



## 9U – 14U Tournament Rules

USSSA Baseball Rules and Regulations apply except as noted below. All bats must be USSSA 1.15 stamped. Score sheets will be maintained by the umpires and must be signed by both Managers after the game verifying the score. The umpire will turn in the signed scoresheet after the game to the concession stand.

### Rules

1. USSSA Baseball Rules and Regulations apply except as where noted below, Bats must be USSSA 1.15 stamped.
2. 3 Coaches and 1 Scorekeeper allowed in dugout.
3. Coin flip determines home team in pool play. Higher seed is home team in bracket play.
4. All games will be 6 innings with a 1:30 time limit for pool and bracket play. No drop dead. No inning shall begin after 1:30. 2 hour time limit for Championship games.

For this rule, an inning begins "immediately" after the last out of the inning has been made.

5. Mercy Rule: 15 after 3; 10 after 4; 8 after 5.
6. Courtesy runner for the pitcher and catcher allowed (and encouraged) anytime. Runner must not be currently in the lineup (can be a starter who has been substituted for). For teams using continuous batting, the courtesy runner is the last batted out.
7. Team may play with 8 players but will be required to take an automatic out in the 9th batting position. Recorded as a strike-out.
8. Infield will only be allowed from first and third with each team getting half the field.
9. Teams have the option of using a 9 player lineup, 10 player lineup using an Extra Hitter (EH), or a continuous lineup of all present uniformed players. Teams must declare before the game which lineup they will use. The EH will be considered a "10th" position in the lineup and may be substituted for just as any other position.
10. Tie games in pool play at end of time or innings will play **one extra inning only**. If game is tied after one extra inning then game ends in tie. Bracket games and championship game will play extra innings until winner is determined. Each extra inning shall begin with 1 out, the last batted out on 2nd base and a 2-1 count on the hitter and each subsequent hitter.
11. Seeding is based on record in pool play then uses tie breakers listed below in the following order:

1. *Head to Head among tied teams if all tied teams have played each other, otherwise skip*
  2. *Lowest runs allowed in pool play.*
  3. *Maximum runs scored in pool play with maximum of 15 per game.*
  4. *Run differential among tied teams- Maximum 10 run differential per game*
  5. *Run differential in entire pool play- Maximum 10 run differential per game.*
  6. *Coin flip*
- Decisions of tournament director are final.*

### 12. **9U Rules Only:**

- Lead offs and steals are allowed
- 5 Run rule per inning except the last inning, which is unlimited.
- Home Plate closed on passed balls and throws back to the pitcher, but if a throw is made to a base, the runner at third is allowed to advance home. For example, a pick off to first gets away or a throw down to second on a steal attempt, the plate then opens up to the runner at third.
- No dropped third strike...batter is out.

**13. 13U Rules Only:**

- Maximum of drop 8 (-8) bat with the official USSSA 1.15 BPF Mark permanently stamped.
- All games will be 7 innings with a 1:40 time limit for pool and bracket play. No inning shall begin after 1:40. 2 hour time limit for championship game.

**14. 14U Rules Only:**

- -3 BBCOR Bat must be used
- All games will be 7 innings with a time limit of 1:45 for pool play and bracket play. No inning shall begin after 1:45. 2 hour time limit for championship game.

**ABSOLUTELY  
NO SEEDS, NO GUM and NO METAL SPIKES**

Seed Clean-up Fee: If seeds are on the turf, they individually have to be picked up by hand.  
Because of this, we have implemented a \$25 cleanup fee for any team caught violating this policy.

**Refund Policy:****Game Cancellations due to weather:**

- 0 Games played, 100% Refund
- 1 Game Played, 50% Refund
- 2 Games Played, NO refund will be given

*If a team cancels for other reasons, refund will be given at the discretion of Spartan Sports Park's Tournament Director*