



MT. LAUREL SUMMER SLAM BASEBALL 2023 Tournament Rules 8U – 12U

For GPS: 1031 Union Mill Road

A. TEAM ROSTER:

- 1) A team will consist of one (1) adult manager, two (2) coaches, one (1) scorekeeper and a maximum of fifteen (15) players. There must be a minimum of nine (9) players present at the start of each game. If, for any reason, the lineup subsequently drops below 9 players (i.e., injury, etc.), an out will be recorded at the vacated position in the batting order.
- 2) No one other than these team members are permitted on the field or in the dugout areas at any time.
- 3) The team final roster must be in hand and available to the Tournament Committee at the start of the tournament. Rosters must include (1) team name, (2) player's name, (3) player's date of birth, (4) player's uniform number, (5) coaches' names, (6) phone numbers, and (7) an E-mail address.
- 4) No changes will be accepted after the start of the tournament.
- 5) A player may not appear on the roster of more than one team.

B. ENTRANCE FEE:

\$575 for 9U-10U; \$650 for 11U-12U.

C. INSURANCE:

- 1) Insurance coverage is the responsibility of the individual teams entered into the tournament. A copy of the insurance policy must be available for inspection.

D. UMPIRES:

- 1) Mt. Laurel Baseball will furnish umpires. One (1) umpire will officiate each 46/60 game. One (1) or more umpires will officiate each 50/70 game.
- 2) Two (2) umpires will officiate all semi-finals and championships.

E. BASEBALLS

Mt. Laurel Baseball will supply all game balls (2 per game). Return home run balls to game. You can give the player the ball after the game. It is each team's responsibility to chase their foul balls. Remember, they do not come back by themselves.

F. GAME LOCATION:

Games will be played at the Laurel Acres complex (Union Mill Road entrance). Address is: 1030 Union Mill Rd, Mt Laurel Township, NJ 08054

G. ELIMINATION:

- 1) Pool play format
- 2) Mt Laurel Baseball reserves the right to place teams (if two or more are entered) in opposing brackets.
- 3) **MLB reserves the right to modify the format should inclement weather cancel games.**
- 4) After 2 pool play games, the top teams in each bracket or pool will be seeded for single elimination playoff rounds or consolation game.

H. HOME TEAM

- 1) The home team will be decided by a coin flip one-half hour prior to the game. Except for the first game played by an MLB team where they will be designated the home team. An MLB Tournament official, umpire, or official scorer will perform the coin flip.
- 2) If only one team is present for the coin flip, that team will elect home or visitor.
- 3) The manager or coach may represent the team at the coin flip.
- 4) Home teams will occupy the first base dugout in playoff rounds.
- 5) Higher seeded team will have choice of home/away for all playoff games including Championship.

I. DEFINITION OF A GAME:

A game will be comprised of six (6) innings unless the following occurs:

- a) A game is terminated and 4 innings have been played (3½ innings if the home team is leading).
- b) **A game is terminated by the game time limit rule which is: a new inning may not begin after 1 hour and 45 minutes from the official start time.** This will be announced and monitored by the game umpire. (Essentially if the first inning lasts one hour and 46 minutes, the game is ended.) The game can end in a tie in the pool play round if the 1 hr 45-minute time limit is reached; if time limit is not reached then a new inning(s) can begin until a winner is determined, time limit is reached, or mercy rule applies. The game can't end in a tie in the semi-finals or final game.

Note- the start of new inning, for the purpose of this 1 hour 45-minute rule, is defined as the last out of the previous inning. Therefore, if the last out of an inning is recorded before the 1 hour 45-minute mark, the next inning is to be played regardless of the fact that the first pitch of the new inning may not be delivered until the 1 hour 46-minute mark.

- c) **Mercy Rule 15 after 3, 10 after 4:** The 10 run rule takes effect if the losing team has batted 4 times and an equal number of times. 15 run rule takes effect if the losing team has batted 3 times.
- d) Games that are "suspended" prior to one of these occurrences due to weather or darkness will be rescheduled and will resume at the point of suspension.
- e) **MLB tournament officials may terminate a game due to conduct that is deemed to be inappropriate. Coaches and Parents will respect an umpires call or decision. Umpires will be instructed to eject coaches or parents, and if deemed necessary, terminate the game. The MLB tournament director or an MLB representative if conduct is deemed inappropriate, reserves the right to remove coaches or parents and terminate a game. I would strongly urge you to pass this along to your parents. I can assure you that there will be a zero-tolerance policy with coaches and parents who do not follow the rules.**
- f) Cal Ripken rules apply if not covered in these rules.
- g) **8U ONLY- runs will be capped at 5 runs per inning and will be unlimited in the declared last inning.**

J. INCLEMENT WEATHER:

1. In the event of inclement weather, MLB officials will notify the manager or coach of cancellation in advance (by E-mail and/or text message), when possible.
- 2) If there is any doubt, assume the game will be played.

K. TEAM EQUIPMENT

- 1) Each team will supply its own equipment.
- 2) The pitcher's glove cannot be white nor have a substantial portion of white. The pitcher's undershirt cannot be white or gray if long sleeves.
- 3) All batters, base runners and catchers must wear protective helmets.
- 4) All bats must display the new USA Bat Logo and meet the standards that went into effect on January 1, 2018. The penalty for using an illegal bat is batter is out (no warning). Second offense will result in another out and coaches' ejection from game. No BBCOR bats.

L. MUSIC, FOOD, DRINKS, ECT.

- 1) Managers, coaches and players may not eat any food in the dugout. Water bottles, 'Powerade', etc., however, are encouraged. Please remember to clean up as you leave the dugout after a game.
2. Managers and coaches may not smoke during the game. No tobacco use of any kind in the dugouts.
3. No music before, during or after any game.

M. CONDUCT:

- 1) No manager or coach may come on the playing field once the game has begun until he has requested time, and permission granted by the umpire.
- 2) Any manager, coach, scorekeeper or parent ejected from any game will be expelled from any remaining games in the tournament. This is not open for discussion.
- 3) Any team or their supporters who initiates, causes or continues to cause any problems will cause that team to be expelled from the tournament without refund of the entrance fee.
- 4) Any team or their supporters shall not cheer or chant while the opposing pitcher is in the act of pitching.
- 5) Any player who throws bats, helmets, gloves or other equipment may be, at the umpire's discretion, ejected from the game.
- 6) The use of profanity will result in the ejection of that manager, coach or player from that game and will require that individual to leave the complex.
- 7) All parents must be in the stands or outside of the playing field. No spectators are allowed in the bullpens.

N. BALKS- 50/70 play only

- 1) One balk warning per pitcher will be issued.

O. INFIELD FLY:

- 1) Is not in effect for 8U – 10U.
- 2) Is in effect for 11U – 12U.

P. BUNTING:

- 1) Is permitted at all levels.
- 2) **There is no slash bunt.** A batter is out for illegal action when the player fakes a bunt and then takes a full swing, thus eliminating a player from fake bunting the ball. **Penalty:** Batter is out, the ball is dead, and no runners may advance.

Q. BATTING:

- 1) **A continuous lineup will be used consisting of every player on that game's roster and present at the game.**
- 2) If a player is injured and is unable to bat, no out will be assessed. However, once that player's turn is skipped in the batting order, he may not return to the game. See rule A.1 if a player is injured and lineup drops below 9 players.
- 3) If you bring 13 players, 13 players' bat.
- 4) Any players who arrive after the start of the game will be added to the bottom of the lineup.

R. DROPPED THIRD STRIKE:

- 1) 46/60 play - The batter is out and cannot run to first.
- 2) 50/70 play – Dropped 3rd strike rule in effect.

S. BASE RUNNING 46/60 play

- 1) Base runners must hold their bag until the ball has passed the plate.
- 2) If a runner leaves early, he does so at his own risk. Umpires will enforce rules in accordance with established regulations (Cal Ripken League).
- 3) **8U ONLY** - Base running rules for 8U only in addition to # 1 and 2 above:
 - a.) Stealing bases is permitted
 - b.) **Stealing at home will be limited to two attempts per inning**
 - c.) There will be not delayed steals, i.e. steal when ball is thrown back to the pitcher and dropped, or as pitcher is walking back to mound after a throw back.

T. BASE RUNNING ALL AGES:

- 1) Runners must either "slide or veer" into 2nd, 3rd, or home if a play is imminent. Failure to do so will result in, at the umpire's discretion, an out call and possible ejection from the game.
- 2) **The courtesy runner rule is in effect for Catcher. Catcher will be replaced by last batted out with 2 outs.**
- 3) No other offensive base runner subs unless an injury occurs to a batter who reaches a base safely and then and is unable to run. The last batted out shall be the runner but the injured player must then sit out the next inning in the field. See Q.2 above if the player is unable to bat for his next turn after this injury. See A.1 above if the lineup subsequently drops below 9 players as a result of this injury.

U. PITCHING/FIELDING:

- 1) **A pitcher may pitch no more than 2 consecutive innings per game 7U – 10U.**
- 2) **A pitcher may pitch no more than 3 consecutive innings per game 11U – 12U.**

- 3) One pitch in an inning is considered an inning pitched.
- 4) On the second trip to the mound in the same inning, the pitcher must be removed.
- 5) Once a pitcher is removed, he cannot return as a pitcher later in that game.
- 6) If an illegal pitcher is used, the game will be forfeited. It is incumbent on the opposing manager to lodge a protest in this case, and the protest must occur prior to the last out of the game.
- 7) Free substitutions are allowed at all positions with the exception of the pitching rule.

V. POOL PLAY RULES:

POOL STANDINGS:

Top seeded TEAMS in each age group and/or pool will advance to single elimination playoffs. Winners will advance to semifinal and eventually to championship rounds.

Tiebreakers (tie in points after pool games), are as follows:

1. Winning percentage, i.e., Team that is 1-0-1 beats a team that goes 1-1-0.
2. Head-to-Head (**ONLY** if tie is between 2 teams. If 3 or more teams are tied, skip to # 3)
3. Runs allowed
4. Total Run differential.
5. Coin toss

W. TROPHIES, TEE SHIRTS & AWARDS:

Each player on a team finishing first and second in their respective age brackets/pools will receive an award.

X. PETS:

No pets. Tell your parents to leave the family dog at home. Coaches, please discuss with your parents to leave the family dog at home. Parents who bring their dog, no matter what size, into the complex will be asked to leave. We have had too many complaints in past years. With the amount of players, kids, and parents in the complex, we do not want to risk any incident.

Y. REFUND POLICY:

*** Refund policy:

Teams that cancel their registration less than 7 days prior to the tournament start date will forfeit their entire entry fee. If no games have been played and the tournament is canceled due to weather/field conditions and cannot be rescheduled, teams will receive a refund of their entry fee minus \$50 administrative fees.

Once the tournament has started, any team that has completed at least one game is not entitled to any refund of their entry fee. Mount Laurel Baseball reserves the right to adjust the tournament format based on weather or other conditions and will

do its best to play the tournament in its entirety, including re-scheduling games to the following Monday or Tuesday.. We do not have control over the weather. There will be no refund of entry fees due to changes in the tournament format.