

2022 11U BATTLE OF THE BATS TOURNAMENT RULES

I. ELIGIBILITY

- A. Any player who has not reached his 12th birthday before May 1, 2022 is eligible to compete in this tournament.
- B. Proof of age, in the form of a photocopied birth certificate, is required of every player and must be made available for review by the tournament director prior to the start of your first game.
- C. Tournament fee is \$475. To guarantee your spot, send payment by Venmo to:
@William-Harner or if paying by check please make out to BMBL and memo line to read 11 U Battle of the Bats
- D. Rosters are limited to fifteen (15) players and must be submitted to the tournament director, or designee, prior to your first game and only players on the roster will be eligible to play.
- E. Each team, prior to the start of the tournament, must provide evidence of Liability Insurance Coverage with BMBL as the Certificate Holder. See below:

**BMBL / Boyertown Community Park
417 Madison St. Boyertown, PA 19512**

II. FORMAT

- A. Each team will be guaranteed a minimum of three (3) games, weather permitting, including two (2) pool play games. After the pool play games (2), teams will be seeded. The lowest seeded teams in each division will play a consolation game followed by the (2) semi-final games and the final championship game.
- B. A game will consist of six (6) innings. No inning may start after 1 hour and 45 minutes from the start of the game. Pool play games may end in a tie. Playoff games cannot end in a tie. Play will continue until a winner is determined using international rules (last out recorded will start at second base with one out) beginning in the seventh (7th) inning. Playoff games, the consolation game and the championship game shall have no time limit.
- C. To determine seedings tiebreakers will be decided as follows:
 - a. Head to Head (2 teams only)
 - b. Runs Allowed
 - c. Run Differential
 - d. Runs Scored
 - e. Coin toss.

** In the event of a three way tie, tiebreakers begin with #2.
- D. Five (5) run max per inning except for the sixth inning which is unlimited. No continuation of play except for a home run hit over the fence in which all runs will count. The sixth inning will end when either the home team takes the lead or three (3) outs are recorded.

- E. A ten (10) run mercy rule will be in effect after four (4) innings or 3 1/2 if the home team is winning. If the visiting team goes up by 10 or more runs after the 4th inning, the home team will still get to bat in the bottom of that inning. The game will continue if the score difference is less than 10 at the end of that inning.
- F. A game will be considered complete after four (4) innings, or 3 1/2 if the home team is leading. Any game suspended for weather before its completion will be continued from the point of stoppage.
- G. In pool play games, the home team will be determined by a coin toss. In playoff games, the home team will be the higher seeded team.

III. GAME PLAY

- A. Games will be played on a field with bases set up at 70' and the mound at 50' from home plate.
- B. Each team will bat its entire line up with free substitutions. A player who must leave the game due to injury or illness will be removed from the line up without penalty. That player may not re-enter the game once removed.
- C. Infield fly rule is in effect.
- D. Dropped 3rd strike is in effect.

IV. PITCHING

- A. Pitchers are allowed three (3) innings per game and nine (9) innings in the tournament. One pitch constitutes an inning pitched.
- B. Once a pitcher is removed he may not return to the same game as a pitcher.

V. BATTING

- A. USA stamped bats only.
- B. Bunting is allowed. A batter may not show bunt and then pull back and swing. Doing so will result in the batter being called out automatically. No warnings.

VI. BASE RUNNING

- A. Runners must slide or avoid contact. Any flagrant contact will result in ejection of the player.
- B. A courtesy runner may be used for the pitcher or catcher with two outs. Runner must be the last batter out.

VII. MISCELLANEOUS

- A. The decision of the umpire is final. No protests will be allowed.
- B. The home team shall be the official scorebook for each game.
- C. A pitching log must be maintained and made available for review by the tournament director upon request.
- D. Rules not covered here shall follow Ripken Baseball rules.
- E. Smoking and alcoholic beverages are not permitted at any BMBL field.
- F. Pets are allowed in the Boyertown Community Park and BMBL fields.