



Ramona Baseball

RBI Invitational 2018

2018 RBI Info
Packet

Complex & Tournament
Rules and Guidelines

May 24 - 28 2018



2018 RAMONA BASEBALL INVITATIONAL

Memorial Day Weekend Tournament

Ramona Sports Association would like to welcome teams from Southern California to our 36th annual RBI Memorial Day Weekend tournament. We are hosting 8 brackets: 6U, 7U, 8U, 9U, 10U, 11U, 12U, 13U and 14U.

TOURNAMENT DATES

The 2018 RBI Memorial Day Weekend Tournament will begin Friday, May 25th and finish on Monday, May 28th this year.

GAME SCHEDULES

Game schedules will be posted on www.tourneymachine.com under the tournament labeled “2018 Ramona Baseball Invitational”, by Friday May 18th.

CHECK-IN (MANDATORY)

Teams must check-in as soon as they arrive for the tournament but no later than 60 minutes prior to game start time. VERY IMPORTANT: Please have all information with you at check-in. Documents include: Team Affidavit, Medical Release Forms, Scorekeepers Contact Information and Birth Certificates for all players on the affidavit (see forms at the end of this handbook).

TOURNAMENT REQUIREMENTS

BASEBALLS

We require each team to supply two (2) DPL-1 (PONY Baseball approved) baseballs per game. We recommend your teams purchase one dozen baseballs in advance. Please bring the two game balls to the umpire at the beginning of each game.

MEDICAL RELEASE FORMS

Each player **must** have a medical release form signed by a parent or guardian. A copy is available at the end of this handbook. The medical release forms will be reviewed at check-in and must be readily available to tournament officials throughout the duration of the event.

BIRTH CERTIFICATES

We recommend appointing a business manager to manage birth certificates, medical release forms, and the team affidavit.

Each player **must** provide their manager with a legal certification of birth (photocopies are recommended). These need to be available to tournament officials at each game and at check-in. Ramona does not keep copies of these.

TEAM AFFIDAVIT

You **must** present an eligibility affidavit and your team book at check-in. List the player's names exactly as shown on the birth certificate. The tournament director will keep the original copy of the tournament eligibility affidavit. **The manager should retain a copy of the original in their team book.** The affidavit form can be found at the end of this handbook.

TOURNAMENT PLAYING RULES

Except as specified below, MLB Rules & Regulations for the playing of the game of Baseball, then modified per PONY Baseball Official Tournament Rules and Regulations will be followed.

AGE

Age Cutoff for this tournament for 6U thru 14U will be August 31st. A player is not eligible for his respective division if he/she reached an age higher than the Division Age on or prior to August 31st (Example: A player who turned 13 on or before August 31st is ineligible for the 12U Division).

Photocopies of birth certificates will be required at check-in, and should be kept in managers' possession the entire tournament in case of challenges. Some minor exceptions are reviewed case by case by the Tournament Director and President of Ramona PONY Baseball.

ROSTERS

Rosters may not exceed 15 players without explicit approval of the Tournament Director. **Final rosters must be submitted at check-in** and may not be altered thereafter.

UNIFORMS

Numbers are required on the backs of all uniforms. Players must use the same uniform number throughout the tournament. Players may not have the same number as others on their roster.

EQUIPMENT

NO metal cleats allowed in 8U, 9U and 10U Divisions. Metal cleats are allowed in 11U, 12U, 13U and 14U Divisions with the exception of pitchers if a portable mound is utilized. Please be aware that portable mounds **may** be used at the determination of brackets. Therefore, please have ALL pitchers prepared to wear rubber cleats or tennis shoes under this circumstance. There are no exceptions to this rule.

2 5/8" & 2 3/4" barrel bats are **legal** in **all** divisions. If a 2 5/8" bat is a **-3**, it **must** be BBCOR certified (stamped on the bat). Currently there is **no** testing protocol for -5, -7, -9, etc. they are **legal**.

2 1/4" barrel bats are **legal** in **all** divisions. They **must** have a Bat Performance Factor (BPF) of 1.15 stamped on the bat.

Disallowed Bats

USSSA has completed a round of BPF testing at the USSSA approved lab. The 2018 DeMarini CF Zen CBZ 2 3/4" -10 model bat, 28", 29" and 30" will be disallowed for play immediately. The 28" bat at has been placed on the USSSA Disallowed List. While the 29" and 30" bats have been provisionally placed to the USSSA Disallowed List, subject to further consideration. Based on this testing, the entire 2018 DeMarini CF Zen CBZ 2 3/4" -10 model bat is currently disallowed for USSSA Play

Further, as a result of the Easton Ghost X, 30" -10 USA Baseball bat (LL18GHX 30/20 Japan model & YBB18GX10 30/20) being decertified by USA Baseball, USSSA has disallowed those bats. Those bats are therefore not permitted in USSSA Play effective immediately.

GAME TIME

Tournament staff will make their best effort to start all games at the published starting times. The umpire will convene a meeting of team managers 5 minutes prior to the game. Prior to the game's first pitch, the umpire shall announce the game starting time. If either team is not ready to play at game starting time, the game shall be declared a forfeit. A forfeited game shall be recorded as a 7 to 0 score.

HOME AND AWAY

The Home team has been pre-determined for this tournament for pool play games, see schedule. During the elimination games, the higher seed will automatically be deemed the home team. Home team will occupy the 3rd base dugout. If a team plays back-to-back games on the same field, they may stay in the same dugout in the 2nd game if both coaches agree.

INFIELD PRACTICE and WARM UP

There will be no taking of infield practice before the games so that we can keep the games moving given time constraints. Please note that at **NO TIME during the tournament shall teams warm up on the Soccer fields located next to Field 1 for 11U-12U. Please be considerate of their complex and our neighbors.**

SCOREKEEPING AND SCORE CARDS

All teams must provide the names and contact numbers for their respective scorekeepers at check-in. Home team will provide the official scorekeeper. There will be an Official scorebook for each field provided by Ramona. Teams shall provide their own scorebooks if they choose to utilize two books, but only the official field book will be used for pitching and game protests.

Official score cards for each game shall be provided by the tournament. Prior to each game, both teams must record their starting lineups and any substitutes. The official scorecard for the game shall be held by the umpire, and shall be used to record substitutions, the official game score, and innings pitched for each pitcher. **At the conclusion of each game, the scorecard must be signed off by both team managers as well as the umpire,** and the umpire will return it to the tournament info booth as the official record of the game.

TOURNAMENT PLAY

The tournament format in each Division will consist of two pool play games followed by single elimination games, culminating in a championship game in each Division. Schedules will be listed on www.tourneymachine.com as well as at the info booth. All teams will play at least three (3) games.

6U -- 8U: The entire roster of players present for the game shall bat in rotation. (see RBI 6U Tournament Rules)

9U -- 14U: Teams may elect to bat 9 players and/or bat 10 players with the 10th player being an EH. The EH is considered a defensive player and may switch in and out defensively. Teams may also bat their entire roster. If a team bats their full roster or has no subs when a starter is injured, then an out is recorded the 1st time the injured players spot comes up. The roster will then be condensed and no additional outs will be recorded for the injured player. Once the player is removed due to injury, he may not return to that game. Teams may play with 8 players with an out being taken for each time the 9th spot comes up. A 9th player may be added any time during the game. Courtesy runners will be allowed for the pitcher or catcher with 2 outs. The courtesy runners will be the last out. A courtesy runner may only run one time per inning.

SUBSTITUTIONS

6U -- 8U: No player participation rule applies. Free substitution is allowed on defense, including pitching positions. (see RBI 6U Tournament Rules)

9U -- 14U: Any player in the starting line-up who has been removed for a substitute may re-enter the game one time. (NOTE: This rule applies to STARTERS ONLY)

- (1) PLAYERS SHALL RETURN TO THE LINE-UP IN THEIR ORIGINAL PLACE IN THE BATTING ORDER. WHILE MORE THAN ONE SUBSTITUTE MAY BE USED IN THAT POSITION BEFORE THE STARTING PLAYER IS RETURNED, NO SUBSTITUTIONS SHALL BE MADE THAT SHALL ALTER THE ORIGINAL BATTING ROTATION OF ANY OF THE STARTING OR SUBSTITUTE PLAYERS
- (2) ONCE REMOVED FROM THE LINE UP A PITCHER MAY RETURN TO THE LINE-UP BUT SHALL NOT PITCH AGAIN IN THE SAME GAME.

MERCY RULE

The 10 run mercy rule will be in effect in all divisions after the completion of the 4th inning for the 8U – 10U divisions, and after the completion of the 5th inning for 11U – 14U divisions.

PITCHING

6U: Coach operated mechanical, spring-tension powered pitch machine. (see RBI 6U Tournament Rules)

Pitching restrictions for the RBI tournament are as follows:

9U, 10U, 11U, 12U: 6 innings in a day & 9 innings total in the tournament

13U, 14U: 7 innings in a day & 11 innings total in the tournament

Violation of pitching restrictions will result in automatic ejection of offending Manager and Player, for the remainder of the tournament.

GAME TIME LIMITS

POOL PLAY

8U: 1 hour 45 minute DROP DEAD time from the official start time announced by the umpire and recorded by the scorekeeper. There will be NO EXCEPTIONS to this rule.

9U – 14U: 2 hour DROP DEAD time from the official start time announced by the umpire and recorded by the scorekeeper. There will be NO EXCEPTIONS to this rule.

Drop Dead Rule: If time expires before the inning is completed, the game is over immediately (**Drop Dead**) and the score will revert to the last complete inning, unless the home team is up to bat and are ahead in the score or have tied the score.

ELIMINATION GAMES

In elimination games, there will be no new innings after 1 hour 45 minutes from the official start time announced by the umpire and recorded by the scorekeeper, for all divisions. If the game ends in a tie, the California Tie-Breaking rule will be in effect (see below).

CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES

In the championship games, time limits shall not apply and all games shall be played to completion.

GAME TIE BREAKERS

A tournament tie-breaker rule (aka the **California Tie-Breaker**) will be invoked in elimination games that remain tied when any inning starts after the time limit is reached. In this case, for each inning played once the time limit is reached; the batting team shall start the inning by placing the last out in the inning on 2nd base to start. No initial outs will be recorded at the start. This shall be repeated in each half inning until a winner is declared.

GENERAL

It is the base runner's responsibility to avoid contact with the fielder (when fielder is in the act of receiving the ball). Slide or avoid rule is in effect at all times. Intentionally running into a fielder, who is in the act of receiving the ball is grounds for ejection. If an ejection occurs, it is only for the game the ejection occurred in. In addition, when a player ejection occurs, an automatic out will be received when the ejected player's position in the line-up comes up to bat. If in the umpire's opinion, there is GROSS intention to injure a fielder, the umpire MAY permanently eject that player from all remaining games.

To intentionally walk a batter, the coach may inform the umpire and point to first base. No pitches need to be thrown.

No pitcher may not wear a long sleeve white or gray colored shirt, use a white or gray colored glove, or use or wear any article of clothing or equipment as a means of concealing the baseball during his/her delivery.

In the case of adverse weather conditions or game results, the Tournament Director will reserve the right to modify the event format, including changing game schedules, reducing time limits or reducing the number of innings/game, as required to complete the event.

The Tournament Director shall have final decision authority on all tournament questions and disputes.

REFUND POLICY

A \$100 administrative fee will apply for a complete event rainout, or if the tournament organizers are not able to hold the event for any reason.

If a team plays only 1 game, 50% of the entry fee will be refunded. If a team plays 2 or more games, there will be no refund.

SPORTSMANSHIP AND BEHAVIOR

Remember, it's just a game and the players, despite their advancing skills, are still only children.

Tournament play is by nature very exciting. Disputes may arise. Tempers may flare. **The examples set by managers and coaches will be reflected by the players and parents.** You are setting an example for young people so make it a good example!

Violent or offensive displays of temper by managers, coaches, players or spectators will not be tolerated and are punishable by immediate ejection. Managers are RESPONSIBLE for their teams' spectators so please keep them under control. If an unruly fan is ejected and does not leave the area IMMEDIATELY, the MANAGER will be ejected from the game. If the problem escalates, the TEAM will FORFEIT the game.

There will be NO DISPUTING of balls or strikes, safe or out, or other types of judgment calls, which are made by the umpires.

COMPLEX RULES

For the safety of all, NO Alcoholic Beverages, Smoking, Pets/Dogs, Bikes or Scooters are allowed within our Main Complex of Field 1. **Bikes and scooters are NOT allowed!** Dogs are allowed outside of the Complex & at campsites (PLEASE PICK UP AFTER YOUR PET!). COOLERS ARE NOT ALLOWED INSIDE THE COMPLEX, they are allowed outside the main complex. (Exception is water for the players)

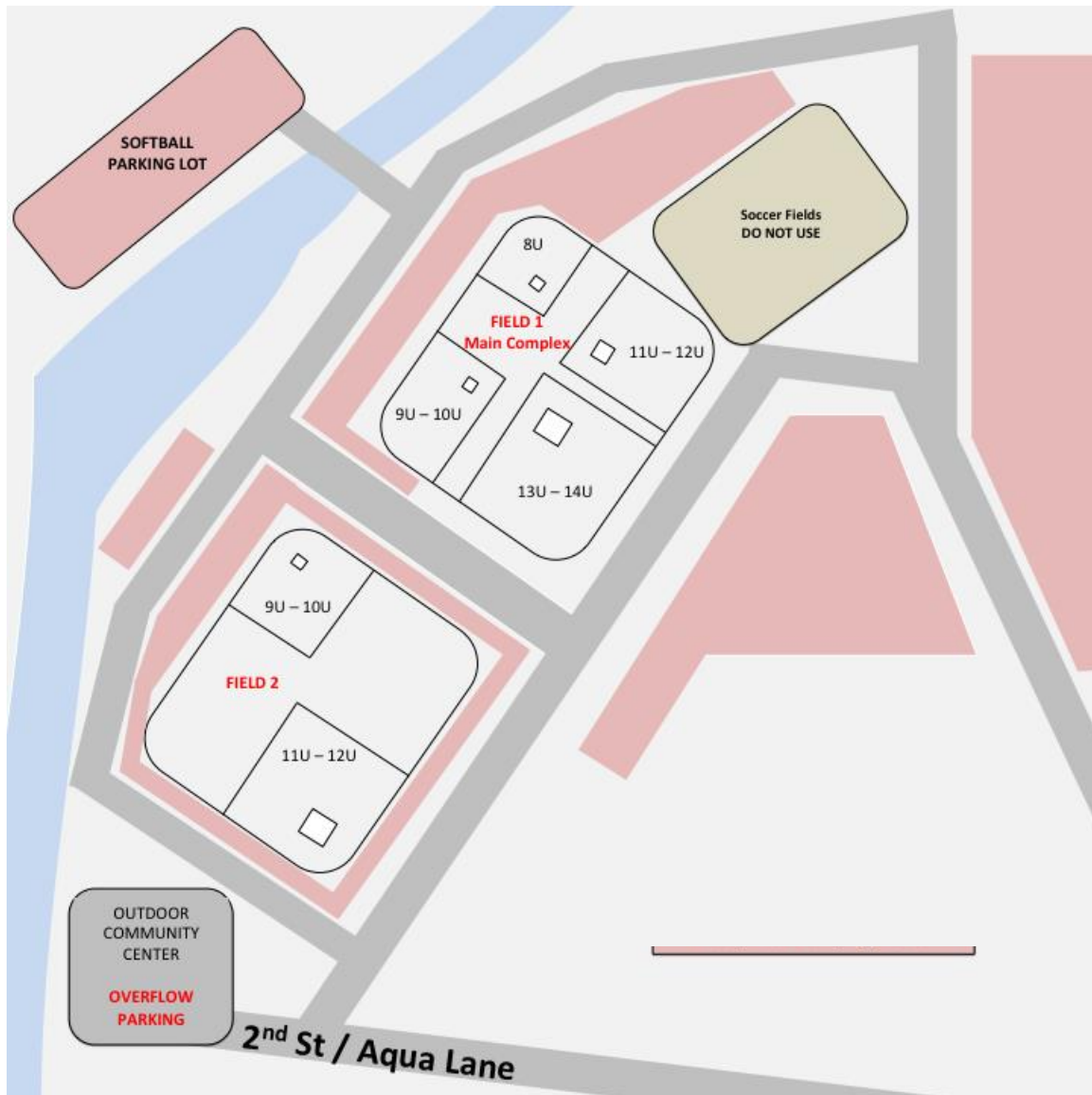
Please be aware that these rules will be strictly enforced.

CAMPING

One of the many amenities available at the annual RBI tournament is RV and trailer camping. Although we have no water, sewer, or electric facilities the camping environment is fun for the whole family. It is \$150/RV for the whole weekend. Go online to reserve a space today:

<http://tshq.bluesombrero.com/Default.aspx?tabid=1405347>

Participants are requested to arrive no earlier than **Friday May 25th between 12:00PM and 8:30PM** and stay through Sunday if possible. We ask this because there are many children riding bikes and running through the facilities and it causes a lot of distraction from the tournament moving large RVs through. We understand that this may not always be possible, but ask that your families try to adhere to this request. **Campers are to enter the facilities using the 2nd Street entrance ONLY, see map below. They will not be allowed to enter at any other location.**



PARKING

Auto parking

will be available within the Complex. **PARKING WILL BE \$5 PER DAY PER CAR.** Please have your families be prepared with cash when they enter the tournament.

Standard parking spaces will be available on a first come first serve basis.

Also, we have many different organizations within Ramona assisting with parking detail during the tournament. PLEASE ask your families to be considerate of those helping with this duty. If there are any questions regarding parking please contact any Ramona Baseball Board Member for more information.

VENDORS

We have a great list of vendors coming to support our tournament this year! Everything from Titanium Necklaces to apparel, Bling and Fair Food.

Our annual Homerun Derby and Moms Homerun Derby will be played Saturday evening. Sign up at the info booth as soon as you can – space is limited!

We will have coaches and parent softball game Sunday evening on the Bronco field.

CONTACT INFORMATION

John Swanson, Tournament Director, Cell: (619) 971-0771 | jaswanson3@gmail.com

Nick Conklin, Asst. Tournament Director, Cell: (858) 864-3560 | nick@diiitransport.com