

Alliance Hot Stove Baseball League Rules

The Alliance Chapter of the Ohio Hot Stove Baseball League will play by the rules that are printed and issued by the Ohio Hot Stove Baseball League. However, the following are additional rules covering local league play that applies to the Alliance Chapter only.

Rule 1:

All teams playing in the Alliance charter shall abide by the Alliance Hot Stove Baseball and the Ohio Hot Stove Baseball League rules.

Rule 2: Drugs and Alcohol

The Alliance charter will not tolerate the use, abuse and distribution or possession of a controlled substance or alcohol by a participant in a Hot Stove Baseball activity. The governing body will review any violations of this rule.

Rule 3: Team Management

- 1) Anyone associated with the Alliance Hot Stove League in the past or present that has done anything detrimental to the program as determined by the Board of Directors, may be subject to discipline up to and including expulsion from Alliance Hot Stove Baseball by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.
- 2) Managers, asst. managers and coaches must be approved by the league commissioner(s) and coached committee.
- 3) Managers, asst. managers and coaches must pass a background check before they are eligible to participate in any Alliance Hot Stove activity. This background check is required by the Alliance Hot Stove Baseball League in conjunction with the Ohio Hot Stove Baseball League. The fee and company used will be established each year by the Ohio Hot Stove Baseball League and is subject to change without notice. Direction for information submission will be provided by the Alliance Hot Stove Baseball League.
- 4) Anyone that desires to manage a team (including returning managers) must submit a written letter of intent to the coaches committee. This letter will include acceptance of responsibility for the business of the team.
- 5) The manager is responsible for the business activity of his/her team, equipment and all Alliance Charter fund raising activities.
 - a) Any player that has not opted out of the fundraising activities sponsored by the Alliance Hot Stove Charter as indicated on the season's sign up form understands that they are required to participate in those events. Should that player fail to meet this obligation, the player becomes ineligible to play in subsequent Alliance Hot Stove Baseball contests until opt out fees are paid or other arrangements have been made with the **Fundraising Committee**.
- 6) Managers, asst. managers and coaches must refrain from solicitation of sponsors for money, equipment, uniforms and etc.
- 7) All equipment must be returned to the league commissioner by August 31st of each baseball season. If equipment is not turned in by the designated date, the league commissioner and/or the Board of Directors may take further disciplinary action deemed necessary.
- 8) Fund raisers not sponsored by the Alliance Hot Stove Charter are prohibited (bakes sales, 50/50 drawings, car washes and etc.).

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Rule 4: Business of Team Manager

- 1) The manager or representative from his/her state roster coaching staff must be present at all division or league meetings.
- 2) At the beginning of each game, the manager is to fill out the roster card with the batting order and all team players.
- 3) Protests of ineligible player(s) should be made during ground rules and if ineligible players are not removed, the game will be played under protest (**refer to rule 10**).
- 4) Managers using ineligible player(s) will be subject to suspension for one (**1**) year (**see OHSBL Rule XVII-G**).
- 5) All games in which ineligible player(s) have participated shall be forfeited by the offending team.
- 6) Pitching cards, for leagues I through F, will be completed and submitted to the appropriate league commissioner or to the concession stand at Butler Rodman Park. This shall be done within forty-eight (**48**) hours of the completion of the game. Failure to comply will result in the following.
 - (a) 1st offense, warning
 - (b) 2nd offense, disciplinary action by the league commissioner and/or Board of Directors.
- 7) A protest of an ineligible, illegal player(s) or proper number of players (**reference rule 10**) can be protested within seventy-two (**72**) hours of the completed game.
- 8) The winning manager is to notify the Alliance Review newspaper
- 9) Home team manager is to notify the league commissioner if a game has been suspended or cancelled at the field.
- 10) The manager is required to file an injury claim of all accidents with the league commissioner within seventy-two (**72**) hours of the incident whether or not the player or parent/guardian desires to do so.
- 11) Transportation of players to/from games or practice in open air vehicle is prohibited. This is in violation of minors riding in open air vehicles. This includes transporting player from field to field at Butler Rodman Park or any other field during Hot Stove activities.
- 12) Managers and coaches shall be in the dugout/bench area while games are being played. A coach or manager shall not leave this area except for the following.
 - (a) Confer with a player or umpire and only after receiving permission from the umpire
 - (b) On offense as a 1st base or 3rd base coach (**2 only**)
 - (c) On defense in the bullpen area
 - (d) In the case of an injury
- 13) All managers and asst. managers listed on the roster and in attendance at games must be present on the playing field and an active participant in coaching the team (**no paper managers or asst. managers**). Failure to comply will result in an indefinite suspension as determined by the league commissioner with approval of the Board of Directors.
- 14) The actions of managers, asst. managers, coaches, players and team personnel must be above reproach. Anyone who is involved in verbal or physical altercations or an incident of un-sportsman-like conduct at game sites prior to, during play of or in the vicinity of the baseball complex after completion of the scheduled game, will be reprimanded by the Coaches Committee. Included in these actions will be but not limited to:
 - (a) The use of indecent language to players, coaches, managers, spectators, umpires and any team personnel
 - (b) Derogatory remarks regarding personal life issues, lifestyles or legal matters involving players, coaches, managers, umpires, spectators or any team personnel
 - (c) An assault upon umpires, coaches, players, managers, spectators or team personnel

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- (d) The use of hand gestures that would be construed as obscene
 - (e) **Punishment maybe no less than a 1 games suspension with additional time including possible lifetime banishment from the Alliance Hot Stove Chapter as determined by the Coaches Committee. Violators will be required to appear before a hearing of the Coaches Committee. In the event of a lifetime banishment, a majority vote must be obtained by the Coaches Committee. This vote will then be referred to the Board of Directors for final consideration with a majority vote needed by the board to pass.**
- 15) Members of the Board of Directors are also required to follow these conduct guidelines. Should it be determined that a board member has violated any of Rule 14, he/she will be required to appear before a hearing of the Board of Directors. A majority vote of Board Members present will be required to determine punishment, which may include permanent banishment from the Alliance Hot Stove Chapter. Any board member that is suspended will not attend meetings, will lose all voting privileges and may not participate in any function supported by the Alliance Hot Stove Chapter during his/her suspension period. Should the individual be a league commissioner, the President of the board will assume duties of that commissioner with determination made by him/her to consider reappointing a new commissioner for the remainder of the season.
- 16) **First time ejections-** When a manager, coach or player is ejected, they will not take part in the remainder of that game and the next scheduled game.
- (a) **2nd ejection**, 3 game suspension
 - (b) **3rd ejection**, remainder of the season to include tournament play.
 - (c) **NO APPEALS WILL BE ACCEPTED OR HEARD.**
- 17) A violation of city rules by a manager, asst. manager or coach may result in recommendation for 1 to 5 game suspensions by the league commissioner to the Coaches Committee. Any team personnel that are suspended may not participate in any function supported by the Alliance Hot Stove Charter during this suspension period. Additional actions may be taken by the Board of Directors.

Rule 5: Rosters- All Classes

- 1) **1** official roster is to be kept on file by the league commissioner. A copy will also be on file with the Secretary of the Alliance Charter.
- 2) Each team will consist of 1 manager (adult), 1 assistant manager (adult), 2 coaches and a number of players to be determined by the league commissioner and Board of Directors for state rosters. A batboy/girl must be younger than the age requirement for the team he/she is the batboy/girl of. The batboy/girl's name will appear on rosters submitted to the state but will be added to the roster held in possession of the manager for league play.
- 3) Team rosters must include player's name, address, phone number and date of birth. Rosters must be typed, signed by the manger and turned into the league commissioner on a date determined by him/her. Any illegible copies will not be accepted.
- 4) A player that quits his/her team without just cause after the state rosters have been submitted may be suspended for the following season if recommended by the league commissioner and approved by the Board of Directors.
- 5) Any player not signed up and paid in full by the last sign up date of the current baseball season, will not be included on a team roster.
- 6) **NO PARTIAL PAYMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED.**
- 7) A player from another Hot Stove League Charter may submit a release each season to play in the Alliance Charter. The league commissioner will place released players on a wait to play list. Each baseball season, the league commis-

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sioner will place released players as needed to a team. No Alliance Charter player will be required to move from his/her team to accommodate the addition of a released player.

- 8) All released players must obtain a release each season to play in the Alliance Charter in accordance with the Ohio Hot Stove rule book

Rule 6: Formation of teams (T ball, I League, H2, G and F league only)

- 1) Teams will be formed according to age group:
 - a) T ball- 5 and 6 years old. A boy/girl must be 5 years of age before May 1st of the current baseball year.
 - b) I League- 7 and 8 years old. A boy/girl must be 7 years of age before May 1st of the current baseball year.
 - c) H2- 9 and 10 year olds will play on the same age team. A boy/girl must be 9 years of age before May 1st of the current baseball year to begin H2 league play.
 - d) G – 11 and 12 year olds will play on the same age team. A boy/girl must be 11 years of age before May 1st of the current baseball year to begin G league play.
 - e) F – 13 and 14 year olds will play on the same age team. A boy/girl must be 13 years of age before May 1st of the current baseball year to begin F league play.
- 2) Managers in H1, H2 and G league moving up to the next league level (1st year in new class) will be permitted to protect no more than 10 rostered players from his/her previous team roster. In the event that the manager and/or asst. manager has a son/daughter playing on rostered on the team he/she manages, these players will count as 1 or 2 players, respectively, toward the maximum number of 10 protected players.
 - a) **Exception:** Only 1 player may be protected that is not listed on the previous year's roster and only when this player's parent/guardian is to be the new manager/asst. manager of that team. This only applies to teams changing league class, not to a team in their 2nd year of class play. A manager with a son/daughter, adopted son/daughter or legal guardian of a player the age of the league in which he/she manages in may move his/her son/daughter to his/her own team only with the approval of the **Board of Directors**. If he/she fails to return to manage the team the following year and his/her son/daughter has eligibility left in that league, the player will return to his/her original district or draft (H1,H2 and G league play only)
- 3) For managers and asst. managers that more than 1 son/daughter playing for the same team where the older player is protected, the younger player will be considered the manager's 3rd draft selection.
 - a) **Exception:** This will not apply where draft picks total are less the 3 picks for that team. The younger player must be picked not later than the 3rd round.
- 4) In the case of older to younger siblings playing in the same league, the parent/guardian shall have the option to separate these players onto prospective age teams. Should the desire be to keep both players on the same team, the youngest shall follow the oldest. If the oldest is protected, the younger will count as the 3rd pick in the draft where there is at least 3 picks for that team.
- 5) Once the oldest sibling has moved on to the next playing level, the younger sibling that still has eligibility in the previous year's league will be placed into the player draft for the next baseball season.
- 6) No player will be considered contracted or made eligible for the draft until that player has submitted a completed sign up form and all fees are paid in full
- 7) It is prohibited for any person who is directly or indirectly associated with a team to offer any type of financial or material inducement to a player for contracting purposes or to sign for team where contracts do not apply. A player may be approached and induced to sign a contract only on the basis of managerial and coaching expertise combined with the history of the team and its coaches. Any material or financial inducement to player and/or his/her family or promises that cannot be backed by the ethics of this baseball charter is absolutely prohibited and shall be dealt with severely by the governing body.

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- 8) Managers and asst. managers will be required to sign a 2 year commitment to his/her team. Moving from team to team will not be permitted. Should a problem occur such as job loss, shift change, moving out of the area or extreme family distress, the manager or asst. manager may petition the Board of Directors to be relieved of their duties. In the event of managerial change due to any of the above circumstances, the asst. manager will assume the duties of the exiting manager and a new asst. manger will be named from the current roster of coaches of that team. All participants will agree to fulfill the remaining time commitment set forth by the original contract(s).
- 9) Any released player that has been rostered in the Alliance Charter for at least 1 year, may stay on that team and be contracted moving into the next level providing he/she is granted a release from their charter and is accepted by the Alliance Charter. A released player that is contracted must obtain a release each baseball season in accordance to Ohio Hot Stove Baseball rules.
- 10) The parent /guardian will be required to sign the 2 year contract commitment for that player's team. The signatures of both the manager and parent/guardian must be on a valid contract for the contract to be accepted. The signature also verifies that the manager has not used any form of inducement to obtain the parent/guardian's signature.
- 11) Protected players will not be permitted to change teams during this 2 year period.
 - a) **Exception:** Should a dire circumstance exist, the parent/guardian may petition the **Board of Directors** for a release from the current team and be placed into a player draft as a 2nd year player. Any decision of the board will be final. Should a player be granted his/her release to enter the draft, the manager losing the player understands that he/she has lost all rights to that player and cannot pick that player in the upcoming draft.
- 12) Contracts must be in the hands of the league commissioner no later than 1 week after the last signup date. Should the Board of Directors extend the signup period, no other contracts will be accepted and those players signing up during the extension will be placed in the player draft. A player is considered contracted when the league commissioner receives a contract with both the parent/guardian and manager's signature, a completed sign up form and all fees paid in full.
- 13) Non-contracted players will be included in the league draft and will be picked by the Alliance teams participating
- 14) There will be no city or township residency designation for the purpose of placing a player with a particular team
- 15) Drafted players will be committed to their respective team for the 2 year eligibility period of that league. Should a Dire circumstance exist, **exception 11-a will apply.**
- 16) A player may move to higher league provided the player may appeal to the **Arbitration Committee through the Board President.**
 - a) **Exception:** T-ball players are prohibited from moving to a higher league.
 - b) a **"grandfather clause" will cover league classification of currently rostered players with May birthdays to allow them to advance a class, which will apply to the 2018 season and forward for continuously rostered players for future play (due to state rule change of birthday cut off from June 1 to May 1). Players may choose to stay down in their age appropriate classification.**
- 17) HH, H, GG and G- Players returning to Alliance Hot Stove from other leagues must enter the player draft, no exceptions

Rule 7: Drafts and Drafting Orders (all leagues)

- 1) Drafts will be at place and time designated by the league commissioner and overseen by a draft monitor
- 2) No less than 2 draft monitors will be assigned to each of the league draft by the chairperson of the Rules Committee
- 3) Draft monitors will be members of the Rules Committee. If 2 members cannot be present, a substitution will be made with use of the Board of Directors.

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- 4) League commissioners will provide all necessary information pertaining to each league draft to the chairman of the Rules Committee at least 3 days prior to the date of the draft.
- 5) Information will include but not limited to:
 - a) Number of players in each draft
 - b) Number of contracted players on each roster
 - c) Number of players returning to a team (2nd year in classification)
 - d) Any brother/sister situations or special circumstances
- 6) Participating managers in the draft must be notified by the league commissioner and have the draft list of prospective players in their possession no less than 48 hours prior to the draft
- 7) Players not signed up by the designated sign up dates or coming after the teams are organized, must be registered with the league commissioner and assigned to a team where need of player exists
- 8) All players in the draft must be on a master draft sheet prior to the draft or will be placed by the league commissioner (H2, G and F league only)
- 9) Managers or his/her designate must be present at the draft site before a draft can take place
 - a) Team designate must provide a written statement signed by the team manager before the draft can proceed
- 10) Draft order will follow the number chosen in the Pill draw, not by the number of returning players to a team (2nd year teams) or the number of players that have been contracted from last year's team (change of player classification)
- 11) Draft order will follow the number chosen in the Pill draw. There will be no player trades, trade of draft picks or deferment of picks
- 12) A released player cannot cause a charter player to not be rostered. Any team choosing a released player(s) in the draft or a team with a current released player on roster may be required to carry an additional player(s) on their roster to accommodate this rule. **Exception to the release player rule would be if the Coaches Committee appoints an out of district parent/guardian as manager or assistant manager, the sibling(s) would then fall under the previous contracted player guidelines. The manager also understands that his/her sibling(s) cannot cause a charter player to not be rostered and may have to carry an additional player(s) to accommodate this rule.**
- 13) Should a team draft brother/sister, this will count as 2 consecutive picks in the draft.
- 14) All players listed on the draft sheet will be drafted.

Rule 8: Games

- 1) All games will be played at the site scheduled by the Alliance City Parks Director and the Alliance Hot Stove League S Scheduler.
- 2) The 2nd named team of each game on the schedule will be the home team and use the area on the 1st base line. The visiting team will use the bench area on the 3rd base line and will be responsible for setting the bases as needed. Each team will have the field for 15 minutes of practice prior to the start of the game with the visiting team taking the field 1st. **This rule is not protest able.**
- 3) Pre-game batting practice is permitted at game sites sponsored by Alliance Hot Stove Baseball during the regular season. **Batting practice is limited to inside playing field ONLY** and respectfully during the team's warm-up period on designated field for game being played. **NO HARD OR SOFT BASEBALLS ALLOWED.** Only a plastic type whiffle ball or weighted ball with limited flights are permitted. **Approved batting helmets must be worn by ALL players during**

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batting practice. Batting tees, portable soft toss nets and hitting sticks are permitted ONLY during pre-game batting practice. **These items must be removed and NOT USED DURING THE GAME.**

NO HITTING IS PERMITTED INTO CHAIN LINKED FENCES, BACKSTOPS OR SOCCER NETS AT ANY ALLIANCE PARK.

- 4) All games are to start at the times listed on the schedule (earlier if both teams and umpires agree) and if 9 players are present.
- 5) If 9 eligible players are not present, the game will begin upon the arrival of the 9th player.
- 6) If the 9th has not within 15 minutes past the scheduled start time, the game will be forfeited and awarded to the opposing team 7-0.
- 7) If neither team has 9 eligible players prior to the scheduled start time, the game shall be forfeited by both teams.
- 8) No new inning can start after 8:30 pm on a non-lighted field.
- 9) There shall be no postponement or cancellation of any games except for scheduled school event, weather conditions or by umpire notification.
 - a) Vacations or personal excuses will not be a reason for postponement
 - b) If a game is cancelled due to weather conditions, the Alliance City Parks Department will reschedule the game with assistance of the league scheduler. The league commissioner will notified of the day the game is to be re-played and he/she will notify the managers of each team involved.
 - c) If the game is not cancelled due to field conditions or weather conditions, it will be the umpire's decision (after consultation with the home team manager) if the game is to be played. The home team manager will notify the league commissioner immediately if the game is cancelled at the field.
- 10) Make up or rescheduled games will be played at the times determined by the Alliance City Park Director, league scheduler and league commissioner.
- 11) Legal games are defined by the Ohio Hot Stove League Rule Book
- 12) The current Ohio Hot Stove league pitching rules will apply in its entirety for all play

Rule 9: Umpires

- 1) Umpires shall be competent, paid members of the Alliance Hot Stove Baseball Chapter of Hot Stove Baseball League Umpires Association. They shall be assigned to each scheduled game by the Umpire-in-Chief of the Alliance Hot Stove Chapter. In the interest of fair play, 1 umpire must be assigned and officiate each game. Should no umpire appear at the playing field, the game will be postponed and the league commissioner shall be notified immediately by the home team manager (H2, G and F league only).
- 2) If in the umpire's judgment any manager, coach or player commits a flagrant violation detrimental to our program, they will be brought to the attention of the Umpire-In-Chief and the league commissioner by a submission of a signed letter within 24 hours of the violation. The league commissioner will notify the Coaches Committee and that committee shall act within 24 hours of the notification.

Rule 10: Protests

A protest shall be considered only when based on the violation of interpretation of a playing rule or the use of an ineligible player. No protest shall be considered on a decision involving umpire judgment. The manager or acting manager

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in the case of his/her absence shall have the right to protest a game. It is the responsibility of the protesting manager to know the requirements relating to the filing of the protest as well as to which rule and regulation is protest able.

Protests shall be made as follows: The protesting manager shall immediately and before any succeeding play begins

1. Notify the head umpire of the game at the time of the incident that the game is being played under protest and provide the head umpire of the game with a detailed account and must quote the rule number and page of the rule violation.
2. Following such notice, the head umpire shall consult with the other umpire(s) and shall make a determination that either the protest is in conflict with the playing rules and shall be denied or the protest is not in conflict and announce the game is being played under protest. Failure of the umpire to make such an announcement shall not affect the validity of the protest.
3. The scorekeepers of each team will mark the time and inning of the protest at the top of the their respective score books
4. All protested games must be reported to the league commissioner by the head umpire of the game and the manager no later than 2 hours after the game.
5. A written protest describing in the detail the incident plus the rule and page number of the violation in question must be submitted to the league commissioner within 24 hours of the time of the incident. The written protest must include the following in order for the protest to be considered.
 - a) The name of the head umpire of the protested game
 - b) A copy of the protesting manager's score sheet showing the time and inning marked at point of protest
 - c) \$75.00 protest fee.
6. The league commissioner will rule on any protest in his/her league within 72 hours of the written protest.
7. Rulings of the league commissioner are subject to appeal to the Arbitration Committee with the following guidelines adhered to.
 - a) A written appeal must be submitted to the Arbitration Committee within 24 hours from the time of the league commissioner's ruling
 - b) The Arbitration Committee will review the appeal and make a ruling within 72 hours of receipt of the appeal.
8. If the protest is upheld, the following may occur;
 - a) The game will be replayed from the point of protest with the same players and conditions.
 - b) The game may be forfeited
 - c) The protest fee will be refunded.
9. If a protest is filed due to violation of the 2 inning rule, the protest fee will be returned win or lose.

Rule 11: Scorekeepers

Each team shall have a designated scorekeeper who will keep a complete score of each game in the official score book as supplied by the Alliance Hot Stove League. Scorekeepers of each team will sit with one another at the scorer's table. This will be enforced by the head umpire of the game.

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Rule 12: Player equipment

- 1) Alliance charter players will be issued uniforms provided by the Alliance Hot Stove League.
- 2) Alliance charter players will be required to wear Alliance Hot Stove League uniforms in all regular and city **tournament play**.
- 3) Upgrades to the league issued uniforms will be allowed under the following guidelines;
 - a. No additional costs to Alliance Hot Stove
 - b. No additional costs to be forwarded to Sponsors
 - c. Parents/guardians will not be required to pay any additional dollars if they cannot afford or chose not to participate
 - d. Managers will not punish a player who chooses not to pay for upgrades to uniforms
 - e. Fundraisers for upgrades are prohibited (**reference rule 3-8**)
 - f. Managers who choose to upgrade uniforms do so with full knowledge that they and they alone will bear the responsibility of payment for any upgrade and will adhere to the above mentioned guidelines. Any manager who violates these guidelines will be reprimanded by the league commissioner in a manor he/she deems appropriate.

Rule 13: Insurance

- 1) Each team in the Alliance Charter will be covered by accident insurance. The insurance provided must be in compliance with guidelines established by the Ohio Hot Stove Baseball league.
- 2) Insurance claims must be turned in within 3 days of the accident or injury. Managers must file a claim whether or not the injured player or parent/guardian desires to do so.

Rule 14: Matching players H2 and G league only

- 1) A team is only required to play the same number of players as its opponent. If a team has more players at the **start of the game, the manger may choose to match the opposing team's number of players**.
- 2) Any team that chooses to match play, **MUST START THE NEXT GAME** any matched player who does not play 12 consecutive outs. This will apply to the next game that player is present for.

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