



ALL Star Bulldog Bash Tournament Rules

I. CHECK IN-REQUIREMENTS

1. Prior to the start of the tournament print your roster (name and number) and have available for check in. Make sure to follow your team in Tourney Machine to receive all weather-related announcements – all delays, cancellations and/or rescheduling will come to your Tourney Machine inbox if you follow your team.
2. All managers must do the following: email league Certificate of Insurance to justinviautpyb@yahoo.com prior to the tournament. If you don't, you then must check-in 60 minutes before the start of your first game with the TP Bulldog head coach of your age group with the following information:
 - a. Certificate of Insurance for your league
 - b. Roster with name and number
3. Each Head Coach shall have copies of players birth certificates on hand at every game and shall be prepared to present them to the Tournament Director upon request.

II. CODE OF CONDUCT – MANAGERS, COACHES, FANS, PLAYERS

- Weapons (including but not limited to firearms) and illegal drugs and alcohol are prohibited at all Tinley Park Baseball complexes.
- Use of demeaning, threatening or profane language to or directed at any player, coach, spectator, umpire or staff member is prohibited.
- Umpires are to be treated with respect and professional courtesy.
- Only registered coaches and players are permitted in the dugout and on the field.
- Use of noisemakers in the dugout is prohibited.

TPYB seeks to provide a safe environment for all participants, avoiding physical or verbal harm requiring all teams to demonstrate fair play, sportsmanship, hustle, development above winning, self-control, respect and positive support of all players and opponents. Each team is required to maintain quality and cleanliness of TPYB complex by cleaning up trash, caring for equipment and fixtures and not littering.

Further – TPYB wishes all players, coaches and spectators have fun and enjoy the spirit of the game of baseball – and supports letting the players play, the coaches coach, and the umpires umpire.

Failure to abide by the Rules of the TPYB will result in the indicated penalty. With specific reference to rules regulating code of conduct and on field sportsmanship of players, coaches, and spectators– please clearly note the following:

Players and Managers/Coaches will receive 1 Verbal Warning on conduct in violation of the rules.

If a player is ejected from a game – that player will also be suspended for the following game (including potential Championship Game)

If a Manager/Coach is ejected from a game – that Manager/Coach will also be suspended for the following game (including potential Championship Game.)

Managers are responsible for their fans. After 1 Verbal Warning on conduct in violation of the rules to the Manager of the Team - Any fan that requires removal or is ejected from the field will need to leave the complex for the remainder of the day.

III. ROSTERS AND BIRTHDATES:

Players may only be on 1 team roster for the tournament. Only players listed on the official roster at the start of the tournament may play during the tournament.

Any player on roster must play in at least one pool play game in order to be eligible for bracket play games.

Birthdates for purposes of determining age will use an April 30th cutoff date.

Rosters are limited to 14 players maximum.

Any violation of roster rules will result in forfeit of effected games and a score of 7-0 if needed for seeding purpose.

Teams may start and finish games with eight (8) uniformed and rostered players. If a team plays with eight (8) players, the ninth spot in the batting order is an automatic out. If the ninth uniformed and roster player arrives, that player may be inserted into the ninth spot of the batting order and the automatic out shall stop. If a team has seven (7) or less uniformed and roster players to start a game, or at any point during the game, the game shall be declared a forfeit and scored 7-0 for seeding purposes.

Any Head Coach that would like to formally challenge the eligibility of a player shall make this known to the Tournament Director at least one (1) hour prior to the player's next game. A \$100 CASH challenge fee should be posted at the time of the challenge. The purpose of this fee is to minimize unsubstantiated challenges. Provided this process is followed, the Tournament Director or his/her designee will investigate. If the player is ruled eligible, the \$100 CASH challenge fee will be forfeited. In the instance of an age challenge, if the birth certificate cannot be produced before game time, the player is ineligible to play for that game. If the birth certificate shows the player is over age, the team must forfeit all games the player in question participated in. The forfeit score shall be 7-0 for tiebreaker purposes. If any player eligibility challenge is valid and upheld, the \$100 cash challenge fee shall be returned.

IV. READINESS FOR GAMES:

Please plan to be at your games ready to play **45 minutes** before the start of your game. Games may start early to keep the entire schedule on track.

V. WEATHER RELATED / CANCELLATION POLICY:

1. In the event of lightning delays, ALL individuals should report to their vehicles and stay off the fields until the Umpires In Charge and/or Tournament Director give an all clear to resume normal baseball playing.
2. Once an entry fee is paid for the tournament, no refunds (cash, check, charge) will be given for any reason, unless TPYB cancels the event in advance of the start of the tournament. If a team registers and is unable to participate, please notify the tournament director ASAP via email. There are no gate fees.
3. If the event is cancelled due to inclement weather, field conditions, unforeseen circumstances, etc. TPYB will issue the following refunds within 60 days of this cancellation (refunds will be issued to the issuing agency that original check/credit card was given):
 - a. 0 games – 100% refund
 - b. 1 game – 50% refund
 - c. 2nd games – no refund.

***Pool Play, Bracket Play and Tournament format can be changed at any time due to weather delays in an effort to complete the Championship round.

VI. FIELD LOCATION:

- TPYB Complex 6601 W. 171st St, Tinley Park, IL 60477

VII. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT PARKS:

- Concession Stand will be open
- Spectators will be required to watch games from designated spectator areas (as marked)
- Spectators will be requested to return promptly to spectator areas after visiting the bathroom or the concession stands.
- AED (in the event of an emergency please call 9-1-1 and then find a tournament official)
- There will be NO infield practice before games.
- Teams are allowed to warm-up in the outfield area if the time allows.
- No flip drills allowed into fence.
- All teams should be ready to play 45 minutes prior to the start of their scheduled game.

VIII. CONTACTS:

Tournament Director, Justin Viau

Cell (call/text) 708-310-1179 or email justinviautpyb@yahoo.com

IX. GAME RULES / SPEED UP RULES

1. Teams can elect to bat all rostered players in uniform (unless injured), bat 9, or bat 10 (with an EH). If all rostered players do not bat, then NFHS rules for substitutes will apply. Selection must be made at pregame meeting and once made cannot be changed for that game.
2. Free defensive substitutions are allowed.
3. Courtesy runner for the catcher is allowed at any time. This must be the catcher of record. The courtesy runner must be the last batted out. Running for the catcher is OPTIONAL and NOT mandatory.
4. Courtesy runner for the pitcher is optional at any point. The last batted out will be the runner. This also must be the pitcher of record. Running for the pitcher is OPTIONAL and NOT mandatory.

5. For pool play; Home and Away will be determined by a coin flip. Either team can occupy either dugout.
6. For bracket play; Home team is the higher seed (lower number seed) and will occupy the third base dugout.
7. Any player warming up a pitcher, either on or off the field, must wear a catcher's mask.
8. A forfeit shall result in a 7-0 score for scoring purposes.
9. 3 game balls will be provided to start each game, we will do our best to replenish as needed throughout the game. However, Teams are expected to retrieve foul balls and home run balls.

X. TOURNAMENT FORMAT:

1. 3 game format with 2 pool play games, after which the teams will be seeded in a Bracket. Bracket play will be single elimination. If the tournament is impacted negatively by the weather, the tournament director reserves the right to modify the tournament format (each age group may have a different format for play, however 3 games are always guaranteed).
2. See notes on cancellation above.
3. Official brackets and game times are posted on the tourney machine app.

XI. SEEDING FOR THE ELIMINATION BRACKET WILL BE AS FOLLOWS:

1. Overall record
2. Head-to-Head (only applies when only 2 teams are involved)
3. Runs Allowed – fewest to most
4. Run Differential
5. Runs Scored – most to fewest
6. Coin Toss
7. Tournament director reserves the right to alter bracket play seeding as needed to ensure fair play.

XII. SCORECARDS/GAME RESULT REPORTING

Both teams for each game should texting the final score to the tournament official at 708-310-1179

Example:

8U Division, 10:00 AM game, B1, TP Bulldogs 10 – Montreal Expos 8

For purposes of scoring each game an electronic scoring system such as Game Changer may be used and/or a written score book can be used. Home team will be responsible for the official book. Teams should concur after each inning to reconcile.

Forfeits will be recorded as 7-0 for standings purposes.

XIII. EQUIPMENT

1. Baseball Bats
 - Either USA Bat or USSSA bats are allowed as long as they are properly labeled by either organization.
 - Must be stamped with BPF 1.15 stamp on the handle/Barrel
 - Illegal Bat Penalty for All Ages: It is the responsibility of the Team Manager to ensure bats used by players meet the requirements of the published bat rules. A batter is in violation of the rule when said batter steps into the batter's box with an illegal bat. The bat must be removed from the game.
2. Helmets must cover both ears and be worn while batting and on the base paths.
3. All players must be properly equipped with boy's protective gear.

Pitching/Base Distances

Pitching mounds will be **40** feet for 7u and 8u and **46** feet for 10u. **60-foot** bases will be used for 7u and 8u and 65-foot bases for 10u.

Ground Rules

The umpires and managers of each team will cover ground rules before each game. Home team will be determined by coin toss before the start of each pool play game.

Official game is four innings (or 3 ½ with home team in the lead). Six (6) run per inning maximum for the 7u and 8u with the exception of the 6th inning or the inning which the umpire has determined is the last inning due to time limits.

Mercy rules:

- a. 15 runs after 3 innings
- b. 10 runs after 4 innings
- c. 8 runs after 5 innings

Pool play time limits: No new inning after 1 hr and 45 mins. Games can end in a tie for pool play games only.

Semifinal time limits: No new inning after 1 hour and 45 minutes, current inning will be complete, no ties allowed. California rule will be applied if needed for a tiebreaker after

the no new inning time has passed. **NO TIME LIMIT ON CHAMPIONSHIP/CONSOLATION GAME.**

CALIFORNIA RULE: Inning begins with 1 out, last batter from previous inning on 2nd base, and each batter will come to the plate with 1 ball and 1 strike count to begin their at bat.

All games must be completed by the local curfew. No inning shall begin unless in the judgment of the umpire and tournament officials, the entire inning can be completed within the local **curfew rules (10:00pm)**. If a game is stopped before becoming official for any reason (curfew, weather, power failure, etc.) it will be suspended and picked up from that point. The game will be rescheduled by the Tournament Director ASAP.

Dropped third strike does *not* apply. No balks will be called.

Base running: No lead offs are permitted. Ball must cross the plate before the runner can steal or take secondary lead. One warning will be given per team, after the warning the runner will be called out. Stealing is permitted in the 10U, divisions only. ***No stealing is allowed in the 7 and 8 year old divisions.***

All play will be considered dead when any player in the field has the ball on the mound area (DIRT CIRCLE). If a base runner is more than half way to the next base when the umpire calls the play dead, he may proceed to the next base at his own risk. If the player in the mound area makes a play on the advancing runner prior to the umpire calling the play dead, the ball is live.

“Walk Through” is not allowed. This is defined when a batter receives a walk and then runs to first and continues onto to second with no play being made on him or any other runner. The walked runner may advance if there is an active play on another runner and the ball is NOT secured on the pitcher’s mound.

“Cat & Mouse” is not allowed. This is defined when runners are dancing off a base, daring the pitcher or catcher to throw to the base or run at them. This can go on for a while and does nothing but slow down the game. **While this rule is written for third base, it applies to any base. It is in the umpire’s judgement to determine when a player has begun his retreat to the base.**

For example, when a runner on third begins to move toward home plate:

- 1) A fielder can attempt to get the runner out by throwing the ball to third and the play will continue until the runner retreats to and is safe at third, makes an out, or makes it home safely. Baserunners CAN advance on overthrows in 9u-12u divisions only.
- 2) If the ball is not thrown by a fielder in attempt to get said runner out, once the runner takes a step back toward third base the play is ruled dead. Unless the ball is thrown then the play will be considered live again.
- 3) If the runner is not advancing and the pitcher has the ball on the mound, the play shall be deemed dead and the runner is to return to third base.

Bunting: Permitted in the 10U division only. **Faking a bunt, pulling the bat back and taking ANY swing is NOT ALLOWED and will result in the batter being called out.**

Infield fly rule: Applies in the 10U division only. ***No infield fly will be called in the 7 and 8 year***

old divisions.

California Rule will apply in all pool play games that end regulation tied prior to the time limit (2 hr). The inning will start with 1 out, each batter will come to the plate with a 1-1 count; the last official batter from the previous inning will be put at 2nd Base. Championship games shall play regular innings until a winner is determined.

Pitching

Pitchers are limited to 6 innings every 2 consecutive games throughout the tournament (“rolling 6”). This includes rescheduled games. Examples: A pitcher may pitch 3 innings in every game played during the tournament. The total number of innings pitched over any 2 consecutive games cannot total more than 6 innings. If a pitcher throws all 6 innings in the first game they are not eligible to pitch in the next game. Seven year old pitchers are not allowed to pitch more than 2 innings per game and 10 innings for the tournament. Eight year olds are limited to 3 innings per game and 15 innings for the tournament.

An inning pitched will start with a legal pitch delivered to a batter. Pitchers removed from the game cannot pitch again in that game. A pitcher must be removed on the 2nd visit to the mound by the manager or coach in an inning or the 3rd visit during the game with the same pitcher still on the mound. A manager or coach crossing the field lines constitutes a visit (including during warm-up). A pitcher who hits 3 batters in one game must be removed from the mound.

No pitcher will be allowed to wear a white or gray sleeved shirt, white glove, or a glove with white piping while pitching. In addition no pitcher will be allowed any foreign articles (i.e. sweat bands, tape, batting gloves, etc.) on either arm or hand while pitching. Pitchers are also not permitted to wear sunglasses unless medically prescribed.

XVI. NO CONTACT RULE

- a.) There is a “No Contact” rule in effect at all bases if a play is being made on the runner. This does NOT mean a slide is required.
- b.) The base runner will NOT be ruled out for not sliding, if in the Umpire’s judgment the runner did not intend contact and/or made the effort to avoid the tag and or contact.
- c.) If in the Umpire’s judgment, a base runner intends to injure, makes malicious contact or whose actions are considered to endanger any player on the field, the runner will be called OUT. The umpire may further EJECT the player from the game if the contact was egregious.

XVII. CHANTING RULE

A team can cheer on their teammates, but it must stop when the pitcher comes to a set pitching position.

XIX. GENERAL RULES:

Where not specified under the TPYB Rules will apply.

Umpires decisions will be deemed final subject only to review by the Travel Director and the Tournament Director. Any appeals of umpire decisions must be immediate, and teams would be allowed only 1 such appeal for the tournament.