

X. VARSITY LEAGUE

- (a) Eight (8) players are needed to start a game and an out must be taken in the ninth (9th) batters spot if only eight (8) players are present. Note: If additional players show up they must be inserted at the bottom of the line up.
- (b) If after four (4) innings, three and one held innings if the home team is ahead, one team has a lead of fifteen (15) runs or more, the game will be called due to the **"Mercy Rule."** If after five (5) innings, four and one half innings if the home team is ahead, one team has a lead of ten (10) runs or more, the game will be called due to the **"Mercy Rule."**
- (c) Batters are not permitted to show bunt, pull back and then swing or slug bunt.
Penalty: Batter is out and runners not permitted to advance.
- (d) When a batter squares to bunt, he/she must pull back if not offering at the pitch.
- (e) Every player on the varsity roster must participate in each game for a minimum of 6 defensive outs and bat at least one time.
Exception: Games that are shortened by the 10 or 15 run **"Mercy Rule"**.
- (f) **Disciplinary action:** Player must sit on the bench and opposing coach and umpire(s) must be told before the game starts. Disciplinary action must be reported to a Board member.
- (g) The umpire shall give each pitcher in the varsity division one warning of a balk and explain the reason for the balk to the pitcher. Further balks will cause runners to advance.
- (h) No farm roster player may play more than two (2) games for a varsity team.
 - 1. For the purpose of this rule, a player shall be considered to have played one game if he/she enters the game.
 - 2. There will be disciplinary action for coaches that pitch farm players in varsity games, one game suspension.

Pitching rules are in accordance with the LYBA Playing Rules.