

West Michigan Youth Baseball Association (WMYBA)
2026 Middle School Baseball League Rules

League Participants:

Coopersville	Orchard View Ravenna	North Muskegon	Mona Shores
Fruitport	Ravenna Reeths Puffer	Reeths Puffer	

Team Reporting:

Each year, the following information is needed to schedule your teams:

- 1) Team name(s)
- 2) Head coach(es) name, cell number, email address and fill in missing info
- 3) Number of players on each team
- 4) Home field info (name of park, address, field #, special directions, etc)
- 5) Field availability/blackout dates for your home field
- 6) Payment of league fee

League Fee:

League fees are \$50 per team. Organizations with 2 or more teams in the league will pay no more than \$100. League fees will be used to purchase trophies and medals. Checks can be make payable to:

Fruitport Youth Club Baseball (FYCB)
6273 Brooks Road
Fruitport, MI 49415

League Design:

This year there will be one league composed of teams that are a mixture of 7th and 8th grade players. The league consists of 13 teams from 7 area organizations (listed above).

Season:

The regular season will consist of a 10-game season starting the week of May 5, 2025. Each team will have 5 home games and 5 away games. Start time for all weekday games is 6PM. Playoffs will begin the week of June 9th.

Every effort will be made to schedule games Monday through Friday. However, field availability and scheduling conflicts may force weekend games as many of our fields are shared with the high school programs.

Games:

All games will be 7 innings in length. There is no time limit to games. In the event of a tie after 7 innings, the game can continue into extra innings assuming daylight still exists. In the event of a tie and conditions are no longer safe to continue to play, the game will end in a tie.

Mercy Rule:

Runs	Inning
15	After 3
15	After 4
10	After 5

Playoffs:

Top 10 teams will enter postseason play. Postseason is single elimination. The Postseason schedule will be released later in the season.

Tie Breakers & Tournament Seeding:

For regular season championship, tournament seeding, and home field determinations in the playoffs, the following will be used, in order, in the event of a tie:

- 1) Regular season record (specifically, the # of victories)
- 2) Head to head results
- 3) Runs allowed/game
- 4) Runs scored/game
- 5) Coin flip

Tournament Champion:

Team trophies and individual player medals will be awarded to the Tournament champion and runner-ups.

Rainouts or Rescheduled Games:

In the event of a rainout, it is the responsibility of the home team to report the rainout to the league scorekeeper. The 2 head coaches should mutually agree upon a make-up date ASAP. The league recommends that you consider Saturdays as a make-up date. The home team should then inform the league scorekeeper as to what the new game date is. When reporting a rainout and/or make-up game, please state the date the original game was to be played, the location of the game, and the 2 teams that were to play.

League Scorekeeper: Scott Hunsanger 231-260-1703 scotthunsanger@gmail.com

Team Insurance:

The WMYBA does not require nor does it offer a league wide insurance policy. Each participating organization can purchase their own insurance at their discretion.

Umpires:

It is the responsibility of the home team to supply and pay for umpire(s) for each game. The league does not require these umpires to be certified. However, due to the age of the players and the level of competitiveness, the league asks that the umpire(s) you supply are fully capable and knowledgeable to handle the game and enforce MHSAA rules. Each game should have two umpires.

Uniforms:

Each member is responsible for supplying their own uniforms. Metal spikes are allowed.

Game Balls:

The home team must supply 2 new game balls for each game. The visiting team should provide 2 playable balls as well. The ball can be any brand but should conform to MHSAA standards.

Pitching Restrictions:

MHSAA pitch count rules

Junior High/Middle School (Grades 6-8)

Maximum number of pitches in one day = 75

Number of Pitches	Days of Rest
51-75	3 Days
26-50	2 Days
25 or less	1 Day

Game Rules:

MHSAA rules will be followed with the following exceptions.

- 1) A rocket batting order or just 9 can be used.
- 2) Free defensive substitutions.
- 3) Balks – dead ball will be declared and a warning will be given to the pitcher. The umpire should show the pitcher what he did wrong. Continued balks will be called and bases awarded to all runners.
- 4) No bat restrictions. Any bat with a USA, USSSA, or BBCOR sticker that is in playable condition will be allowed. It is highly recommended to use BBCOR in 8th grade and USA drop 8 (-8), or drop 5 (-5) in 7th grade.
- 5) A pitcher cannot re-enter a game as the pitcher after being removed.

Reporting Scores:

The League Scorekeeper, Scott Hunsanger, will contact each organization to explain score collection procedures before regular season play begins. **Failure to report scores within 72 hours will result in forfeiting the win.**

Please use the following format when reporting the results. Please use the same team identifier that is used on the schedule.

Date	Example: 5/4/23
Winning team – runs scored	Ravenna - 12
Losing team – runs scored	OV - 10

Updated standings will be shared with coaches throughout the season. They will also be posted on the League Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61573607338688>.

The use of Game Changer for keeping score and pitch counts is highly encouraged.