**Washington Township Baseball League, Inc.**

*“A non-profit organization”*

1. No player may participate until a registration form and insurance waiver have been completed and are on file.
2. Player divisions are as follows:

**Clemente:** A player who is 7 or 8 years old by May 1st

**Mays:** A player who is 9 or 10 years old by May 1st

**Reese:** A player who is 11 or 12 years old by May 1st

**Koufax:** A player who is 13, 14, or 15 years old by May 1st

**Wedge:** A player who is 15, 16, 17, or turning 18 by January 1st

 Any variations to the above age rulings will be approved only by the board of directors of Washington Township Baseball League.

1. Players must participate in 75% of the scheduled games to be eligible for awards. (see rule 4 for exceptions)
2. Players who miss 25% of scheduled games may be dismissed from the team and may not be eligible for awards. If the player missed these games because of vacations, illnesses, or injury, rule 3 may be waived. Before any coach can enforce this rule, it has to be brought before the board, where both parties must be present.
3. Players who continually miss practice without a valid reason may be set out for one game. Before any disciplinary action is taken, the coach must notify his division’s commissioner for a ruling. If a player is to sit out, the opposing coach needs to be notified prior to the affected game.
4. In all divisions at Wallen baseball and softball, except for the Senior and Wedge divisions, a team must have a minimum of 8 players on the field or they must forfeit the game. Seven players must be from the team's original roster, and the team may pick up a player from a division or age group below the division requesting players. Girls and boys may sub up if needed in either baseball or softball, but has to be of the oldest age in the division below. They may pick up from the age below to get to max of 9 players. Any player picked up for the higher division may only play outfield and must bat last (if 2 are added they must bat 8th and 9th). If someone from the original roster shows up, they must replace the 8th or 9th player. All players must be registered and playing at Wallen. If a player has to leave early and notifies his coach prior to the game, as well as notifies the other team and umpire, then that team may not have to take an out. This also includes if a player is injured during the game; no out is given when their at-bat occurs in-game.
5. Only participating players along with 1 manager, 2 coaches, and 1 scorekeeper for each team will be allowed in the dugout. No food or refreshments are allowed in the dugout unless permission has been given by the team manager.
6. The home team has the third base dugout and bats second. The visiting team has the first base dugout and bats first. The home team keeps the official scorebook.
7. The home team is responsible for pulling out the bases and putting them away after the final game. The visiting team is responsible for raking the diamond.
8. No tobacco, in any form, is permitted in the dugouts or on the playing field. No smoking is permitted in the complex.

No cursing is permitted in the dugout or on the playing field.

1. Managers and their coaches are responsible for the conduct of themselves, their players, and their fans.
2. In the interest of safety, no jewelry of any type may be worn during a game.

The final decision in this matter is up to the umpire.

1. Each team is responsible for cleaning up their dugout and bleacher area after each game, before getting team drinks. If a team fails to do so, their team will be required to clean the entire diamond and bleacher area before their next regularly scheduled late game, which may delay the starting of the game or may result in a forfeit.

If the players are forced away from the area due to inclimate weather, this rule may be waived.

1. A 10 minute infield practice for the visiting team shall begin 30 minutes prior to the start of the first scheduled game of the night. The home team will also have a 10 minute infield practice immediately following this.

Subsequent games will have no infield practice except during the pitcher’s warm-up.

1. If a game is called because it has reached the time limit and the score is tied, the game will be called a tie.

If it is a tournament game, the game will continue until a winner is declared.

1. League games are to be started promptly at their scheduled times.
2. If a manager or coach visits the mound more than one time in any inning, he/she must change pitchers.

A manager cannot ask their pitcher to meet at the foul line to avoid it being designated as a visit. This action will be defined as a visit.

Once a pitcher is removed from the pitching position, he/she may not return to pitch in that game.

Infield players may not pause the game as a group to meet with the pitcher during play without a coach present. Only the catcher may visit the mound for sign clarifications.

1. Any protest must be put in writing within 24 hours of the protested game and must be presented to the board. The protest must also be made verbally to the home plate umpire immediately following the “problem” and before the game has been resumed. The umpire shall advise a board member that the game is being played under protest. The board shall make a ruling in a reasonable period of time.
2. No metal cleats are permitted in league play.
3. Ejection from a game will occur under the following circumstances:

 If, in the judgement of an umpire, a player has intent to injure a player, immediate ejection shall take place.

 Unsportsmanlike conduct on the part of coaches or players, verbally reported by a league official or written by others with verification, may result in an appearance before the board.

 The above conduct shall include, but is not limited to: language, gestures,

 Or throwing of equipment.

 A player, coach, or spectator may be ejected from the game or the entire ballpark by either an umpire or a league official.

 An individual who has been ejected from a game may be placed out of

 sight and sound. If asked to leave, the ejected person must vacate the

 premises immediately.

 A coach or player ejected from a game will be ineligible to participate in his/her next scheduled game.

 A spectator ejected from the may not attend the next game and may be subject to indefinite suspension.

1. It is suggested that all players wear a protective cup for their own safety.

Catchers must wear a cup and a throat guard. There are no exceptions to this rule. The umpire should ask the catcher if they are wearing this gear, and not allow anyone to catch who is not wearing this gear.

1. In the case of a wet diamond, the decision to postpone games shall be made at the earliest possible time before the start of the game. A designated board member shall notify the umpire scheduler and all commissioners affected. The cancelations will be posted to the website and Twitter immediately. Coaches will notify parents when available. The website and Twitter will be the quickest way to receive notifications
2. Each coach must inform the League Commissioner of any change in his team player status. Failure to do so could result in game forfeit.
3. Any person appearing for practice or a game in an obviously drug or alcohol induced state shall be immediately ejected from the ballpark. A player or coach in this condition will be subject to a board review.
4. A runner is out when he/she **DOES NOT** attempt to avoid malicious contact (whether intentional or not) with a fielder upon approaching a base. A runner that collides with a fielder, who could have avoided the contact by sliding, will be called out and possibly be ejected (unless the fielder, including the catcher, is not making a play for the ball). The purpose for this rule is to avoid injury to the runner and/or the fielder.
5. Fake tags are not allowed. A player may be ejected if a baserunner slides in reaction to a fake tag by the defensive player.

No hidden ball tricks are allowed.

1. Any pitcher hitting 3 batters in an appearance must be removed from the pitching position.
2. Permanent cancellations of rainouts or make-up games are to be left up to the discretion of the commissioners and league scheduler. A suspended game (if rescheduled) that has not completed 4 innings must resume from the point in which the game was suspended. If the game has completed at least 4 innings, then the game will be considered a complete game, and the score will be posted as the final score. If the game was suspended during an incomplete inning, then the score will be based upon the final full complete inning. The Clemente division must complete 3 innings to be considered a complete game, otherwise the game will need to resume where the score left off.
3. Any runner removed because of illness or injury must be replaced by the player who made the last out. This position in the batting order is not an out during regular season league play. This position in the batting order is an out during league tournament play.
4. All leagues: When a catcher is on base with 2 outs, the player making the last out may pinch run for the catcher (unless it is the last inning).
5. Each team must have a designated “team parent” for each game. It is their responsibility to do the following: work the scoreboard, announce on the PA, make sure the dugouts and bleacher areas are picked up after each game, assist with raking the fields after each game, and other duties as deemed necessary. It is the coach’s responsibility to assign this position for every team.
6. In order to work in the concession stand a worker must be part of a Wallen family (Must be 12 years of age or older).
7. Bat limitations do apply in the Koufax Division (See Koufax Division Rules)
8. In order to move up to a higher aged division, all of the following criteria must apply:
* Player must attend the correct division’s tryout
* All board members and coaches in attendance at the tryout will evaluate the player
* Board members only make the final decision with feedback from the coaches at the tryout
* Evaluation of the player must be higher than a “C” rating
* Must be absolutely clear to the family that it is an evaluation during the tryout to determine whether the player can move up.
1. Each division is scheduled a minimum of 1 game a week and a maximum of 3 games a week. If there are any circumstances in which 4 games a week need to be scheduled (Examples: rainouts, no fields available, and/or heat index), Wallen Complex in Baseball and Softball Division guarantee 12 - 14 games in spring season including end of season tournament. Any division may be scheduled more than 12 - 14 games. The spring season is April through the middle of July. For fall season, 8 - 10 games guarantee no tournament will be given. Tee and Lob will not exceed 10 - 12 games for spring and 8 - 10 games in the fall. Tee and Lob will never have more than max of 3 games a week.
2. If a team is scheduled to have more than 3 games in a week, a pitcher is allowed 3 additional innings during that week. This only applies in the added game, and in the following pitch counts listed in rule #37.
3. Baseball “Pitch Counts” and rest period guidelines, along with following these rules and the above appearances for pitchers in each division and their specific ages.
4. The All-Star run rules for all divisions are as follows: 15 runs after 4 innings, or 10 runs after 5 innings.
5. A tie-breaker for the end of the regular season and seedings for tournaments is determined in this order:
	1. Total wins
	2. Winning percentage
	3. Head to head
	4. Runs allowed
	5. Runs for
	6. Coin flip

(If one team does not have the same amount of games played, total wins will not be a factor)

1. Rules on balks for baseball are as follows:
	1. Clemente: no balks are called
	2. Mays: no balks are called
	3. Reese: 1 warning pitch per game - No warning in a tournament or all-star game
	4. Koufax: no warnings
	5. Wedge: no warnings
2. No player can sit 2 consecutive innings on the bench unless of injury and choice of the player. Any other reason needs prior board approval that being of discretionary purposes--missing practice, late for practice, late to games.
3. Pitch count violations followed by the opposing coach must be verified if in the game for more than 2 innings on pitch count, between both coaches. Avoid going over pitch limits. If a violation of exceeding a pitcher’s maximum pitches or innings occurs, there is no warning. The game will be finished, but it will be marked as a loss for the team that violates.
4. Per NFHS, in each age group, the pitcher may finish the current batter if the maximum pitch count is exceeded within the at-bat.
5. All rules are subject to change due to any extraordinary situation. Any changes will be determined and approved by the Executive Board of Wallen.

