



Tribe Youth Baseball

Tournament Rules

Our tournament rules will follow official NFHS baseball rules, with the following exceptions:

- 1) **Game length:** Games are 6 innings or a max of 1 hour, 35 minutes in duration. No new inning may start after the 1:35 time limit, except in tie. No infield practice on the game field before the games, and limited to 1st baseman led infield practice during the 1st inning only to promote speed of play. Umpires will track appropriate warm up pitches. No time limit in Championship game.
- 2) **Extra innings:** Any innings starting after the 1:35 time limit (umpires will keep the official time), because of a tie, are considered “extra innings”. Ties will be broken as such: all extra innings will start with the bases loaded and one out. The three runners to occupy the bases to start the inning will be the last three hitters from the previous inning (last hitter on 1st, etc). Each half inning starts this way until the tie is broken at the end of an extra inning. In the first two pod games, no game can extend past two hours. The game will end at 2hrs – the “hard stop rule” – and score will remain tied where it was at the end of the previous inning.
Extra innings in the Championship game will follow the same extra inning rule, but with no “hard stop rule”.
- 3) **Run rule:** There will be a 15 run rule after 3 innings, a 12 run rule after 4, and a 10 run rule after 5.
- 4) **Pitching restrictions:** Pitchers are limited to a maximum of three innings per game at all levels. One pitch in an inning constitutes an inning. Once a pitcher has been used in a game and removed from pitching, he cannot come back and pitch in that game.
- 5) **Bat restrictions:** Players at all levels can only use bats bearing the 1.15 BPF, with max barrel of 2 ¾ with no drop restrictions.
- 6) **Field sizes:**
 - U8: 40 pitching, 60 bases
 - U9 + U10: 46 pitching, 65 bases
 - U11: 50 pitching, 70 bases
 - U13 + U14: full size regulation baseball field
- 7) **Base running and stealing:**

At U11/13/14, lead offs and stealing allowed, and batter can advance on dropped third strike.

At U9/10, no lead offs, baserunner cannot leave the base until it crosses home plate – and is out if he does (and dead ball). The batter can advance on a dropped third strike, and a runner on third can score on a passed ball. However, and to avoid silly gamesmanship, cannot not score on the simple throw back to the pitcher (on plays not involving any other bases being stolen). A batter who walks cannot advance to second base on the walk.

U-8 Baserunning rule:

There are no lead offs, a baserunner cannot leave the base until it crosses home plate – and is out if he does (and dead ball). A batter cannot advance on a dropped 3rd strike. A batter who walks cannot advance to second base on the walk.

Runners can advance on passed balls or wild pitches to 2nd base or 3rd base, but CANNOT score from 3rd base on a wild pitch or passed ball, **OR** errant throw by the catcher to the pitcher, OR on an errant throw to a base from the catcher or pitcher in a steal situation (like the typical 1st and 3rd steal play).

There are only three ways a runner can advance past third base: 1)batted ball in play 2)bases loaded walk 3)bases loaded hit by pitch.

NFHS rules will apply to all runner/fielder contact on the bases at all levels.

- 8) **Bunt and Slash play:** will not be allowed at any level.
- 9) **Balks:** Balks will be called only at U11/13/14, with one warning per game per team at U11.
- 10) **Infield Fly:** In effect at U10/11/13/14. Important: It is “umpire judgement” in determining what constitutes an infield fly that can be caught by an infielder, pitcher, or catcher with ordinary effort. Many, many times younger players don’t hit the ball high enough to make this a simple, ordinary play, or the defenders are not adept enough to make it an ordinary play.
- 11) **Courtesy runner:** mandatory for catcher with two outs, optional for pitcher with two outs.
- 12) **Batting order and positions on defense:** All teams will bat their entire roster (all present) in that particular game (this is a B/C level tourney). Fielders can re-enter at any fielding position except pitcher. Nine positions played on defense at all levels.

SPECIAL U-8 ONLY Batting rule: Teams are allowed to bat through their lineup only 1 time per inning. If 3 outs have not been made by the time a team has batted around, the half of the inning will end. Any runners on base will only be allowed to advance as many bases as the hitter advanced on the last at bat of the inning. Dead ball will be called when play is made on any base runner or an infielder has secured the baseball and is in the infield. If teams have a different number of players, to determine the "bat around number", use the larger of the 2 numbers.

- 13) **Cleats:** no metal spikes at a U-8, 9, 10, 11, +12. Metal cleats will be allowed at U13 + 14.
- 14) **Pod System for establishing 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place teams for final Crossover game:**
 1. *Win/Loss Record*
 2. *Head to Head*
 3. *Runs Allowed*
 4. *Point Differential (Maximum points allowed per game is 15 to discourage running up the score)*
 5. *Runs Scored*
 6. *Coin Flip*

WE WILL KEEP UPDATED TOURNAMENT STANDINGS ON OUR WEBSITE

<http://www.muktribebaseball.com/tournament.html>

- 15) **Balls:** game balls provided by the tournament hosts.
- 16) **Home team:** decided by coin flip for each game.
- 17) **Sportmanship:** demanded by all coaches, fans, and players. We expect all adults to set outstanding examples, and expect all players to follow those examples.
- 18) **Protests:** not allowed. We will use WIAA certified umpires and their decisions are final.

Food and drink: we will provide full concessions. As a fundraiser for our organization, we would ask that coaches make a strong request to parents from bringing coolers or snacks for the team.

Refunds: partial refunds if weather cancels more than half the tournament.

Tribe Baseball and all volunteers are not responsible for injuries by players, coaches, or spectators. All who participate in any way or attend the tournament are covered strictly by their own insurance.

Tournament Director:

Jay Christiansen

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