



2025 BATTLE OF THE FOOTHILLS TOURNAMENT RULES



**** Unless otherwise noted herein, PONY Baseball Rules shall apply ****

I. ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS

1. Players shall be league age or under as of May 1st, unless pre-clearance is requested and approved prior to registration by the Tournament Director.
2. The Tournament Director reserves the right to request a legal document showing proof of all players age. Birth Certificates will be verified against rosters prior to your first game. These documents must be available upon request, and kept with the participating teams at all games.

II. TEAM INFORMATION

1. Team Size: Teams shall consist of a minimum of eight (8) players and a maximum of 15 players. One (1) manager and up to four (4) coaches may occupy the dugout during the game. If any manager/coach is ejected from a game, no additional coach can replace the ejected manager/coach within the dugout. If a team plays with eight (8) players then the last spot in the order will be an out every time up.
2. Line ups: The respective manager shall submit one (1) copy of the line-up for each game to the official score keeper or umpire and opposing team 10 minutes prior to the scheduled starting time of each game.
3. During pool play, the schedule will pre-determine home and visiting teams. The home team will occupy the 3B dugout and the visiting team will occupy the 1B dugout. During elimination play, the team with the higher seed (1 is highest) will be the Home team. Home team provides official scorekeeper or umpire.
4. Nine (9) players shall play the field.

III. PITCHING ELIGIBILITY

1. Any player on the team roster may pitch.
2. Delivery of a single pitch constitutes having pitched an inning.
3. Pitchers once removed from the pitcher position may not return as a pitcher in the same game.
4. A player may pitch a maximum number of innings below:
 - 3 Innings per Game
 - 6 Innings per Tournament
 - 2 Innings is added per game played after the third game
5. An official pitching log form shall be maintained by each team. The log must be signed by the umpire at the conclusion of each game and must be presented to the opposing team or Tournament Official upon request.

Failure to maintain or present on request a pitching log may disqualify the team from the playoff rounds and may result in forfeit.

IV. PLAYING RULES

1. A pitcher must be removed upon the second (2nd) visit to the mound. This rule applies to each pitcher that enters a game.
 2. Time Limits: No new inning after **1hr 45min** (2 hour drop dead time and no drop dead in championship) or 6 Innings.
 - Start an inning, finish that inning
 - CA tiebreaker if game results in a tie during elimination play.
 - Championship games will play 6 full innings, Mercy rule applies.
 3. 6 RUNS per inning for the first 4 innings. 5th inning on is open.
 4. Mercy Rule: (10 Run Mercy Rule) Mercy Rule applies when one team is ahead by 10 or more runs and at least four (4) innings (3 1/2 innings if Home team is ahead) have been played. Mercy Rule applies for all games including championship games.
 5. Batting lineup. Teams may elect to bat 9 players OR bat 10 players with the 10th player being an EH. The EH is considered a defensive position and may switch in and out defensively. Starters may reenter one time only in their original spot in the batting order. **Teams may also bat their entire roster and have free defensive substitutions.** If a team bats the entire roster or has no subs when a player is injured or ejected, then an out is recorded only on the first time the player's spot comes up in the batting order. Used subs are eligible to reenter in this instance only. Once a player is removed due to injury, he may not return.
 6. Courtesy Runners – Courtesy runners will be allowed for the catcher with 2 outs. The courtesy runner will be someone not currently in the game or if the team has no subs, the last out. A courtesy runner may only run one time per inning.
 7. Slide or Avoid. To help avoid the possibility of injury, slide or avoid will be enforced at all bases except 1st base. For plays made at any base except 1st base, where the base runner fails to slide or avoid the fielder, the runner may be called out at the umpire's discretion.
 8. Stealing and lead offs are allowed. Real Baseball Rules.
 9. NO Infield Fly Rule.
 10. Protests. Protests will be handled by the Umpire and Tournament official at the time the incident occurs. All protests will be decided at the field of play prior to resumption of the game, and will be deemed as final.
 11. No harassment by any team or fans will be tolerated. Each manager will be held accountable for the behavior of his team, coaches, spectators as well as himself. Only a single warning will be given by the umpire. If a second incidence occurs, the individual may be removed from the game by the umpire and, if so removed, must vacate the vicinity of the field. Failure to vacate will result in a forfeit. Once ejected from a game, the manager/coach/player will be suspended from the next game.
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12. Intentional walks are awarded by informing the umpire. No pitches need be thrown.

13. No player may be on two rosters. Any team with a player found to have played on multiple teams will forfeit those games in which the illegal player participated.

14. Pitcher Mound Distance & Base Line

- 60' base lines and 46' pitchers' mound

V. TIE BREAKERS

1. Win-Loss Record (tie counts as $\frac{1}{2}$ win, $\frac{1}{2}$ loss) If still tied then:

2. Head to head play (assuming 2way tie – not used if all teams tied did not play each other) If still tied then:

3. Rule Differential

4. Fewest runs allowed

5. Coin flip

VI. ELIMINATION ROUND FORMAT

Teams will be seeded 1-8. All games are single elimination.

VII. PLAYER UNIFORM & EQUIPMENT

1. Each member of competing teams must wear complete uniforms, including hats, jerseys with numbers, pants and socks. All players must be properly equipped.

2. Baseball shoes with metal spikes or cleats are not permitted.

3. Batting helmets must include ear flaps.

4. Catching equipment must consist of a full helmet, face mask, chest protector, cup and shin guards.

5. All 2 1/4" and 2 5/8" barrel bats with a minus factor of (-5, -7, -9, etc.) for USA bats. USA and USSSA bats allowed.

VIII. APPLICATION OF RULES.

Any interpretation, application or changes to these rules will be determined by the Tournament Director. The decision of the Tournament Director will be deemed final.

IX. RAINOUT AND CANCELATION POLICY

1. Rainouts: No games played – 100% refund. 1 game played – 50% refund. 2 games played – no refund. NO REFUNDS FOR CANCELLATIONS.

2. Forfeits and no shows forfeit the team's entire registration fee regardless of number of games played.
