

## 12u Tinley Park Bulldogs – 2020 – July Rules and Information

**Bats:** USSSA 1.15 stamp or USA Certification required – Player will be ejected for the current game and the next game if found to be using an illegal bat. Defense gets to decide whether to take the result of the AB or take the automatic out.

**7 Inning Games:** 12u plays 7 innings

**Pitching:** No limits on innings pitched (coaches are responsible for protecting arms)

**Slaughter:** 15 after 3, 12 after 4, 10 after 5

**Balks:** No Warnings

**Temp Mounds:** NO METAL SPIKES Allowed (only used if secondary fields are used)

**Home and Away:** Coin Flip will decide home and away for each pool game (if teams have not settled into a dugout ....home will take 3b and away 1b side) .....the better seed will take the 3b dugout when bracket play begins and will be considered the home team (the better seed cannot decide to bat first in bracket play)

**Time Limit:** 1:50 min time limit for pool play. NO new inning starts after time expires.

**\*\*NO TIME LIMITS FOR BRACKET PLAY**

Tourney Dir(s) has authority to change time limits if we have weather issues and need to get games in

**Tied Games:** Pool Play games can end in Tie, For Bracket....we will finish the game when we have no time restrictions. (Only If we have bad weather and need to get games in, we may have to use Cali rules) California the start of the 8<sup>th</sup> inning or if game is tied when time expires \* Last Batted Out starts on second base. Batter starts with a 2 ball & 1 strike count. 1 out to start the inning.

**Paperwork: the following is required at check-in.**

- (1) Proof of Team Insurance document. **(We keep a copy of Insurance)**
- (2) Birth Certificate for every rostered player. (Please keep handy for entire tourney)
- (3) Fully completed Team Roster. Roster should be in alphabetical order with jersey number. (NO Additions after check in) **We keep a copy of the roster.**
- (4) Covid Waiver **We keep a copy**

**Check-In:** All required paperwork must be submitted at check-in. You must check-in at least 45 minutes before your first scheduled game. Check-in location will be announced by your age's director. Check in will be at the field you play your first game.

**Rosters:** Teams may carry a minimum roster of 10 eligible players, max 15 players. Once your roster has been submitted 45 minutes prior to your first game, no additions or changes may be made.

**Coaching Staffs:** Teams may have a maximum of 5 adults on the confines of the field and dugout area, regardless of their "function". A maximum of 3 coaches (includes manager) may be outside the dugout during an inning. These coaches must be against the dugout fence and between the dugout openings. Dugouts with gates must have gates closed at all times.

**Tie Breaker:**

1. Win - Loss record
2. Head-to-head games (if no clear-cut winner use #3)
3. Least total runs allowed (all games) during pool play.
4. Greatest total run differential (all games) during pool play.
5. Total Runs Scored (all games) during pool play.

Once a 3 or 4 way tie has been broken we revert back to #1 for the remaining teams.

Game Rules: Playing rules will be applied in the following order:

1. Tourney rules. (supersede...)
2. Rules of Pony Baseball (which supersede)
3. Rules of Major League Baseball

Starting the Game: A team must have 9 players to start a game. If 9 are not ready to play by 15 minutes after the scheduled starting time (by the umpire's watch) a forfeit is declared. The final score shall be 9 - 0.

Equipment: Protective Athletic Cup - ALL players are required to wear them.

Other equipment requirements refer to Pony Baseball Rules. (Note catcher requirements & no jewelry). No buckets are allowed outside the dugouts.

Continuous Batting Order (is mandatory): All players at the game shall be listed in the order and will bat, whether or not they played in the field the prior inning. You must bat a minimum of 9. If, for any reason you lose players which brings your order to less than 9 batters, an out will be declared at that spot in the order for each spot under 9.

Injury: Whenever a batting order has less than 9 batters for any reason, after a game has started, outs are declared for each spot less than 9. When batting more than 9, outs WILL be declared for missing batters in the order unless an obvious injury / illness has occurred.

Defensive Substitutions: Free substitution at any time (note Pony Rule restriction on pitchers). Catcher/Pitcher speed-up Rule: Running for the catcher or pitcher is optional at any time. The last batter making an out prior to the pitcher or catcher reaching base is the designated courtesy runner. The replaced catcher or pitcher must catch/pitch the next inning. If it is the last inning of a game, or an extra inning, the replaced catcher/pitcher must have also caught/pitched the previous inning.

Slide Rule: -Runner is obligated to avoid contact. (*Collisions may occur on a wild throw and if in the judgment of the umpire the runner did not have the opportunity to avoid contact, there is no foul*) *There is simply NEVER an instance where a runner has the right to run over/thru a fielder!*

-No contact no foul. (this is not a "must slide" rule, but...)

-Any contact, even slight, which causes a ball to be dropped because the runner did not slide, results in the runner being called out.

-Slides must be directly into the base.... sliding away to avoid a tag is OK, but sliding into a fielder to break-up the play is illegal.

- Hurdling is illegal.

-Malicious contact is called for rolling slides, leading with a shoulder, elbow, forearm, sliding with spikes at or above the fielder's knee. The runner is out & ejected.

-Interference penalties are enforced on sliding infractions.

-Umpires will be alert for fielder obstruction.

Thrown Equipment: If at a live ball, baseball rules apply. The accidental or intentional throwing of bats or equipment results in a TEAM warning.... meaning the next incident by anyone on the team results in an out & possible ejection. (this does not preclude the umpire from making an immediate ejection for what he deems as serious unsportsmanlike conduct.)

Tourney Directors: If weather or time constraints dictate, we reserve the right to reschedule game days and/or times. Institute game tie breakers, set game time limits, schedule multiple games per day, or institute any other rules necessary to complete the tourney in as timely & equitable manner as possible.

Time constraints may cause cancellation of pre-game infield. Umpires have been instructed to start games promptly. Pitchers should warm-up on the sidelines when waiting for the next game. When a following game is coming please leave your dugouts promptly (please pick up trash) and conduct your post game talk outside the field. All pool play games are 2 hours unless otherwise noted.

The Tourney Director will rule on any rule or situation not specifically covered by these rules, the Rules of Pony or Major League Baseball. His ruling is final.

Decisions Committee: (at least 1 member) will resolve any legal protest.

- 1.** Protest of a rule application must be made BEFORE a pitch is thrown to a next batter after the play in question.
- 2.** Only manager may protest. Manager must state his desire to do so to the home plate umpire.
- 3.** Protests will be resolved at that point, before play continues. Rulings of the Decisions Committee is final and may not be appealed further.
- 4.** Only the applications of a rule may be protested, never umpire judgment (i.e. balls, strikes, safe, out, fair, foul, tag, no tag, etc may not be protested)

Conduct of Players, Managers, Coaches, Fans:

- Applauding fine play by your opponent is definitely encouraged!
- In situations of illegal or ineligible players, the Rules of Pony Baseball apply.
- Unsportsmanlike conduct (abusive language, derogatory activity, excessive arguing, etc) toward umpires, league officials, opponents, players, coaches and fans will not be tolerated.
- Any ejection will be reviewed by the Decision Committee. The review may result in further penalty (additional or multiple game suspensions; or disqualification from the tournament) These penalties may be applied to players, coaching staff or fans. Ejected persons must leave the field and surrounding area Umpires determination). Suspended persons may not return to any premises of the park/complex until the suspension is over.

**\* Ejection Cont.** Any Player, Coach or Fan ejected from a game is NOT allowed to participate in the teams next game.

- The Managers are responsible for the conduct of their players, staff and FANS.
- Only the Manager may speak to an umpire about a rule application.
- Managers must verify that their players are legally equipped by rule.
- Alcoholic beverages are not allowed on park district property.
- Tobacco products are not allowed on the field or in dugout areas.