

2026 Spring Season – DFW Adult Baseball Association 40+ Supplemental Rules

1. All games shall be seven (7) inning games. An official game is four (4) innings or 3 ½ innings if the home team is leading. A 10-run mercy rule is in effect after five (5) innings of play.
2. Games shall be 2 hour time limits where no new inning shall be started after 1hour, 50 minutes, unless the difference in score is 5 runs or less. Any inning started prior to this must be completed.
3. Each team shall be responsible for paying one umpire (cash only) before the start of the game. Fee is \$70.
4. Play will be restricted to wood bats only – Composite bats will be allowed. Composite bats are defined as wood bats with a reinforcement to minimize breakage.
5. Offensive batting lineups may contain anywhere from the eight (8) minimum required to start up to the maximum number of players available at the game. When non-roster fill-in players are used to make a legal lineup, the non-roster players must be added at the bottom of the batting order following all legally present players and cannot pitch. **Note:** Non-roster players are only permissible if the opposing manager consents. It is still the manager's prerogative to receive a forfeit win. **Non-roster players are not permitted in play-off games.**
6. Stealing will be allowed per MLB Rules.
7. Players may be added to the bottom of the batting order at any time – so long as they are listed on the approved substitute list on the manager's lineup card. It is not required for a player to be present at the beginning of the game.
8. A team may elect to bat any number of players with a minimum of 9. (Exception: 8 Man Start rule). They may add players to the bottom of the order at any time. A player may vacate his spot in the batting order at any time unless there are available substitutes. The vacated spot will be declared an out the first time it is vacated in the lineup. All remaining at bats for the vacated spot will not be penalized. (Exception: Playoffs; a team must finish the game with no less than the largest number of batters at any given time in the line-up. The penalty will be an out in the vacant spot in the order each time it is supposed to make a plate appearance.)
9. Non-runner rule: Four players per game may have another player run for them in the event they reach base. Two non-runners must be indicated on the line-up card and teams may use a courtesy runner for the pitcher and catcher of record anytime. The replacement runner will be the last recorded out – (not necessarily the last batted out.) If the change is made, it must be at the furthest base the player reaches on that play. The courtesy runner must enter the game before the next pitch, or the use of the non-runner rule is forfeited. **A team may run for their catcher of record at any time with two outs.**
10. To be eligible for the 40+ league, a player must attain at least his 40th birthday during the calendar year of the current season. All players must be able to prove their age at any time or be declared ineligible. It is recommended that they carry a valid, original picture ID such as a driver's license – no faxes or photocopies are acceptable.
11. A team may declare at the time that lineups are exchanged prior to the start of play that any batting order position (i.e. 8, 9, 10, etc.) can be occupied by two (2) players in each such batting position. That is, 8A/8B, 9, 10A/10B, 11, etc. The first time that position 8 gets an at bat, 8A would hit and the next time this slot hits, 8B would be up. Then 8A hits the third time this spot in the order comes up, and so on, alternating between these two players throughout the game. Once a team declares the use of this A/B system, it must continue using it for the remainder of the game. If due to injury or absence of one of the alternating hitters, the player present may hit in the A/B slot without penalty. Playoffs and championship games if one of the hitters cannot bat it will be declared an out. Hitters in the A/B position may be pinch hit for, just as any other player. The substitute player must be substituted for one of the players in the A/B positions.
12. Teams may not request schedule changes once the schedule has been posted.
13. Any DFW ABA team or player may participate and attend any tournaments. For any World Series Tournaments, the manager must notify the league president the dates the team will not be able to play in the local league due a large majority of players that will be participating. This notification must be emailed to the league president by February 1st for the spring/summer season and by July 15th for the fall season of the calendar year. If a team fails to communicate the dates needing off by July 15th they must play or forfeit their games that are scheduled.