

# EDCO League Rules

## Section I: General Rules

### Article 1

The official game playing rules for the conference shall be the official baseball rules of the National League as codified, except as modified herein.

### Article 2

**Senior Eligibility is for players 17 thru 26 years of age.** However, each team may have up to three (3) players to age 29 as long as they have been rostered for 5 years in Senior EDCO (amended 10/18). **Intermediate EDCO 19 and under.** Both divisions age as of August 1<sup>st</sup> meaning cutoff is July 31<sup>st</sup>. Each team may apply for one or more exceptions by written appeal to league president. Decisions concerning president's home team will be determined by executive committee. Only players not affiliated with another league(s) will be considered as the spirit of the rule is roster size and not roster improvement.

### Article 3

This league shall use one official umpire except as stated in Article 4.

### Article 4

A second umpire may be requested by the home team or the visiting team (with consent from the home team) if the requesting team contracts the official assigner and assumes the financial burden for the additional umpire.

## Section II. Territories

### Article 1

Any senior team may roster a player from any territory in Delaware County as long as they do not intrude on the boundaries of any existing EDCO league team. Boundaries are determined by school district (1/19).

### Article 2

- If a player from a territory that does not have an active senior EDCO League team plays for a team in the Senior Division, he remains their property until released by the club for which he is playing. This player is not considered a waived player in his second year

- If a player wishes to be released (not during the regular season or playoffs). He shall be allowed to play for the team he wishes to join, only after he obtains a release from the team he is on now. The waiver must be in writing. Waivers are good for one year. Limit of 3 waived players per team each season.
- If a new team is accepted into either Division and a player wishes to join this team:
  - 1) He cannot be from the territory of any existing team without release.
  - 2) He must secure a release from his current territorial team.
  - 3) 3 Players from other counties/States are permitted to play on any given team. The 3 player limit is capped each year. If 1 player drops out a player may take his place (amended 9/2015)

### **Section III: Rosters**

#### **Article 1**

All teams must submit an official roster with names, addresses, and date of birth. Each Team in both divisions may roster 24 players.

#### **Article 2**

The official copy of the Roster for each shall be in the possession of the league office 24 hours prior to the leagues first game. Any team failing to submit their roster within a specified time shall result in a forfeit of all games scheduled or played until 24 hours after the receipt of the roster by the league director. Rosters may be submitted electronically via e-mail to the league director.

(Approved 4/2007)

#### **Article 3**

The roster must be pasted inside of the rear cover of the teams official score book, and must be available to mangers and directors upon request.

#### **Article 4**

No player may be added to the roster during the first half of the season.

#### **Article 5**

Teams may add/subtract players 24 hours before the halfway date as long as the roster does not exceed the 24-player limit. Player's names must appear in 6 games of the second half of the season to be eligible for the playoffs. Any player that is on the roster at the beginning of the season must play in 8 games to be eligible for the playoffs

(Approved 9/2015)

#### **Article 6**

These replacements must be entered on the team roster and the official roster before they may play.

### **Article 7**

Amended May 1997, which reads: That players may play in the other baseball leagues beside the Senior EDCO league. Delco players are permitted but should be a full time member of the EDCO league. A player from the DELCO league should not be used on an as needed basis to benefit a team from advancing in the playoffs. There's a limit of 6 Delco league players allowed on each teams roster. (Amended 1/22)

## **SECTION IV: Fees**

### **Article 1**

Entry fees and forfeit deposits must be paid to the conference before the first scheduled game of the league. Failure to pay these fees shall result in a forfeit of all games played or scheduled until 24 hours after receipt of these fees.

### **Article 2**

In the event that any team cannot meet specified fees for reasons acceptable to the conference, a forfeit may be avoided by requesting an extension from the league director.

### **Article 3**

Fees (entry and forfeit) are set each year prior to the start of the season.

## **Section V: INELIGIBLE PLAYERS**

### **Article 1**

All Games in which and ineligible player's name appears in the lineup are declared forfeited to the opponent automatically, without the formality of a protest, up to 24 hours after the final game (including playoff games.)

### **Article 2**

Ineligible players shall be dropped from the team and cannot be replaced.

### **Article 3**

The team shall be charged a fine of \$100 for each ineligible player used, plus the usual forfeit fee.

## Section VI: Schedule

### Article 1

Each team shall play each other team a minimum of once and up to an amount to be determined depending on teams in the league in that given season. All teams will play an equal amount of games. (Approved 4/2007)

### Article 2

- If for some reason, other than rain, the home field is not available, the game will be switched to the visiting team's field.
- If it is the first time the teams have met, the home games will be switched
- If it is the second time they have met, the home team will be the visitors on their own field.
- All blackout dates are due when field nights are submitted to scheduler.
- Once the schedules are released coaches should review them and make changes necessary. Once season begins games shouldn't be moved except of cancellations due to weather.

## Section VII: Game regulations

### Article 1

- League games shall be seven (7) innings, and four (4) innings constitutes an official game or three and one half ( $3\frac{1}{2}$ ) innings if the home team is in the lead. In the event of a tie at the end of seven (7) innings, play may continue at the umpires discretion
- All playoff games will be seven (7) innings (amended 3/2013)
- Starting time for all playoff games will be 6:00 pm. All games must go seven innings. In the case of rain or darkness, the game will be picked up where it left off, as long as it is an official game. (Approved 4/2007)
- If a playoff game is stopped for darkness it picks up at the teams field that was due to host the next game and should begin prior to the beginning of that game.
- All playoff games will have 2 umpires (approved 1/2019)
- Finals will be best of Three series (approved 01/2019)

### Article 2

Starting time shall be 6:00 pm. Any club not having a full team on the field by 6:30 p.m. shall forfeit the game. (Approved 4/2007). **SENIORS: A game may start and finish with 8 players.** The 9<sup>th</sup> spot is an automatic out. If and when 9<sup>th</sup> player arrives, he must bat in the 9 spot (approve 3/2012). **INTERMEDIATES: A game may start and finish with 8 players and the other team will provide an outfielder.** If and when 9<sup>th</sup> player arrives, he must bat in the 9<sup>th</sup> spot. The ninth spot is an automatic out until such player arrives. (Approved 3/19)

### **Article 3**

The visiting team shall be allowed unrestricted use of the field from 5:45 Pm until 5:55 Pm. If the visiting team arrives 5:55 pm, they shall not be permitted on the field to practice. (Approved 4/2007)

### **Article 4**

If both teams are present on the field at 6:00 pm, the game must start. If the official umpire fails to arrive, the game may be played with an acceptable umpire approved by both teams. If the teams cannot come to an agreement, the game will be rescheduled through the league director.

### **Article 5**

Adult or players may coach the bases. Players must wear helmet

### **Article 6**

All batters must wear helmets with an earpiece facing the pitcher. IF the player refuses, he shall be declared "out".

### **Article 7**

All runners must wear helmets while on base. Any runner who is on base without a helmet when the ball is put into play will be declared "out" if it is brought to the umpire's attention.

### **Article 8**

A runner may replace a pitcher or catcher on base with 0, 1 or 2 outs. This runner cannot be in the lineup. If the team has only nine (9) players, the last batted out is to be used. Using a courtesy runner is optional. Amended 3/2018

### **Article 9**

All players must use wood bats (approved 5/2005)

### **Article 10**

Substitutions/reentry rule (approved 1987): A player or players in the starting lineup who have been replaced by a substitute player may reenter the game once in the same position in the batting order previously held.

- 1) Substitutes may enter the game as batters, runners or fielders
- 2) A pitcher may not reenter the game as a pitcher.
- 3) Only a player in the starting lineup may reenter the game once.

### **Article 11**

Use of a 10-man lineup (extra player) (approved 4/1998) (amended 4/2007)

- 1) EH allows for a 10<sup>th</sup> player to be used in a game
- 2) EH is optional
- 3) EH may be used in any position in the lineup

- 4) EH, if starts in game, must be used for the entire game
- 5) A substitute player may used in the EH position
- 6) Starting EH may reenter the game
- 7) EH may be used in the field (defense)
- 8) Exception: to avoid a forfeit when a team has a minimum number of players (10) and an injury occurs, the EH may be used. Penalty: the injured players spot in the lineup would be recorded as an out when that position in the lineup is at bat.

#### **Article 12**

Flagrant use of forearms by a base runner: any runner or runners who are thrown out of a game for flagrant use of forearms at the plate or on the bases will be suspended for one game which will be served at the next played game. The player will also be removed from the game.

#### **Article 13**

Any player that throws a punch at another player or coach as the result of Edco Baseball will be removed from the league. Player may apply for reinstatement at the beginning of the next season. Decision for reinstatement will be made by the EDCO Directors and the head of the Umpires (Approve 4/2007)

#### **Article 14**

Free substitutions in the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> innings: Team will be allowed to freely substitute defensive players during these innings will not affect his eligibility to enter the game at a later time. A player that is permanently removed form the game in the first two innings will not be eligible to reenter as a defensive substitute. All league rules pertaining to the batting order and reentry rule will remain the same. Names of player must be entered in the book, with DS next to his name.

#### **Article 15**

A DH can be used in place of any player in the lineup. If the DH is removed from the game for any reason, the players whose spot he occupies must now bat. A DH may not be substituted for. If the DH moves to the field, you forfeit the DH for the remainder of the game and The DH must stay in the same spot in the batting order that he hit in, removing the other player from the lineup. The Option to use a DH is at the teams' option. (Approved 4/2009)

#### **Article 16**

Players ejected from a game must leave the field. They are not to remain on the bench.

### **Section VIII: Game report**

All scores must be called in to the Daily Times after each game by the winning coach before 9:00 pm. All scores must be reported to the Web moderator by the winning team.

## **Section IX Protests**

### **Article 1**

In the event of a protested game, the protest must be submitted in writing to the league director within 48 hours after the game. The umpire must be notified before the next pitch that the game is being protested. A \$25.00 fee must be processed

### **Article 2**

Upon acceptance of the protest by the director, he shall refer same to the other league directors and get a decision without divulging the names of the teams involved.

### **Article 3**

No protests will be accepted on an umpire's decision of a judgment call, only for a rule of interpretation.

## **Section X Forfeits**

### **Article 1**

In addition to those situations covered by the official rule book, or game or games shall be forfeited to the offended team under the following circumstances:

- Failure to meet a scheduled playing date
- Failure to field a team at the prescribed time
- Use of ineligible player or players
- Failure to submit a roster within the prescribed time limit
- Failure to properly register players
- 2 Forfeits in a season will make teams ineligible for post season play (amended 3/2012)

### **Article 2**

All Star game participation when league is renting a stadium is mandatory. Failure to comply will result in non participation in post season play (approved 9/2015)

## **Section XI: Postponements**

### **Article 1**

In the event that a team cannot make a scheduled playing date for extraordinary reasons, the game must be rescheduled for a date that is acceptable to both teams involved. This reschedule date must be reported the league director and web moderator in accordance with Section VI, Article 2.

### **Article 2**

In case of necessity for postponement of a game due to rain or wet field, the home team must notify their opponents by 5:00 pm. All postponed games must be rescheduled within eight (8) days, or the league director will name a date. No team shall be required to play more than three (3) successive days. The home team must also notify the umpire assigned.

### **Article 3**

In case of a weather postponement, the home team shall set a rescheduled date agreeable with their opponents, and notify the league director of any newly scheduled date. The director will check with the league scheduled before rescheduling the game.

## **Section XII Field Equipment**

The home team shall furnish all baseballs and regulation field equipment and shall try to have a first class field on which to play. Field markings must be provided and such markings shall be acceptable to the umpire. The lack of field markings, or markings unacceptable to the umpire, shall be reported to the league director by the manager of the visiting team and shall result in a fine of \$25.00 (amended 3/2008)

## **Section XIII: Umpire Fees**

### **Article 1**

Umpire fees will be agreed upon by the conference contract. In case of forfeit the offending team is responsible for the fee. The fee may be paid by the home team under guarantee of the conference. Umpire's fees for tie games and playoff games shall be equally split by competing teams.

## **Section XIV CONDUCT**

### **Article 1**

Players, coaches and club representatives and team fans are expected to conduct themselves in gentlemanly and sportsmanlike manner. Willful and persistent violation of rules shall result in forfeits and or suspension if the teams and persons involved. Any suspended coach is not permitted to attend the game he is suspended for. If he does, he will be suspended for the following two games.

### **Article 2**

Managers, coaches, conference officials and umpires shall report any misconduct detrimental to the conference to the league director who may, at his discretion, refer such violations to the conference executive committee. The executive committee may, at its discretion, take any action they consider necessary for the benefit of the conference.

### **Article 3**



Any player ejected from the game by the umpire for throwing equipment (bats, helmets, etc.), using abusive language or for any other reason because of an umpire's decision, will be suspended for the one (1) game. Second ejection results in a two (2) game suspension. The third ejection will result in the removal of the player from the team for the season including playoffs. The suspension will be served at the team's next official league games. If it's the last game of the regular season, the player will serve the suspension the first game(s) of playoffs. Player may attend if game credit needed for playoff eligibility.

#### **Article 4**

Any player, coach or member of the extended senior EDCO league that verbally or in writing, via the internet or other printed material, defames, demeans, threatens, uses obscenities or posts distrustful or harmful pictures of any member, coach, player, umpire, webmaster, of the Senior EDCO league or family member will be immediately removed from the league with no further warning. This includes e-mail, websites, and off the or on the field altercations (amended 8/2007)

#### **Article 6**

The executive committee of the league will have final say in all league matters.

## **Section XV: Playoffs-League Discretion**

#### **Article 1**

Each playoff series will be played on dates agreed upon by both coaches. Playoff series start on Monday but can begin on Sunday and must be completed by the following Sunday. BOTH TEAMS MUST AGREE TO PLAY ON FIRST GAME SUNDAY. The higher seeded team has the option to select its 2 home nights followed by the opposing team selecting theirs. (Amended 1/12)

#### **Article 2**

Playoffs will commence immediately after the conclusion of the regular season. The playoff format and any disputes will be approved by the executive committee. All playoff series will be the best of three game. The highest seeded team during the regular season will have the home field advantage through out the playoffs. Team seeding will depend on the final standing and tie breakers. The league reserves the right to schedule finals in its entirety or a single game of both leagues at a neutral site. (01/19)

- A) Total number of points
- B) Head to head competition
- C) Record in divisional games
- D) 1 game playoff for final seed (s), Coin toss for seeding and home field only (approved 3/2012)

Each team will receive two (2) points for a win and one (1) point for a tie. All Attempts should be made to complete games scheduled because seeding will be based on point totals, not winning percentage.

## **Section XVI: All Star Teams**

The league may have an annual all star game at a time and place to be determined. The game format will be approved by league members.

## **Section XVII: Awards**

### **Article 1**

The team winning championship will receive a trophy and tee shirts. (Amended 1/19)

### **Article 2**

Any awards given by the league to any team that is destroyed or disposed off by any EDCO member will be cause for that teams representatives to fully re-imbrues the league director for any costs incurred by the league. This will also warrant a disciplinary meeting to be held with the executive committee and that teams representatives to decide future involvement with the EDCO league (amended 8/2007)

## **Section XVIII Miscellaneous**

### **Article 1**

Any dispute that arises in regards to players, rules or any items regarding the EDCO league will be resolved by the EDCO Committee. (Amended 4/2007)

### **Article 2**

EDCO Committee is comprised by president of the EDCO league. (Amended 10/18)

### **Article 3**

If dispute involves committee's team, that committee person is removed from the decision process for that ruling. (Amended 10/18)

### **Article 4**

The EDCO committee's decisions are final. (Amended 4/2007)

### **Article 5**

No member of the EDCO league will be held liable for any decisions that are made as we are all volunteers of this league. This is not an incorporated league. (Amended 3/2015)

