

## 2023 - 2024 AYBS Umpire Quick Reference Card



AYBS...develop young players in a **positive and supportive environment**, while making sure **all players have fun and enjoy the sport**. The objective of AYBS is to implant the ideals of **good sportsmanship, honesty, loyalty, courage, and reverence** into the children of the community...*the winning of games is secondary to the prime objective of molding upstanding adults of the future...*

### Keys to becoming a Great Umpire

- Be **loud** and definitive - do not let others influence your call
- Be **consistent** - same strike zone all game
- Do not tolerate bad behavior - ask a coach or board member to intervene
- Ask coaches for feedback/clarifications between innings and/or after game

### All Divisions

- 6 innings, 5 runs per half inning
- No lead offs
  - Baseball - once ball crosses the plate
  - Softball - once ball leaves pitcher's hand
- Base runners must slide with any close play at any base or home
- Defensive interference blocking base path or plate - runner awarded the base or home
- Second thrown bat per game is automatic out for the team
- An inning cannot start more than 1 hr 45 minutes after the game has started

### Minors

- The coach/pitcher must pitch overhand, 8 pitch max (warn coach/pitcher at 6 pitches)
- The pitching distance must be at least 30 feet from home plate
- Base runners safely return if not past halfway mark when ball reaches infield
- Neither the pitcher's helper nor any outfielder may make an unassisted force out
- The pitcher's helper may make an unassisted force out or tag out at home plate
- The dropped third strike rule will NOT apply
- The Infield Fly Rule will NOT apply
- Bunting is NOT allowed in the Minors

### AAA

- 9U pitcher(s) must complete 1 inning or 3 outs and start no later than the 4th inning
- The dropped third strike rule will NOT apply
- The Infield Fly Rule will NOT apply
- Bunting - Max 3 per game, 1 per player
- USA Baseball Bat Standard required for play

### Majors

- 11U pitcher(s) must complete 2 innings or 6 outs and start no later than the 4th inning
- The dropped third strike rule will NOT apply
- Infield fly rule applies in Baseball Majors (not Softball Majors)
- Unlimited bunting
- USSSA Baseball Bat Standard or USA Baseball Bat Standard required for play

### Infield Fly Rule - Baseball Majors Only

1. Less than 2 outs
2. Runners on first and second; OR first, second, and third (must be force play)
3. The fly ball cannot be a bunt or a line drive
4. An infielder must be able to catch the ball with ordinary effort

- The purpose of the rule is to protect the runners on base
- The batter is ruled out so the runners are no longer forced to advance if the ball falls untouched
- In gray areas where there is doubt one way or the other, a good umpire will protect the runners and call the batter out

<https://www.littleleague.org/university/articles/explanation-infield-fly-rule/>

### Playoff Rules

- There is no time limit for playoff games.
- Playoff games cannot end in a tie.
- 5 runs per half inning applies through the 5th inning. Beginning in the 6th inning, a 10-run rule will apply for all remaining innings.
- If the score is tied after six (6) innings, each team will start their at-bat with a base runner on second base and one out for each subsequent inning.
- USA Baseball Bat Standard required for AAA playoffs.
- USSSA Baseball Bat Standard or USA Baseball Bat Standard required for Majors playoffs.