

North Lakeland Baseball

League Rules

These rules, along with the DYBaseball USA (Diamond Youth Baseball) Official Rules & Regulations, shall govern play:

https://dybusa.org/DYB_Florida/DYB_Rules_Regulations/

- All players shall participate per the rules set forth by North Lakeland Baseball and The Diamond Youth Baseball (DYB) Official Rules and Regulations.
- ALL Bats must be USA BASEBALL certified. Wooden bats and BBCOR .5 Certified bats are also allowed.
- Bats in the T-Ball Divisions MUST be approved for T-Ball Use Only and have "T-Ball" imprinted on the bat by the manufacturer. T-Ball bats cannot be used in any other division. (Metal Cleats are only allowed in the DB Division)
- Anyone entering the field of play or dugout MUST have a NLB issued certification card, confirming that they have completed their Background Check AND NAYS Coaching certification...**NO EXCEPTIONS!**
Background checks are good for 1 calendar year and must be re-done every January, whereas NAYS certification is valid for the term selected upon completion of the trainings. This certification is required by the county. Nobody is allowed on the field or in the dugout without a badge issued by NLB, no exceptions.
- All Managers, Coaches, and Team Moms will receive final approval at the discretion of the NLB Board of Directors.*
- Parents or designated guardians shall be present for and stay for all practices and games.
- The Home Team shall prepare the field for play – raking, chalking, filling holes, etc.
- The Visiting Team shall rake clay areas after the game ends and check the field & dugouts for items and trash.
- Every team must have a designated scorekeeper. Line up cards, scorebooks, pencils, & pitch count sheets can be found in the board room. A Team Mom is also needed in the 4u, 6u, 8u, and 10u divisions.
- The home team shall occupy the first base dugout and their scorebook will be the official score and pitch count.
- Players shall not wear jewelry of any kind during play, including bracelets, necklaces, and piercings of any kind. Exceptions: Players may wear breakaway sports necklaces and medical and/or religious tags/medallions. These will need to be secured with tape for play if necessary.
- Use of tobacco products is prohibited on the field, in the dugout, and in the spectator areas.
- Alcoholic beverages are prohibited on county property. Violation is cause for indefinite suspension from the park.
- Hitting balls into the fence is prohibited; please utilize a hitting net.
- Noisemakers such as air horns, cowbells, etc. are prohibited.
- Use of cell phones on the playing field or in the dugout is prohibited.
- Any game cancelled because of weather will be made up at the discretion of the League if needed. Make-up games will be played on a Wednesday or Saturday if necessary.
- Questions or Concerns should be brought to your Manager/Coach or Team Mom first, followed by your division rep or the player agent. If needed, they will bring your concerns to the NLB Board of Directors.
- Inappropriate language and/or conduct will not be tolerated from Volunteers, Players, or Spectators.
- Umpires and Board Members reserve the right to remove Coaches, Players, and/or Spectators from a game.

North Lakeland Baseball

6U (T-Ball) Rules

These rules, along with the DYBaseball USA (Diamond Youth Baseball) Official Rules & Regulations, shall govern play:

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- Games shall consist of 4 innings; however, no inning shall START after 1 hour of play. In the event of a tie, ONE additional inning may be played. An inning that is started PRIOR to the time allotted will be played through - unless the umpire calls the game based on runs.
- A team failing to field at least 8 players within 15 minutes of scheduled game time shall forfeit the game.
- Any player arriving late must be put at the bottom of the lineup.
- Parents or designated guardians shall be present and remain for all practices and games.
- Innings shall consist of 10 Batters or 3 Outs, whichever comes first.
- When the 10th batter hits, the pitcher must have possession of the ball in the circle to end the play.
- All players will be listed in their batting order and the batting order will remain the same throughout the game.
- On deck batters are allowed only in the designated area, all other players shall remain in the dugout.
- Batters will get one “warm-up” swing, after that each swing without a hit will be considered a strike.
- Pitchers must have one foot on the rubber until the ball is hit.
- ALL Players shall play defensively. A regular infield must be maintained, with the 4 remaining players in the outfield at least 20 feet behind the base lines.
- Players cannot play the same defensive position for more than 2 innings per game.
- Every play remains live until the ball is controlled by the pitcher in the circle, or a defensive player calls time from the baseline in front of the lead runner.
- A ball that does not get hit past a 10-foot radius in front of home plate is considered a foul ball.
- Baserunners may advance on overthrows until the defensive team reaches the end of the play situation.
- When the ball is “dead” and back to the pitcher, the runner will be awarded the next base if they have passed the half-way point between the bases.
- Intentionally rolling the ball to the defensive player to obtain an out is not allowed.
- Two defensive Coaches can be positioned in the outfield in foul territory to instruct players. 3 Offensive Coaches may be positioned on the field – 1 in each coach’s box and 1 at home plate to position the batter. Coaches shall not touch players during a live play situation, interfere with plays, or slow down the flow of the game.
- Teams shall have a designated scorekeeper. The score book of the Home Team shall be the official record.

North Lakeland Baseball

8U (Coach Pitch) Rules

These rules, along with the DYBaseball USA (Diamond Youth Baseball) Official Rules & Regulations, shall govern play:

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- Games shall consist of 6 innings; however, no inning shall START after 1 hour & 15 minutes of play. In the event of a tie, ONE additional inning may be played. An inning that is started PRIOR to the time allotted will be played through - unless the umpire calls the game based on runs.
- A team failing to field at least 8 players within 15 minutes of scheduled game time shall forfeit the game.
- Any player arriving late must be put at the bottom of the lineup.
- Parents or designated guardians shall be present and remain for all practices and games.
- Innings shall consist of 3 outs OR 7 runs, whichever comes first.
- All players will be listed in their batting order and the batting order will remain the same throughout the game.
- On deck batters are allowed only in the designated area, all other players shall remain in the dugout.
- Players can play one defensive position for the entire game; however, Coaches are encouraged to teach each player multiple positions throughout the season.
- Each player must play at least 2 innings (6 outs) defensively.
- 10 Players shall play defensively. A regular infield must be maintained, with the 4 remaining players in the outfield at least 20 feet behind the base lines.
- Every play remains live until the ball is controlled by the pitcher in the circle.
- Adult Coach Pitchers shall pitch to the batters or their own team.
- Each batter shall get 5 pitches or 3 swings. A foul ball on the 5th pitch gets one more pitch until either the batter hits the ball, strikes out swinging, or lets the pitch go by.
*Umpires have the discretion to call a no pitch if the ball is unhittable and the batter does not swing.
- If a batted ball hits the "Coach Pitcher," the ball is dead and shall be declared a no pitch.
- Bunting and stealing are not allowed.
- "Player Pitcher" must have one foot inside the pitching circle and cannot be any closer to home plate than the rubber until the ball is hit.
- Baserunners may advance on overthrows until the defensive team reaches the end of the play situation.
- If a runner has passed a base prior to the ball being controlled in the circle and they do not stop, they may advance to the next base at their own risk.
- Teams shall have a designated scorekeeper. The score book of the Home Team shall be the official record.

North Lakeland Baseball

10U (Minors) Rules

These rules, along with the DYBaseball USA (Diamond Youth Baseball) Official Rules & Regulations, shall govern play:

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- Games shall consist of 6 innings; however, no inning shall START after 1 hour & 30 minutes of play. In the event of a tie, ONE additional inning may be played. An inning that is started PRIOR to the time allotted will be played through - unless the umpire calls the game based on runs.
- A team failing to field at least 8 players within 15 minutes of scheduled game time shall forfeit the game.
- Any player arriving late must be put at the bottom of the lineup.
- Innings shall consist of 3 outs OR 7 runs, whichever comes first.
- All players will be listed in their batting order and the batting order will remain the same throughout the game.
- On deck batters are allowed only in the designated area, all other players shall remain in the dugout.
- Players can play one defensive position for the entire game; however, Coaches are encouraged to teach each player multiple positions throughout the season.
- EVERY player must play a minimum of 2 innings (6 outs) on defense.
- Parents or designated guardians shall be present and remain for all practices and games.
- Teams shall have a designated scorekeeper. The score book of the Home Team shall be the official record.
- A pitch count must be kept and turned in to the NLB Board Room after each game by the home team.
- A pitcher SHALL NOT pitch more than 6 innings in any calendar week.
- A pitcher SHALL NOT throw more than 75 pitches during any calendar day. If the max pitch count is reached while facing a batter, the pitcher may finish out that at bat.
- A pitcher MUST adhere to the following pitch count rest requirements:
 - 1-30 Pitches = No Rest
 - 31-45 Pitches = 1 Day of Rest
 - 46-65 Pitches = 2 Days of Rest
 - 65+ Pitches = 3 Days of Rest

North Lakeland Baseball

12U (Ozone) Rules

These rules, along with the DYBaseball USA (Diamond Youth Baseball) Official Rules & Regulations, shall govern play:

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- Games shall consist of 6 innings; however, no inning shall START after 1 hour & 45 minutes of play. In the event of a tie, ONE additional inning may be played. An inning that is started PRIOR to the time allotted will be played through - unless the umpire calls the game based on runs.
- A team failing to field at least 8 players within 15 minutes of scheduled game time shall forfeit the game.
- Any player arriving late must be put at the bottom of the lineup.
- Innings shall consist of 3 outs OR 7 runs, whichever comes first.
- All players will be listed in their batting order and the batting order will remain the same throughout the game.
- On deck batters are allowed only in the designated area, all other players shall remain in the dugout.
- Players can play one defensive position for the entire game; however, Coaches are encouraged to teach each player multiple positions throughout the season.
- EVERY player must play a minimum of 2 innings (6 outs) on defense.
- Parents or designated guardians shall be present and remain for all practices and games.
- Teams shall have a designated scorekeeper. The score book of the Home Team shall be the official record.
- A pitch count must be kept and turned in to the NLB Board Room after each game by the home team.
- A pitcher SHALL NOT pitch more than 6 innings in any calendar week.
- A pitcher SHALL NOT throw more than 85 pitches during any calendar day. If the max pitch count is reached while facing a batter, the pitcher may finish out that at bat.
- A pitcher MUST adhere to the following pitch count rest requirements:
 - 1-30 Pitches = No Rest
 - 31-45 Pitches = 1 Day of Rest
 - 46-65 Pitches = 2 Days of Rest
 - 65+ Pitches = 3 Days of Rest

North Lakeland Baseball

U15 (Dixie Boys) Rules

These rules, along with the DYBaseball USA (Diamond Youth Baseball) Official Rules & Regulations, shall govern play:

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- Games shall consist of 7 innings; however, no inning shall START after 2 Hours of play. In the event of a tie, ONE additional inning may be played. An inning that is started PRIOR to the time allotted will be played through - unless the umpire calls the game based on runs.
- A team failing to field at least 8 players within 15 minutes of scheduled game time shall forfeit the game.
- Any player arriving late must be put at the bottom of the lineup.
- Innings shall consist of 3 outs OR 7 runs, whichever comes first.
- The last player that was put out can be used as a courtesy runner for the pitcher or catcher.
- All players will be listed in their batting order and the batting order will remain the same throughout the game.
- On deck batters are allowed only in the designated area, all other players shall remain in the dugout.
- EVERY player must play a minimum of 2 innings (6 outs) on defense.
- Teams shall have a designated scorekeeper. The score book of the Home Team shall be the official record.
- If a team is leading by at least 10 runs after 5 innings, the game shall be terminated and the team that is ahead shall be declared the winner.
- A pitch count must be kept and turned in to the NLB Board Room after each game by the home team.
- A pitcher SHALL NOT pitch more than 8 innings in any calendar week.
- A pitcher SHALL NOT throw more than 95 pitches during any calendar day. If the max pitch count is reached while facing a batter, the pitcher may finish out that at bat.
- A pitcher MUST adhere to the following pitch count rest requirements:
 - 1-30 Pitches = No Rest
 - 31-60 Pitches = 30 Hours of Rest
 - 61+ Pitches = 40 Hours of Rest