

# POUGHKEEPSIE



## BASEBALL

### Committee/Event leader fact sheet

**Event/Project Name: Minor/Major Playoff Scheduler**

**Event/Project Description: Schedule the two-week playoffs for Minors and Majors**

The idea behind a separate playoff format is to offer teams to play more competitive games and to see how much the players learned and improved during the regular season. There is no set format, and the scheme will be impacted by the number of teams in the division, the amount of time allocated on the schedule, and the cost to the league (costs include umpires and baseballs).

In 2009, this was the playoff format that was devised:

Start with pool play - 2 pools of 4 teams each. Pool 1 consists of the teams that finished the regular season in 1st, 4th, 5th, and 8th. Pool 2 consists of the teams that finished the regular season in 2nd, 3rd, 6th, and 7th. Teams are randomly assigned their pool number by draw (e.g. the team that finishes regular season 1<sup>st</sup> place is not necessarily team #1 in pool #1, but could be any team # in pool #1 based on random draw). Each team in the pool plays each other. This is 3 games per team - the pools alternate days - this takes 6 days (Saturday is a double day).

Example schedule:

Mon 6/8 - Pool 1: 1v4, 2v3

Tue 6/9 - Pool 2: 1v4, 2v3

Wed 6/10 - Pool 1 1v3, 2v4

Thu 6/11 - Pool 2 1v3, 2v4

Sat 6/13 - Pool 1 1v2, 3v4; Pool 2 1v2, 3v4

From there, seed a single elimination tournament based on the pool standings:

*(P1-1 means Pool 1, 1<sup>st</sup> place, based on pool results)*

Mon 6/15 - Game 1: P1-1vP2-4; Game 4: P1-4vP2-1

Tue 6/16 - Game 2: P1-3vP2-2; Game 3 P1-2vP2-3

Wed 6/17 - Game 5: W1vW2

Thu 6/18 - Game 6: W4vW3

Sat 6/20 - CHAMPIONSHIP: W5vW6

The result was that all (8) teams played 4 games, half (4) played 5 games, and 2 played 6 games.

Take note that a completely different playoff structure was used in 2008 as there were only 6 teams/league. There is nothing sacred about the format used in 2009, but I believe it worked very well with the 8 teams/league.

**Amount of time devoted and when:** approximately 10 hours during a 3 week period in early June – 2 hours to make the schedules then time just about every day when they are going on. We have utilized a regular season and playoff approach, including separate winners. By design, there is no connection between regular season and the playoffs – consider them two separate entities. The idea here is to provide managers the chance to offer all players opportunities during the regular season, and to play more competitive games during the playoffs. The UIC then creates game schedule, culminating in Championship Saturday where the 10u championship is at 10am and the 12u championship is at 1pm, complete with announcing, trophy ceremony – the works!

**Amount of people needed to complete project: 1 person**

**Costs involved in your project/event: none**

**Notes: must stay in contact with all managers every day when the playoffs start, to track winners/losers, rainouts, makeups, etc. Email works best**