Tracking Mandatory Play

Regulation IV – The Players
    i)   Mandatory Play

Division	Non-Tournament	Tournament
Juniors and below	Must bat at least one time and play 6 defensive outs. At Bat is defined as: • Retired as batter or • Retired as batter-runner or • Reaches base and scores or • Inning or game ends	Must adopt a continuous batting order. No other requirements, including "at bat" completion requirements.
Seniors	Must bat at least one time and play 6 defensive outs. At Bat is defined as: • Retired as batter or • Retired as batter-runner or • Reaches base and scores or • Inning or game ends	No mandatory play requirements.

Substitutions

Rule 3.03 (e)

Offensive – May only happen when batter is coming up to bat.

- Example:
  - Batting position #5 batter (Jordan) is up.
  - Jordan gets on base.
  - Intention is when batting position #7 batter (Cameron) in line-up is up to bat, to substitute with (Bailey) on the bench.
    - Want Cameron to curtesy run or special pinch run for Jordan. This is *not* allowed since Cameron has not been substituted for yet.
    - Batting position #7 comes to bat. Substitute Bailey for Cameron. Cameron is now on the bench and available to curtesy run or special pinch run.

Defensive – May only happen when team is on defense. If more than one player enters defense in an inning, coach must announce the batting position of each defensive player.

- Example:
  - Dakota is the catcher when the inning ends. Jessie is playing right field.
  - Jessie is up to bat and the intention is that next inning Jessie will be playing catcher. Jessie gets on base with two outs and coach announces a curtesy runner.
    - This is not allowed since Jessie is unable to be announced as the catcher until team goes on defense.
  - Dakota is up to bat and Dakota is substituted with Taylor, who is on the bench with the intention that Taylor will become the catcher. Taylor gets on base with two outs and coach announces a curtesy runner.
    - This is not allowed since Taylor is unable to be announced as the catcher until team goes on defense.

Non-Continuous batting order

Once put in a batting position, must remain in that batting position throughout the whole game.

- A substitute may not be replaced until mandatory play (at bat and defense) has been completed.
- A substitute may be replaced by another substitute ⬆
     or the starter. ⬇
- Once a starter reenters the game, they must meet mandatory play before being removed.
- Once all players in that batting position have met mandatory play, players may freely reenter the game but only one player within that batting position can be in the game at one time.
  - Example:
    - Austin starts the game as 1st base and meets mandatory play
    - Ashley substitutes for Austin playing 2nd base and meets mandatory play
    - Alex substitutes for Austin playing 1st base and meets mandatory play
      - Only one of the 3 above players may play defense or offense at any given time.
      - While on defense, may only play one of the three players.

Senior League Tournament Play Only (Non-Continuous Batting Order)

- A starter may reenter the game only once
- A substitute once removed may not reenter the game

Continuous batting order

- Must track for at bat requirements and 6 outs requirements
- Defensive substitute may not be removed from defense until mandatory play is met
- A starter reentering defense and has not met mandatory play yet, may not be removed from defense until mandatory play is met
- If a player leaves the game due to any circumstances and is unable to take their place in the batting line-up, the player is skipped over with no penalties. Player may return at any point and mandatory play must be adhered to.

Visits to the Mounds

	1st Visit is inning	2nd Visit in Inning	3rd Visit in Inning	2nd Visit in Game	3rd Visit in Game	4th Visit in Game
Minors	Count Visit	Count Visit	Must replace pitcher	Count Visit	Count Visit	Must replace pitcher
Majors and above	Count visit	Must replace pitcher		Count visit	Must replace pitcher	

Pitchers - Baseball

Does the Pitch Count (Baseball)

Umpire Calls	Majors and Below	50/70 & Juniors & Seniors	Notes
No Pitch	Relax and take a sip of your drink		
Delayed Pitch Umpire might say "Time, Ball on Batter"	No Pitch Count Record Ball		Rule 8.04: Bases unoccupied pitcher shall deliver the ball to the batter within 20 seconds of receiving the ball
Strike	Count Pitch Record Strike		This includes foul balls that no longer count as a strike
Foul Ball	Count Pitch Record Strike if not strike 3		This includes foul balls that no longer count as a strike. Note: This is a dead ball and runners may not advance.
Motion Foul Tip (Non Verbal)	Count Pitch Record Strike including if strike 3 which results in batter is out.		A foul tip is a batted ball that goes sharp and direct from the bat to the catcher's hands and is legally caught. Note: This is a live ball and runners may be put out or advance at their own risk.
Ball	Count Pitch Record Ball		
Verbal Intentional Walk NOTE: Rule 6.08(a)(2) A player may only be verbally intentionally walked one time per game.	Record additional pitches required to have a count of 4 Balls.		Examples: If no count on batter when Verbal Intentional Walk declared, add 4 pitches to pitch count. If count is One-One on batter when Verbal Intentional Walk declared, add 3 pitches to the pitch count.
Hit by Pitch Umpire might say "Time, Goto 1st Base"	Count Pitch Record movement to 1st Base		
Note: Baseball Intermediate and above, if runners are on base cannot have illegal pitch, see Balk section.			
Illegal Pitch Thrown Pitch	Count Pitch Record Ball	Count Pitch Record Ball	Rule 8.02: If the pitcher touches mouth/lips/foreign substance/defaces ball.
Illegal Pitch *not* thrown Pitch	Count Pitch* Record Ball	No Pitch Count Record Ball	*Rule 8.05 This is regardless of if a pitch is thrown, all illegal pitches count towards pitch count.

Examples of illegal pitch (not everything is listed):
- Pitcher touches mouth/lips without cleaning hand
- Applies foreign substance/defaces ball
- Not on pitchers plate when ball is pitched
- Pitching lane violation (Softball only)
- Quick pitch

Balks -- Runner(s) must be on base to apply

Only applies to Baseball Big Field (50/70; Juniors; Seniors)

	Record Pitch	Runners Advance
Pitch Not Delivered	Nothing recorded	Runner(s) advances one base
Pitch Delivered *not* Ball 4	Count one pitch No Ball or Strike	Runner(s) advances one base & batter remains in the box
Pitch Delivered Ball 4	Count one pitch Record movement to 1st base	Runner(s) advances one base & *Batter* goes to 1st Base

Threshold for determining final pitch count for eligibility purposes

Determining pitcher threshold while facing a batter, the pitcher may continue to pitch until:

- The batter reaches base
- The batter is retired
- Third out is made to complete the half inning or the game
- The pitcher is removed from the mound prior to the batter completing his/her at bat.
  - ***The threshold pitch is the first pitch delivered to the last batter pitched to***

If a pitcher is eligible to return to pitch in that same day, the pitch count resumes as last pitch, not the threshold pitched previously.

Days Rest and Maximum Pitches

League Age	
8-year-old	50 Maximum
9 – 10-year-old	75 Maximum
11 – 12-year-old	85 Maximum
13 – 16-year-old	95 Maximum

League Age 14 and Under

Days Rest

- ☐ 1-20 pitches   0 days
- ☐ 21-35   1 day
- ☐ 36-50   2 days
- ☐ 51-65   3 days
- ☐ 66+   4 days

League Age 15 and Greater

Days Rest

- ☐ 1-30 pitches   0 days
- ☐ 31-45   1 day
- ☐ 46-60   2 days
- ☐ 61-75   3 days
- ☐ 76+   4 days

Catchers and Pitchers Eligibility – Baseball

The below situations assume the player is either the pitcher or catcher of record when moved to another position or received a substitute.

Situation	Can Catch	Can Pitch	Notes
All Divisions			
Haven't met pitching days rest	Yes	No	
Pitched two consecutive previous calendar days	Yes	No	
Pitcher of record removed from defensive play	If pitched 40 or less threshold pitches	May not return as a pitcher	
Catcher 4 or more innings in a game	Yes	No	Once one pitch is caught during live play, that counts as catching for one inning. This is a per game count for double headers.
Pitched threshold 41 or more pitches in a day	No	■■■	If a pitcher pitches in two games a day, this is a cumulative count between both games.
Catcher to Pitcher, Pitched: League Age 14 and Under • 20 or less threshold pitches League Age 15 - 16 • 30 or less threshold pitches	May return as catcher	■■■	During tournament the threshold changes to: Juniors and below = 20 or less Seniors = 30 or less
Intermediate/Juniors/Seniors			
Removed from pitching but remains defensively in game	If pitched 40 or less threshold pitches	May return as pitcher but only one time per game	
May pitch in more than one game in a day: Juniors / Senior Division League Age 13 or Greater And Pitches 30 or less pitches in first game.	Must pitch 40 or less pitches to be eligible to catch	May pitch in a second game	
Does not meet above criteria	Must pitch 40 or less pitches to be eligible to catch	May not pitch in a second game	
Minors			
League Age 12	Yes	No	

Softball Pitch Tracking

If a pitch is thrown, that counts as a pitch for the inning.

Pitchers Eligibility – Softball

The below situations assume the player is either the pitcher or catcher of record when moved to another position or received a substitute.

Situation	Can Pitch	Notes
All Divisions		
Pitcher removed from pitching but remains in game	Can return as pitcher: • Anytime during the game But only once per inning removed	Example: Tracy pitches in second inning, is moved to 3rd Base, returns to pitching, is moved to 1st Base, Tracy may not return to pitch in the 2nd inning. Tracy may return to pitch in the 3rd inning. If removed twice from pitching in 3rd, may not return to pitching in 3rd inning but may return in future inning.
Juniors / Seniors		
Pitcher removed from game (offensively and defensively)	May return to pitch once per inning removed	Assumes does not violate substitution, visits to pitcher, or mandatory play rules.
Majors / Juniors / Seniors		
May not use more than 5 players to pitch in a game		Minors may use unlimited amount of pitchers in a game.
Minors / Little League (Majors)		
Haven't met pitching days rest	No	
Pitched 12 innings in a calendar day	May not return to pitch in the 13th inning or greater.	7 or more innings require one day rest
Pitcher removed from game (offensively and defensively)	May not return to pitch	

Curtesy Runner or Special Pinch Runner

	Non-Tournament		Tournament	
	Continuous Batting Order	Not Continuous Batting Order	Continuous Batting Order <u>Junior Division and below</u>	Not Continuous Batting Order <u>Senior Division</u>
Curtesy Runner for pitcher or catcher.	Applies if 2 outs for inning and the Pitcher or Catcher has met the mandatory at bat requirement. The player recorded as making the second out is the only eligible player to be used as a curtesy runner.	Local league *can* adopt a curtesy runner. Applies if 2 outs for inning and the Pitcher or Catcher has met the mandatory at bat requirement. Curtesy runner can't be in the batting order when being used as a curtesy runner. Once a player has ran for a pitcher, that player may not run for players active in the catcher position. Once a player has ran for a catcher, that player may not run for players active in the pitcher position.	Applies if 2 outs for inning. The player recorded as making the second out is the only eligible player to be used as a curtesy runner.	Curtesy runners are not allowed.
Rule 7.14 Special Pinch Runner (SPR)	SPR not allowed	Once per inning a player not in the batting line-up, may be utilized to SPR for a player. The player receiving the SPR may only be ran for once per game. May only use SPR twice total per game.	SPR not allowed	Once per inning a player not in the batting line-up, may be utilized to SPR for a player. The player receiving the SPR may only be ran for once per game. May only use SPR twice total per game.

Other Information Helpful to Understand

Forced Plays or Tag Plays / Timing Play Explained

A force is when the runner must advance. Put out is by touching forced base with control of ball or tagging runner with the ball.

A tag play is the runner advances at their own risk. Put out is by tagging runner with the ball.

Scoring / Not Scoring on Third Out

- Force play results in third out, no runs can score.
- Tag play results in third out, Timing Play, once umpire determines third out happened, no other runners can score

Bunt Third Strike Goes Foul

This is a strike-out, batter is out and dead ball.

Offensive Interference (Rule 7.09)

When an umpire determines that an offensive player (<u>batter or runner(s)</u>) has interfered with a fielder making a play or a batted ball, the umpire will call Interference which results in:

- 1) Immediate dead ball; 2) Player(s) called out; 3) Umpires will place runner(s) according to rules

When an umpire determines that the <u>1st or 3rd Base Coach</u> assists a runner:

- If a play is being made on the assisted runner, 1) Immediate dead ball; 2) Player(s) called out; 3) Umpires will place runner(s) according to rules
- No play is being made on the assisted runner, 1) Delayed dead ball; 2) Player(s) called out; 3) Play continues.

Batted fair ball touches the batter or runner in fair territory and ball has not reached a fielder (pitcher not considered) or touched a fielder (including pitcher):

- 1) Immediate dead ball; 2) Player(s) called out; 3) Umpires will place runner(s) according to rules

On Appeal (Rule 7.10)

- Runner fails to "tag up" upon caught fly ball. Fly ball is defined as caught by fielder before touching the ground, foreign object, or other fielder.
- Runner fails to touch each base in proper order.
- Runner overslides or overruns first base and does immediately return to the base.
- Runner fails to touch home plate. Once player enters dugout, they forfeit the right to try and touch home plate.

Umpire will call runner(s) out or safe.

The Runner (Rule 7.13) – Leaving Early / Leading Off

- Baseball Little League (Major) and Minors: Pitched ball must reach the batter before leaving occupied base.
- Baseball Intermediate and Above: Leading off is allowed
- Softball Little League (Major) and Above: Pitched ball must be released by pitcher before leaving occupied base.
- Softball Minor: Pitched ball must reach the batter before leaving occupied base.

Uncaught Third Strike (Majors and Above)

Batter may become a runner when third strike is uncaught and

- First base is unoccupied and less than 2 outs or
- 2 outs

This is treated as a live batted ball.

Defensive Obstruction

When an umpire determines that a defensive player (pitcher, catcher, short stop, etc.) has obstructed a batter-runner/runner, the umpire will call obstruction which results in two situations:

1. Delayed Dead Ball, play may continue
2. Immediate Dead Ball, all plays stop

Both result in umpire will place runner at the base where, in their judgement, the player would have been without the obstruction.

Catcher's Interference

Catcher inhibits the batter during the swing while the batter is in the batter's box (e.g. Bat hits the catcher's glove), results in:

- Play may continue, if this pitch does not result in the batter legally obtaining first base and other forced runners obtaining the next base then, dead ball, batter is awarded first base and other runners advance if forced

Double Bag at 1st Base on Batted Ball Only

Fair batted ball to infield, batter-runner must use outside bag. Fielder must use inside bag.

Uncaught third strike foul territory 1st base, batter-runner can use inside bag. Fielder can use outside bag.

Ball goes Out of Play

Dead ball, umpire awards bases if necessary