

Freedom Sports Baseball 13u-18u Rules

Game time limits:

- A.)** Any team not ready to play at official game time will forfeit the game. No game may start more than thirty minutes prior to its scheduled time, unless arranged by the site director. Teams consist of nine (9) defensive players. A team may start and play the game with eight (8) players, however the ninth (9) player is considered an out each and every time his/her spot comes to bat in the line-up. No team may add a player to their line up once the official score card has been turned in to the umpire in chief. Any errors to the scorecard "MUST" be addressed prior to turning it into the umpire. It becomes an "official game card" once it has been handed to the umpire.
- B.)** Home team will be determined by a coin flip in pool play and higher seeds in bracket play. Coin flips will also be used to determine home team in all championships games.
- A.)** Complete games will consist of six (7) innings or a game time limit of one hour and forty-five minutes (1:45), whichever comes first.
- B.)** Pool play games can end in a tie.
- C.)** Elimination games must be played out until there is winner.
- D.)** In the event that an elimination game is tied after six (7) innings and the allotted time of one hour and fifty minutes (1:50) has expired the "International Tie Breaker" will be put into play. This will put the last out of the previous inning on second base with no outs and play will continue until a team has prevailed
- E.)** All championship games will have no time limit.
- F.)** Official games must consist of four complete innings, unless the home team is ahead going into the bottom of the fourth inning, in which case the home team will not need to bat and the game is official.
- G.)** Should any game be called before it is declared "official" and that same game can not be made up within twenty four hours then said game must be started from the beginning and all stats will have been erased

Protests:

- A.)** All protests must be raised verbally by the offended team manager at the time of play and before the next pitch.
- B.)** A fee of \$75.00 in cash (refunded if protest is upheld) must accompany the protest and be remitted to the plate umpire. Only then will the official game clock be stopped.
- C.)** All protest decisions are final. The umpire, site director and director of umpires shall comprise the protest committee for all rule challenges.
- D.)** Should the protest be upheld, the fee will be returned to the protesting team manager and play will resume.
- E.)** Only decisions involving the misinterpretation or misapplication of a rule may be protested. No protests shall be allowed in situations involving the "judgments of an umpire".

Coaching:

- A.)** The area directly in front of each dugout will be considered the "coaches area". This area will run the length of the dugout and extend five feet out towards the playing field. Each team may have one manager and one coach in this area during the game. (Some fields do not allow buckets on the field so if

your at such a location please respect that parks rules and either stand outside or go into the dugout to sit).

B.) No coach or manager may walk/down the foul line to coach or manage a player(s).

C.) Umpires will have the final "judgment" on awarding or taking away bases should a live ball come into contact with either a coach or any foreign objects that are used in the "coaches area", such as buckets, folding chairs or stools.

D.) Each team may have a total of "four" (4) coaches in their dugout during a game. You may have three coaches and a scorekeeper but not more than four in total.

****Please note that COACHES or PLAYERS may not call "time-out", they may only ask and the umpire at his discretion may call an official time out.**

Ejection Rule:

Any player or coach ejected from any game will have to leave the park and may only return for their next scheduled game. They may not return to that field even after the final out is recorded and the game is official completed. Depending on the nature of the ejection, the Site Director and Director of Umpires may extend the ejection for the next game or suspend them for the remainder of the tournament.

Run Rule:

13U through 18U, seven (7) inning games: eight (10) runs after five (5) innings, ten (12) runs after four (4) innings and fifteen (15) runs after three (3) innings.

Metal Spikes:

Are allowed in any division 13U and over.

Slide Rule:

When a tag play is imminent, the runner must either slide or seek to avoid contact with the fielder or catcher. Runners advancing to a base standing up as to interfere with a throw may be put out for interference and the batter/runner may also be called out.

Malicious or excessive contact: The runner will be called out and ejected from the game. Depending on the severity of the play, he/she may also be suspended for the next game or disqualified from the remainder of the tournament.

Designated Hitter/Extra Hitter Rule:

Any team may use the DH rule for any player in their line-up. (Please see the MLB DH Rule 6.10 for detailed definition of the rule) The "Extra Hitter or Extra Player" rule allows any team to bat ten (10), eleven (11), twelve (12) and so on...., the EH/EP is free to substitute for any of the nine (9) defensive players on the field at any time. The batting order does not change. Any team batting their roster affords them the ability to bat their entire roster and have "free substitutions" on defense. Should a DH/EH be forced to leave the game for any reason and no legal substitutes are available, his/her spot will be an automatic out every time it comes up in the line-up.

Pitching Rule:

For all seven (7) inning games, 13U and under, a pitcher cannot pitch more than thirty (30) outs in a three-day tournament and no more than twenty-one (21) outs in one day. Violation of this rule will result in a team forfeiture of the game being played. Once removed, no pitcher may return to the pitchers position in the same game.

Bat Regulations:

High school bat weight and length differential are waived for all 13 and under divisions with a maximum drop weight of -5 on all bats. Approved bats are those which are clearly marked with the 1.15 BPF or BBCOR. The 14U, 16U and 18U divisions are required to meet all high school bat specifications (BBCOR); wood bats are also approved for play.

Re-entry Rule:

Starters can re-enter only one (1) time in a game. Starters and substitutes are “married” to each other for the re-entry requirements.

Tie Games:

In the event that an elimination game is tied after seven (7) innings or the allotted time of one hour and forty-five minutes (1:50) has expired the “International Tie Breaker” will be put into play. This will put the last out of the previous inning on second base with no outs and play will continue until a team has prevailed

Courtesy Runner Rule:

A courtesy runner may be used for the catcher or pitcher at any time. The courtesy runner must be a substitute not in the batting line-up. If no substitutes are available then the last recorded out will be used. The only exception is in the first inning where no outs have been recorded, in which case no courtesy runner may be used and the catcher/pitcher must run until an out is recorded by the defense.

Intentional Walk rule:

If an intentional walk is called for the pitcher will not have to throw four pitches outside the strike zone. Instead, the team's manager may signal and point the runner to first base. No players can make this call.

*****IMPORTANT NOTE***: any rule or rules not specifically outlined within shall fall under the 2019 MLB rules and guidelines.**