



2026 Bremen Youth Baseball Rookie League Rules Cheat Sheet

Pitching Machine:

- Batter will receive 5 pitches. A foul ball on the 5th pitch will result in a 6th pitch.
- If a batter does not hit after 5 pitches, they are out.
- The machine can only be adjusted at the top of an inning if both coaches agree to it.
- When a ball hits the machine or goes under the machine the play is dead. Runners advance 1 base.

Base Running:

- No leading off. Warning first, then out is called.
- Players must slide if a play is made at the base or be called out at the umpire's discretion. A warning may be given for the first offense. No sliding head first or players will be called out.
- Maximum of 1 base on an infield hit for batter & runners, and 1 extra base for an over-throw to any base.
- Outfield hits - Batters and runners may take as many bases as they wish, and are frozen when the ball is controlled by the pitcher with one foot on the dirt of the pitcher's mound.
 - If the ball is fielded by an outfielder on the infield dirt, the hit is considered an outfield hit, and all runners can advance until the pitcher has one foot on the dirt of the pitcher's mound. **(NEW 2026)**
- Runners past half-way get the next base, if not, return to the previous base.

Fielding:

- The "Infield Fly Rule" will NOT apply to Rookie League play. **(NEW 2026)**
 - On any infield fly, runners may advance at their own risk.
- Only 6 infielders at traditional positions. All other players must be in the outfield grass.
 - All outfielders start 5 feet back from the dirt. **(NEW 2026)**
- Pitching position must start with his foot in the circle even with or behind rubber.
- Infielders may be no closer to the plate than the rubber is to the plate (45 feet).
- Dead ball once the ball has been returned to the pitcher with one foot in the circle.
 - The pitcher is the only player that can stop the play with one foot in the circle. **(NEW 2026)**
- If the coach touches the base runner to assist them, the runner is out.
- Only two coaches on the field at any time on offense (1st and 3rd) or defense (right-center and left-center).
- The catcher position must be filled at all times.

General Game Information:

- Games start at 5:30 pm and if necessary 7:00 pm. **(NEW 2026)**
- 6 innings, all Pitching Machine.
- 1 hour 15-minute time limit starting at the first pitch (check your watch). **(NEW 2026)**
 - No inning may start after 6:45pm or 8:15pm. No exceptions.

- If tied after 1:15, the game ends in a tie.
- 7 runs per inning limit - except the 5th and 6th (10 run limit). **(NEW 2026)**
- 10 Run Mercy Rule after 4 innings.
- The scoreboard should be shut off and the rest of the game played until 6 innings are over or the time limit is reached at the discretion of the losing coach.
- Players who show up late must be placed at the end of the batting order.

Weather Shortened Games:

- If lightning, 30-minute delay.
- Games are complete after 4 innings or 3 ½ if the home team is winning.

Umpiring Games:

- Rookie Coaches have to umpire other Rookie games and will be scheduled by the board President (if necessary)