the "Executive Committee." The Executive Committee consists of the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary of the Board of Directors. The Executive Committee shall consult with the Board Liaison on the issue. At this time, the Executive Committee may make a decision on the issue or refer the issue to the full Board of Directors.

The decision of either the Executive Committee or the full Board of Directors will be final.

9.0 General Information

9.1 Budget

Here is a rough breakdown of the expenses paid from the baseball registration fee:

Expense	Estimated Percentage of Registration Fee
Equipment	15%
Miscellaneous	7%
Trophies	10%
Umpires	24%
Uniforms	29%
Athletic Association	15%

9.2 Games and Practices

The season begins with practices in May. Games start near the end of May and run through the third week of July. A weekend playoff tournament is held for seventh grade and above the third weekend of July. No games are scheduled for the week of July 4; however, this week may be used for making up games.

Games and practices are scheduled Monday through Thursday. If necessary, games and practices may also be scheduled on Friday, Saturday or Sunday.

9.3 Neighborhood Parks

To accommodate the number of participants that we have, baseball must utilize neighborhood parks. In the past, the city has heard concerns from the residents about the usage of the neighborhood parks.

If you have a game at a neighborhood park, please be considerate of the residents: park your vehicle appropriately, drive safely, use sidewalks, pick up your trash, and keep your children out of other people's property. We cannot afford to lose the use of these parks!

9.4 Team Pictures

Commissioners make arrangements for individual and team pictures to be taken mid-season. As a courtesy to teammates, please make every effort to attend.

9.5 Playing Time

Over the course of the season, all participants should have approximately the same playing time at both infield and outfield positions and approximately the same number of at bats.

Playing Time Exceptions:

Players that are suspended for equipment abuse, unsportsmanlike conduct, or that miss or come late for games and/or practices.

9.6 Safety Equipment

Batting helmets and catcher's equipment are provided by the league. Parents are responsible for providing any additional safety equipment. Mouth guard and protective cup are recommended - see grade level information.

9.7 Suggestions

The community baseball volunteers value your opinions. If you have suggestions for improving the baseball program, please include them on the online survey at the end of the season. Include as much detail as necessary for the volunteers to understand what you would like to see implemented. If unable to complete an online survey, contact your league director with your suggestions.

Each year, we receive suggestions that would be wonderful to implement. Unfortunately, time constraints on our volunteers make implementation difficult to accomplish. Please help us implement your good ideas by volunteering.

9.8 Surveys

All participants are asked to complete an online survey on their experience with community baseball. This is your opportunity to express your opinions about community baseball. Please use this opportunity to offer your ideas on how the program can be improved.

Online surveys can be found on your league's website.

9.9 Team Selection

Team and coach selection will be completed and communicated to the parents by the end of April. If your child's coach has not contacted you by May 1, please contact the director for your league.

Requests are allowed only for persons requesting to coach together or for siblings. For complete details on how the teams are selected, please refer to the section on "League-Specific Information."

Trading players is not allowed in any league.

9.10 Team Refreshments

It is customary for team members to take turns bringing pop for after game sharing. Please refrain from high caffeine pop. Coaches usually assign game refreshment responsibility at the start of the season.

9.11 Uniforms

Shirts and hats are provided by the baseball program. Sizes are predetermined by grade level to expedite ordering and receipt of uniforms by the coaches meetings. A team shirt and hat will be provided for coach and co-coach. Parents are responsible for supplying pants for their children. Parents may want to wait until after the first team meeting before purchasing pants, since the team may decide on one color of pants.

10.0 League-Specific Information

10.1 Team Selection

Seventh through Eighth/Eleventh Grades:

Two people may request to coach a team together. The remainder of the team roster is selected via a blind draft of like-rated players. Their coaches from the previous year rate the players. Thus, car pool requests are not honored. An effort is made in the seventh and eighth/eleventh grade leagues to balance pitching among teams to the extent possible.

Coaches are recruited from parents of players. Often times, there are volunteers for assistant coaches, but not head coach. When this occurs teams will be formed with only assistant coaches designated.

10.2 Rules

This section contains the basic rules for each of the leagues. We do modify some of the normal baseball rules to adjust them to the age level of the participants and/or the philosophies of the board. These rules may be modified in the coaches' meetings at the beginning of the season. Rule changes must be written, approved by the baseball commission, and distributed to the coaches before they are enforced.

If there are rules that you do not agree with, please work with the baseball commission to change them. Coaches are not allowed to mutually agree to suspend any of the rules for any game.

10.2.1 7th through 11th Grade Leagues

Note: Teams at these grade levels play in a league with teams from neighboring communities. Because of this there maybe some rule changes. We plan to post any such rule amendments on the organization's website.

Eligibility

1. Players must have been attending seventh, eighth, ninth, tenth or eleventh grade at the time of the sign-ups.
2. Seventh graders (Colts) will play in a seventh grade league. Eighth (Ponies), ninth (Ponies), tenth (Mustangs) and eleventh graders (Mustangs) will combine to form the eighth/ninth or tenth/eleventh grade league.
3. Players may only play in the league for their grade, unless the player has a disability that keeps them from being able to play with their grade level. The community baseball commission must approve any exceptions.
4. Only league registered players may play in a game.

Playing Field

1. Bases are 80 feet apart in the seventh grade league and 90 feet apart in the eighth/eleventh grade league. Some measurements may vary depending on availability if city fields.
2. The pitching rubber is 54 feet from home plate for the seventh grade league, and 60 feet for the eighth/eleventh grade league. Some measurements may vary depending on availability if city fields.
3. Bases furnished by the league shall be used.
4. Imaginary lines running from the ends of the line fences and parallel to the foul lines out to the outfield shall bind the field-of-play. The umpire(s) shall decide and call balls that are "out-of-play."

Safety Equipment

1. It is strongly recommended that all male players wear athletic supporters, which include a protective cup. Catchers are required to wear athletic supporters, which include a protective cup. Catchers must also wear a chest protector, shin guards, facemask, helmet, and catcher's glove.
2. All batters and base runners must wear protective helmets. Any batter or runner throwing their helmet (in the judgment of the umpire) will be called out.
3. **Baseball shoes with molded (plastic/rubber) cleats are allowed. Shoes with metal spikes are not allowed.**
4. The Board of Directors has recommended that mouth guards be used.
5. Refer to 10.2.5 for specific limitations on bats. All bat handles must be wrapped or the umpire will not allow the bat to be used. Wood bats are allowed.

Umpires

1. An umpire will be provided for each game.
2. Direct umpiring complaints to the umpire coordinators.

Game Rules

1. Umpire can adjust start and end times at their discretion as long as safety isn't compromised.
2. All weekday games begin at **6:15** p.m.
3. Games will be 7 innings or called by umpire due to darkness and/or unsafe playing conditions.
4. Each team is allocated approximately 15 minutes for infield practice before the game. The home team will practice during the time period from 30 minutes before the game to 15 minutes before the game. The visiting team will practice from 15 minutes before the game up until 2 minutes before game time. For safety reasons, use of the infield for batting practice during this time is not allowed.
5. A regulation game is seven innings, unless extended because of a tie score or because the umpire calls the game.
6. Four completed innings constitutes an official game.
7. A 15-run rule will be in effect after five complete innings. At the end of either the fifth or sixth inning if a team is ahead by 15 or more runs, they shall be declared the winner.
8. The defensive team shall field a maximum of nine players and a minimum of seven players. Missing players will not be counted as outs in the batting line-up. A grace period of fifteen minutes will be given before a forfeit is called.
9. Substitutions are allowed during REGULAR season games with the consent of BOTH team's coaches. Substitutions (team roster as of June 15th) will NOT be allowed during tournaments. Note: Substitution means players currently not registered in the South Metro Community League.
10. Each team will provide a new baseball before each game.
11. In the case of darkness, the game can be and should be called at anytime by the umpire OR either coach. The safety of the players is paramount when considering whether the game should continue or not.
12. No league standings or game results are kept.

Rainouts and Makeup Games

1. In case of inclement weather prior to game start time, the coaches should contact each other and discuss if the game should be canceled. If the game is canceled, the home team is responsible for calling the umpire coordinator immediately so that the umpire can be notified.
2. Once at the field, both coaches and the umpire should mutually decide if the game should be played, canceled, or suspended. Every effort should be made to make a poor field condition playable, weather permitting. The umpire shall decide if the game should be called due to inclement weather after play has started. (Except in the case of lightning – see section Inclement Weather.)
3. The coaches must contact the league director or umpire coordinator or age group coordinator to re-schedule the game based on your association setup.
4. Make-up games can be played on open nights, on weekends or during the July 4th break

and will take precedence over practices.

5. The league director/age group coordinator is responsible for contacting the umpire coordinator and arranging umpires for all makeup games.

Playing Rules

General

1. Coaches may not mutually agree to suspend any rule(s) for any given game.
2. The "High School Baseball Rules" (Minnesota High School League) shall govern any and all rules not addressed here. Coaches and umpires are urged to interpret the rules liberally and generously, considering the intentions of this league.
3. All players must play a minimum of three defensive innings, unless the player is injured, suspended, or late for a game. The philosophy of community baseball is to give players experience at a variety of fielding positions. Please rotate your players every two or three innings. Please ensure every player has played three defensive innings by the completion of the fifth inning since the 15-run rule may come into effect.
4. Round-robin batting (all players present) shall be in effect. All players should have approximately the same number of at bats over the course of the season (proportional to attendance). A simple implementation is to utilize a fixed batting order with the first batter of each game being the batter who was on-deck at the end of the previous game.
5. Players removed from the batting order can not return to the game, unless they injured in which case they can return to their original position in the batting order. In each case, these batters are NOT automatic outs. Only ejected players count as automatic outs at their position in the batting order.
6. Free player substitutions are allowed and do not alter the batting order.
7. All players are limited to a maximum of four defensive innings at the same position except the catching position where there is no limit.
8. The ball remains live (i.e. "in-play") at all times unless an umpire calls "time-out" or unless the ball goes "out-of-play."
9. Players should remain seated on the bench except for the on-deck hitter. Only players and coaches are allowed on the bench.
10. The infield fly rule is in effect. Please refer to the section 10.2.4 on the infield fly rule for detailed information.

Pitching

1. A player can pitch no more than 6 innings per game and no more than 12 innings in 3 consecutive days. Coaches will also consider the number of pitches thrown and limit pitchers to approximately 80 pitches per game. Innings pitched by a player are reset on the first day of the End-of-Year tournament.
2. If a player throws one pitch in an inning, it shall be recorded as an inning pitched.
3. A player, once removed as a pitcher, may not pitch again in the same game.
4. For the seventh grade league, pitchers are not allowed to throw any type of curve ball. The first violation results in a warning. The second and subsequent violations result in the batter being walked. Curve balls are allowed in the eight/eleventh grade league.
5. The strike zone will include any part of the ball crossing the plate between the top of the batter's kneecaps and the batter's armpits, when the batter assumes a natural stance. (In practical terms, of course, players must be taught that the strike zone is wherever the umpire calls it!) It is recommended that the coach replace a pitcher if he walks or hits four

consecutive batters. The umpire-in-chief shall allow the replacement pitcher as many warm-up pitches as the umpire deems necessary.

6. If a game is called due to weather, the pitcher will be charged with any innings pitched, regardless if it is an official (complete) game or not.
7. 1 dead ball balks warning per pitcher. Exception: if the base runner was running towards the next base at the time of the infraction then a balk will be called in lieu of a warning. Both balks and balk warnings should only be called by the umpire for flagrant infractions pertaining to the balk rule.

Base Running

1. Stealing of bases is allowed. The base runner may lead off the base.
2. The last out can be used as a courtesy runner for the pitcher or catcher (for the batting teams next defense half inning) or injured player at anytime.

Any base runner must slide *or otherwise attempt to avoid bodily contact* when a tag is being attempted. Violation of either method will result in the player being called out. (Of course, leaving the baseline to avoid a tag or bodily contact also causes the runner to be called out.) The purpose of this rule is to prevent collisions that can cause injuries.

10.2.2 Infield Fly Rule

The infield fly rule applies when there are fewer than two outs, and there is a force play at third (runners on first and second base, or bases loaded). In these situations, if a fair fly ball is hit that, in the umpire's judgment, is catchable by an infielder with ordinary effort, the batter is out regardless of whether the ball is actually caught in flight. The rule states that the umpire is supposed to announce, "Infield fly, if fair." If the ball will be almost certainly fair, the umpire will likely yell, "Infield fly, batters out!" or just "Batter's out!" Umpires also typically raise one arm straight up to signal to everyone that the rule is in effect.

Any fair fly ball that could have been caught by an infielder with ordinary effort is covered by the rule, regardless of where the ball was caught. The ball need not be caught by an infielder, nor must it be caught in the infield. For example, if an infielder retreats to the outfield in an effort to catch a fly ball with ordinary effort, the Infield Fly Rule would be invoked, even if an outfielder ultimately caught the ball, and even if no infielder attempted to make a play on the ball. Similarly, a fly ball within the infield that could have been caught by an infielder with ordinary effort, but is caught by an outfielder, would also be covered by the rule.

On a caught infield fly, the runners must tag up (retouch their base at the time of pitch) in order to be eligible to advance, as on any catch. If the infield fly falls to fair ground untouched, or is touched and dropped, runners need not tag up. In either case, since the batter is out, the force play on other runners is removed.

10.2.3 Bat Size Restrictions

Seventh Grade:

In diameter at the thickest part:.....2 ¼" or less with unlimited weight differential

In diameter at the thickest part:.....2 ½" to 2 ¾" with no greater than minus 10 weight differential

Eighth/Ninth Grade:

In diameter at the thickest part:.....2 ¾" or less with no greater than minus 5 differential

Tenth/Eleventh Grade:

In diameter at the thickest part:.....2 5/8 " or less with no greater than minus 3 differential

All grades bat length:.....36" or less

All bat handles must be wrapped or the umpire will not allow the bat to be used.