



8U Coach Pitch Baseball Tournament Rules

RULES: USSSA Baseball Rules and Regulations apply except as noted below. All bats must be USSSA 1.15 stamped.

1. **Umpire rulings are final.** All coaches, parents and players are expected to display good sportsmanship. Any coach, player or fan that is deemed by the umpire or league director to be displaying poor sportsmanship or harassment of umpires will be asked to leave the premises. Unwillingness to comply with this rule will result in a forfeit.
2. Coin flip determines home team and home team will be the official scorer and the umpire will keep the time. Seeding determines home team in bracket play.
3. All games will be 6 innings with no new inning starting after 1 hour and 20 minutes. For this rule, an inning begins "immediately" after the last out of the inning has been made. NO time limit for championship games.
4. Tie games at the end of time or innings in pool play will play **one extra inning only**. IF a game is tied after one extra inning, then the game ends in a tie. Bracket games will play extra innings until a winner is determined. Each extra inning shall begin with the last batted out on 2nd base and 1-strike on the hitter with 1-out.
5. Game is official after 3 innings, 2.5 in home team is winning, if called because of weather. If called before that it will be considered a suspended game and play will resume where it was halted.
6. **Everyone must bat and free defensive substitutions are allowed**. If a player is injured and must leave the game, his spot is skipped in the batting order. That player may return to the lineup if he recovers.
7. No leading off or stealing. Runners cannot leave the base until a batter makes contact. A warning will be given, but each additional infraction will result in the runner being called out.
8. No bunting.
9. Each batter is allowed 5 pitches or 3 swinging strikes. If the 5th pitch is a foul, he will get additional pitches until he hits a fair ball, doesn't swing, or swings and misses.
10. Runners may continue to advance at their own risk until the pitcher secures the ball with at least one foot in the pitchers circle. If at this time the runner is more than halfway to the next base, that base is awarded. If the runner was not halfway, the umpire will instruct the runner to return to the previous base. This is only if the defensive player holds the ball and/or requests time out and does not make a play on the runner. If the defensive player makes a play on the runner, the ball is live.
11. Infield fly rule is not in effect.
12. No runner may advance on a passed ball or on throws back to the pitcher after a pitch.
13. No courtesy runners are allowed.
14. No intentional walks are allowed.
15. 5 run maximum per half inning with the exception of the last inning.
16. Mercy rule: 15 after 3; 10 after 4; 8 after 5.

17. The player in the pitching position must have at least one foot inside the circle at the start of each pitch.
18. One coach is allowed to coach defense in outfield.
19. Teams will play 10 players on defense, including 4 outfielders. You CANNOT play 5 infielders at any time. The outfielders are not allowed to make a force out at any base. A batted ball must be thrown into an infielder for a force out at a base. The outfielders must start each pitch in the outfield as determined by the umpire.
20. The catcher can either play the normal catcher position or stand farther back near the backstop. If the catcher chooses to stand near the backstop, he is not eligible to catch a pop up.
21. Seeding is based on record in pool play then uses tie breakers listed below
 - Tie Breakers for seeding purposes-in order used
 1. Head to head among tied teams if all teams have played each other, otherwise skip
 2. Lowest runs allowed in pool play
 3. Maximum runs scored in pool play with a max of 15 per game
 4. Run differential among tied teams-Max of 10 run differential per game.
 5. Run differential in entire pool play-Max of 10 run differential per game.
 6. Coin Flip
 7. Decisions of tournament director are final.
22. We encourage the defensive team to have a “back up” catcher to help speed up play on passed balls.
23. **Please clean up dugouts after each game. Absolutely NO SUNFLOWER SEEDS, PEANUTS OR GUM on the fields or in the dugouts.**
24. A \$25 cleanup fee will be charged to each team caught violating the NO SEEDS policy.

ALSO, PLEASE KEEP KIDS, PLAYERS AND SIBLINGS, OUT OF THE NEIGHBORS' YARDS BY FIELD 5 & 6 AND THE LOTS UNDER CONSTRUCTION. THANK YOU!

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.