

***Burlingame Youth Baseball Association  
2019 Invitational Tournament  
12 & Under Tournament Rules***

**Playing Rules:**

*Bat Types:*

- USA approved bats only
  
- Teams must bat a minimum of ten (10) players and field nine (9) defensive players. Coaches are welcome to bat through their entire lineup but it is not required. **If a team has only nine (9) players, the opposing team can choose whether it wants to bat ten (10) or (9) players. If you bat the entire roster and a player leaves the game for any reason (including injury), there will be an out in his spot in the line up.**
- All players can move freely in defensive positions (players not in the batting lineup are allowed to play defense without being reported until they are inserted in the batting lineup).
- Only batting/offensive and pitching changes need to be reported to the official scorekeeper.
- Starters removed from the lineup can re-enter one time in the same spot in the batting order.
- Courtesy runners are allowed for the catcher with two (2) outs. The courtesy runner will be the player who made the last out. Umpires will make sure catchers put on gear immediately upon return to the dugout.
- No minimum play rule.
- Dropped 3<sup>rd</sup> strike is in effect.
- Infield-Fly Rule is in effect.
- One (1) offensive time out allowed per inning for purposes of conferring (coach and player). Penalty is a strike on the batter.
- **Must Slide Rule:** Runners must either slide in the attempt to reach a base or attempt to avoid contact at all bases. This is a judgment call resulting in a no call or penalties of the runner declared out, multiple runners declared out (if another play could have been made) and/or ejection of the runner if considered flagrant.
- Safety squeeze is allowed but not suicide squeeze. No outright stealing of home.
- Pitchers are prohibited from wearing white long sleeves under the uniform.

- Tiebreaker rules. Ties in final standings will be broken using the following criteria, in this order:
  - Won-Loss record
  - Head-to-head
  - Least runs allowed in all games
  - coin toss

### **Length of Games:**

- Games shall be seven (7) innings in duration. Ties are permissible during pool play. During semi-finals and championship games, extra innings will be played until a decision is reached.
- Time limit is 1 hour and 55 minutes for all games. **No new inning will begin after time limit unless game is tied in the semi final and final games.** A new inning begins when the 3<sup>rd</sup> out is recorded in the bottom half of an inning. ***Managers should encourage their teams to get on and off the field quickly so that time is not an issue.***
- Game time starts when the first pitch is thrown. Umpire will notify the official scorekeeper to write the time down in the official scorebook.
- 10 run mercy rule will be in effect after 5 innings for all games (4.5 if home team is winning).

### **Pitching Rules:**

- 12U-14U – ALL Pitches allowed
- Pitching regulations
  - Players are allowed to pitch a maximum of 3 innings per game/ 6 innings per calendar day/ 12 innings per tournament.
  - A pitcher that pitches more than 4 innings in a single day is not eligible to pitch the next day.
  - The pitcher must be changed on the 2<sup>nd</sup> visit to the mound by a coach in an inning. **An official visit occurs when a coach calls timeout or goes onto the field to talk with the pitcher.**
  - Pitchers are allowed a maximum of 5 warm-up pitches between innings. A maximum of 10 warm-up pitches are allowed for relief pitchers.
- Once a pitcher has been removed from pitching, they **cannot** re-enter the game as a pitcher.
- One pitch constitutes an inning.

### **Teams:**

- Minimum of 10, maximum of 15 players per team, unless approved by the tournament director before the start of the tournament.
- Players found to be ineligible will be removed from tournament along with the manager of the team. All games played with an ineligible player will be forfeited.
- No additions to a team's roster after the start of the tournament, unless approved by the tournament director or his delegate.

### **Equipment:**

- Metal spikes are NOT allowed.
- Only players in uniform will be allowed to play. All-Star uniforms (different represented teams from same city) are okay. Duplicate numbers must be reported ahead of time.
- The batter, base runners, on-deck batters, or players coaching bases must wear protective headgear.
- Diamond DOL A Baseball or equivalent will be supplied by B.Y.B.A.
- Any player serving as a catcher to warm up a pitcher must wear a mask.

### **Managers & Coaches:**

- Maximum of 3 coaches plus 1 manager will be allowed for each team in the dugout.
- Only 1 designated coach is allowed to confer with an umpire(s).

### **Protests:**

- No games will be played under protest. The umpires on the field will decide all questions of rule interpretations, with final judgment made by the tournament director or his delegate.

### **Playing Fields:**

- 70 ft. Bases
- Pitching distance: 50 ft
- Ground rules for each game will be discussed before each game.

### **General Conduct:**

- Umpire or tournament directors may eject a player, manager, coach or spectator from a game. Such ejection will result in an automatic one game suspension for player, manager or coach who is ejected. If warranted, the tournament director or delegate may eject a player, manager, coach or a team from all other tournament play/activities.
- No team or individual chants will be allowed. Teams will be warned only once. Second offense will lead to forfeiture. This tournament is for the kids to win or lose based on their athletic abilities and not through “mental games”. Appropriate sportsmanship by the players, coaches and all parents is expected.
- No consumption of any alcoholic beverage allowed within the parks.

### **Insurance:**

- Evidence of medical/liability insurance is to be presented to the tournament/field director no later than 7 days prior to start of the tournament.

### **Other:**

- Home team is determined by coin flip at least one (1) hour prior to game time with tournament official, except semi-final and championship games where the higher seeded team (i.e., lower number) chooses home vs away.
- Home Team gets third base dugout.
- No infield practice before the game is permitted.
- Have team ready to play 15 minutes after completion of previous game. If we can start early or make up time we will.

**Note: All other rules will be governed by the “Official Baseball Rules.”**