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# Spearfish Youth Baseball

## Minors AA Rules (Ages 6-9)

Rules shall be the official Cal Ripken rules with the following exceptions:

1. There will be no official scorekeeping, no team standings will be kept.
2. The length of the game will be five innings or 1 ½ hours, whichever occurs first.
3. Round robin batting: Every player on the team will be in the batting rotation whether or not playing in a defensive position. Those players who have been assigned a defensive position do not have to be the first nine players in the batting line-up. A half-inning ends when 3 outs have occurred, or 5 runs have been scored, or all hitters in the line-up have batted once.
4. Each player must play a minimum of six outs and one at bat each game. If the minimum is not met for a game, the player shall start the next game.
5. If one or both teams are short players:
   1. If one of the two teams have sufficient players to field a full team, they may do so and are not required to match the strength of the other team.
6. The pitching rubber will be set at 42 feet. The infield will be a 50 ft. square. A minimum of two pitchers and a maximum of two innings per pitcher per game shall be used. One purpose of this division is to develop the younger players to pitch. Managers must track and plan a player’s use as a pitcher and shall adhere to Cal Ripken rules regarding prescribed days off rest.
7. Normal Cal Ripken batting rules will apply (4 balls is a walk, 3 strikes is an out). Players will pitch to opposing batters up to 5 pitches. If a batter does not hit the ball or strike out in those 5 pitches, a coach will then use the pitching machine to throw to the batter until the batter hits the ball or strikes out. The coach assumes the pitch count. If a player is hit by a pitch from a player, he will be awarded first base, but not if they are struck by the machine. No tee will be used. Batters will be out after 3 strikes, even if the catcher drops the pitched ball.
8. No bunting will be allowed or the batter will be called out.
9. Only one warning will be given to a player for throwing the bat whether intentional or not. The next time the players throws the bat they will be called out.
10. In the event of an injury to a player, a substitute runner may be used. Suggest using the fourth or fifth preceding batter from the current line-up. This substitute runner should be in his normal batting order.
11. A runner may advance only ONE base on an overthrow. There are no overthrows to the pitcher if the pitcher is in the immediate circle of the pitcher’s mound. Base running should be aggressive while also utilizing good sportsmanship and utilizing what is generally considered sound baseball base running principals, not based on the fact that kids this age typically cannot throw and catch consistently yet.
12. Base stealing and leading off is not allowed.
13. The manager and coach may coach first and third base when their team is on offense. They may not touch a runner.
14. The umpire is in charge at all times.
15. A game shall be rescheduled if the temperature is below 40 degrees at game time. The umpiring crew has the discretion to call the game at any time due to weather conditions, and the crew may call the game at temperatures above 40 degrees, if in its discretion it is appropriate to do so. If you see parents get out of line, remind them the game is for the children and the atmosphere should be one of recreation, education and fun.
16. Equipment
    1. Bats need to have the USA stamp
    2. No metal spikes allowed
    3. Regular baseballs will be used

Team Responsibilities: Home Team will be responsible for getting the bases out, prepping the field and getting the mound set. The last home team of the day will put bases away and rake the home plate area. The Visiting team is responsible for cleaning up around the field areas.