



TRAVEL SPORTS BASEBALL

2017 BASEBALL PLAYING RULES

TIME LIMITS:

5U - 8U 1:20HR or (6 innings).

9U - 12U 1:30HR or (6 innings).

13U - 14U 1:40hr or (7 innings)

15U - 18U 2:00hr or (7 innings)

All CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES will play time limit plus 1 inning if all innings have not been played.

***Example:**

- In a 12u championship game the time limit has been reached after 5 innings, 1 more inning will be played.
- In a 12u championship game the time limit has been reached after 6 innings, no more innings will be played.)

PITCHING:

First and foremost is the pitcher's safety when discussing pitching limitations. We highly recommend that all coaches, parents and mentors adhere to the MLB Pitch Smart Program.

While we are working towards our Pitch Smart Compliance Program we will mandate the following pitching restrictions. 8U - 12U (24) outs per weekend, (18) outs per day. 13U - 14U (28) outs per weekend, (21) outs per day. 15U - 18U will follow NFHS rules. **Using an illegal pitcher will result in an immediate forfeit.**

Each team gets three "free" defensive conferences during a regulation game; on the fourth, the pitcher must be replaced. Note that if you replace the pitcher during a conference, it does not count as a charged conference.

BATTING ORDER:

YOU HAVE 4 OPTIONS FOR YOUR LINEUP:

1. BAT 9 STRAIGHT
2. BAT 9 WITH DH
3. BAT 10/PLAY 9 WITH EH
4. BAT THE ENTIRE LINEUP

When using options 1-3, all eligible subs must be listed on the lineup card. Your official lineup must be presented to the opposing coach and the plate umpire prior to the start of each game.

When using option #4 and a player is injured or unable to play, the team must take an out for that spot in the lineup. A player that has not batted or played in the field, and is injured, would be skipped and taken out of the lineup.

COURTESY RUNNERS:

For the pitcher and catcher only once they reach first base. A courtesy runner would not be allowed once the next batter has received a pitch. The courtesy runner must be a legal substitute currently not in the game, including starters that have been substituted for but are legally eligible for re-entry.

IF YOU ARE BATTING YOUR ENTIRE ROSTER, THE COURTESY RUNNER MUST BE THE LAST BATTER NOT CURRENTLY ON BASE.

MERCY RULE:

The game will be stopped after any completed inning once a team has a lead of 20 runs. 15 runs after 3 innings, 10 runs after 4 innings and 8 runs after 5 innings.

SLASH BUNT:

Prohibited through 12u.

A player cannot show bunt then swing away.

The batter will be out and the third base coach will be ejected.

HEAD FIRST SLIDE:

HEAD FIRST SLIDES ARE NOT ALLOWED IN AGES 8U-12U WHEN THE PLAYER IS WEARING A HELMET WITH A FACE GUARD, C-FLAP OR (non-breakaway) or chin strap. This rule does not apply to runners returning to a base. Players not wearing this type of helmet are excluded. Team warning and then a player can be called out if infraction continues. A team warning will be issued to the offending team on the 1st occurrence. Any additional infraction by that team will result in the player being called out with a delayed dead ball situation.

DUGOUT:

NO MORE THAN 2 COACHES CAN BE OUTSIDE OF THE DUGOUT WHILE THE BALL IS IN PLAY.

SEEDING TEAMS INTO BRACKET PLAY:

- TIE BREAKERS: If a NON-POOL PLAY GAME ends in a tie we will utilize the following tie breaker. The last batter from the previous inning will go to 1st base. The next to last batter from the previous inning will go to 2nd base. The offensive team will start the inning with (1) out.

- **POOL PLAY SEEDING TIE BREAKER:**
 1. WINS
 2. LOSSES
 3. HEAD TO HEAD
 4. RUNS ALLOWED
 5. RUNS FOR
 6. COIN FLIP
- MAX Runs per game considered - 8

METAL CLEATS:

Prohibited through 10u.

Players 11u - 18u can wear metal cleats.

No metal cleats are permitted on temporary mounds.

BAT LIMITATIONS:

5u-13u: All bats must be marked 1.15bpf

14u: BBCOR or (-5)

All High School divisions: BBCOR.

- Penalty: prior to the first pitch the bat will be removed from the game.
- Once a pitch has been thrown to the batter with the illegal bat, the batter is out.
- Once the next batter receives a pitch, the previous batter that used the illegal bat cannot be protested.)
- SEE BANNED BASEBALL EQUIPMENT FOR ADDITIONAL BAT INFORMATION

All rules not listed will revert to the NFHS Rules for the current season. The Tournament Director will make the final determination on any rule clarifications.