

**Greater Flint
Baseball League**
**Rules for 9u Jackie Robinson/
10u Willie Mays 2026**

This league will operate under the Michigan High School Rule Book with the following additions:

- 1 - Each team will pay a non-refundable fee prior to start of season
- 2
ROSTERS ARE TO BE POSTED ON THE GFBL WEBSITE PRIOR TO FIRST GAME OF THE SEASON
Coaches must have Birth Certificates and roster available upon request
- 3 - Team insurance -
Each team is requested to purchase insurance. Insurance is required for post-season play.
Cost of insurance is in addition to entry fee.
Insurance is the responsibility of each team.
- 4 - Each team must provide a home field for play when the schedule requires it, or select American Legion fields.
- 5 - The home team must provide a certified home plate umpire for that game.
- 6 - Each team will get 2 dz Baseballs from the GFBL.
- 7 - Season may start April 8th. All games must be completed by July 26th if accepting USSSA post Season Birth. A minimum of 9 games must be played to qualify for post-season play. No team will be allowed to avoid playing the remainder of their games except for weather related conditions.
Ex) if a team is 9–0 after nine games they must play the remainder of their schedule.
- 8 - Rain outs will be rescheduled. It is the responsibility of each coach to coordinate a field and date for make-up if rain out occurs. The home team must email the GFBL (gfbleague@gmail.com) and notify him of the rainout and make-up date. Make-ups will be difficult to accomplish due to the short duration of this league, however please make every attempt to play the complete schedule. Please contact league supervisor in the event of conflicts.
- 8a - Rain outs will be rescheduled within 48 hours of the postponement. Teams are required to contact league supervisor with the new game date.
NOTE: If neither team can agree on a date, a double forfeit will result. If one team agrees to a date and the other team does not fulfill their obligation, a forfeit will be the consequence. Please make every effort to play all games.
- 8b – No canceling games after May 1st
- 8c – **Canceling within 24 hours of game time:** If this causes the home team to pay

the umpire/field set up fee then the team that cancels is responsible to pay \$100 to the home team. This fee must be paid within 24 hours of the canceling team's next game. If canceling team does not pay the fee a forfeit will be given each game until paid. Home team is required to report a canceled game within the same 24 hour period. If the Home team fails to report the canceled game this will result in the canceling team not being responsible to pay.

8d - Canceling a game under 24 hours will be a forfeit to the canceling team.

8e - **Due to rain or darkness a game is considered officially complete when minimum 3 innings of a 6 inning game are played or 4 innings of a 7 inning game.** Games started but not having the minimum innings played will be considered a suspended game. The game will be picked up at the point of stoppage and completed.

9 - Directions on reporting game results will be communicated prior to the start of the season. **Scores must be reported within 4 days. Failure to do so will be double forfeit.**

10 - Standings in effect on July 26th will provide the winner and the participants in post-season play.

11 - Pitching distance is 46 ft.
Base paths are 65 ft or can be 60 ft for 9u

12 - Age cutoff: 9U - Cannot turn 10 before May 1st, 2026
10U – Cannot turn 11 before May 1st, 2026

13 - No Player additions after JUNE 1st. Only players on roster entered into GFBL website will be eligible for post-season play.

14 - Roster: Minimum 11 players – Max 15 players per team. Teams are required to enter roster on team page prior to season starting. Failure to do so is subject to Performance Fee Violation

15 - Teams must field 7 players by five minutes after scheduled start.

16 - Minimum 9 batters or an out must be taken for each batter less than 9.

17 - Games will be 6 innings / 1:45 max. **(American Legion Fields will have a 1:40 limit if field is scheduled for doubleheader)**
NOTE: IN THE CASE OF A TIE AT THE END OF 6 INNINGS / 1:45 HOURS – INTERNATIONAL TIE BREAKER – LAST OUT TO 2ND / 1 OUT.
NO GAME WILL END IN A TIE EXCEPT FOR DARKNESS OR GAME IS FIRST OF D.H.

17a. Mercy Rule – 12 after 3, 10 after 4, and 8 after 5 innings.

17b. Run Limit per Inning (**9u Only**)– Teams can score up to 7 runs per inning. After the 7th run in an inning is scored the inning ends. No run limit to last inning of games

- 18 – Pitchers – Unlimited innings with 75 pitch limit
- 19 - Pitchers may not re-enter game as pitcher.
- 20a - Teams must play with 10 players, 4 being outfielders. Outfield is determined by being on grass or by determined line in playing field.
- 20b- Free Substitutions (Except Pitcher). Any player being disciplined by a coach cannot be entered into the line-up after the game starts.
- 21 - Entire roster bats (round-robin batting order). No players may be added to the lineup once the game has started.
- 22 - Courtesy runner for the Pitcher and Catcher is allowed anytime; mandatory for catcher with 2 outs. Runner must be last out. Umpire may require as soon as catcher is on base.
- 23 – Stealing Rule - **10u** – Leading off and stealing is allowed and high school rules apply. **9u**- Runners are not allowed to lead off. Runners may steal after the ball crosses home plate. Runner on 3rd base may advance home only on a Batted Ball or Defensive play at 3rd base.
- 23a – 9u – Drop 3rd strike is an out
10u – Drop 3rd strike will follow high school rules
- 23b – 9u – No bunting is allowed
10u – Bunting is allowed
- 24 – 9u - infield fly rule is in effect
- 25a - No Protests – Umpire ruling will stand.
- 25b – **Ejection of a coach or player:** If a player or coach is ejected from a game they will not be allowed to coach or play the next playing date. If ejection occurs in 1st game of scheduled doubleheader coach or player cannot play in the 2nd game and the next playing date.
- 25c – If a coach or player is ejected more than once the coach or player could be removed from playing or coaching for the rest of the season.
- 25d – It is the responsibility of the umpire to report to the GFBL the ejection
- 25e – If a coach, player, or parent confronts an umpire off the field it may result in a forfeit or 3 game date suspension from the GFBL. This suspension can carry into the following season
- 26 - No metal spikes allowed.
- 27 - **AVOID CONTACT RULE:** Players must attempt to avoid contact with other players in tag-out situations. If, in an umpire's judgment, there is intentional contact, that umpire may call the runner out on that play. If the contact is judged as intentional

and malicious, that umpire may also eject the player from the game. On force out situations, if the runner slides, they must slide directly into the base. A slide that is not directly into the base is grounds for an interference call (umpire's judgment) and the runner could be declared out. In this instance, the batter/ runner could also be declared out if the fielder was attempting to make a play on that batter/runner. It is important to note that if the runner makes a legal slide directly into the base and contact is made with the fielder interference will not be called.

- 28 - Bat Restrictions – Bat is unlimited with 1.15 BPF stamp
All models of Demarini Zen bats for year 2017 banned.
- 29 - Any team not following the above rules may be administered a forfeit upon the league supervisor's decision.
- 30a - Tie breaker for trophies and post-season play will be as follows: Head to Head winner; least runs allowed between tied teams; coin flip or play-off. Playoff will be played at the American Legion between 2 tied teams in upper division.
- 30b - Upper division winner receives trophies, lower divisions receive medals.
- 31- If a team receives a forfeit the runs allowed rule will be determined by the average runs allowed based on the number of games played.
- 32 - Injury Rule: If a player is injured while using round robin batting his turn in order will be skipped.

GOOD LUCK AND THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING!