

U12 Division

Game Rules:

- Umpires must be provided by the Home Team.
- Each team must have a minimum of 8 players in order to play the game.
- There is a maximum of 9 players on the field.
- If a team does not have enough players to start a game, coaches may mutually agree to “borrow” players in order to have a game, however, the team borrowing players will treat the game as a forfeit for league standings.
- Teams can finish a game with less than 8 players but there will be an out for any player(s) in the batting order that left the game.
- The batting lineup shall be 10 players. Both teams should have the same number of batters in the lineup with the number dictated by the team with fewer players or a number of batters mutually agreed upon prior to the game.
- Extra players should be subbed in the game so that they play at least 2 innings in the field OR to get at least 1 at bat.
- Subs can be made at any time, but if the original player removed is put back in the line-up, they must re-enter the batting order where they originally started.
- A 9U player can only play 12U in an emergency for a maximum of 2 games. Once they play a third game, they are considered a 12U player and can no longer play 9U.
- Games will consist of 6 innings of play.
- A game is considered official after 4 innings of play (3 ½ if the home team is still ahead after the first half inning).
- No new full inning shall start after 8:00 pm on school nights. New innings can be started after 8:00 pm on non-school nights or as mutually agree upon by each coach and as daylight allows.

- Games can be suspended or called official (even if a tie) prior to the 6th inning, due to weather or darkness at the discretion of the umpire or as mutually agreed upon by the coaches.
- In the event of a thunderstorm, the field will be cleared and play will not resume for 20 minutes. With each new thunder heard, or lightning seen, the 20 minute clock will reset to the beginning.
- In the circumstance that extra innings are able to be played, each inning must be completed. If the inning is not completed, any part of that inning isn't counted and the game will revert back to the previous inning.
- All suspended or make-up games must be coordinated between both head coaches on a mutually agreed upon date and time. If a rain out game is unable to be made up, the game will not be counted in the standings.
- There is no maximum run limit per inning.
- Bats must be labeled "USA BASEBALL". Players found using illegal bats, such as ones labeled 'USSSA', will be considered as an out and all baserunners must return to their bases.
- Mercy Rule:
 - A game will be ended early if a team has a 15-run lead after four (4) complete innings (or 3.5 innings if the home team is ahead).

Uniforms:

- Uniforms consist of matching team shirt, cap and pants. Players should be in uniform for each and every game. When a shirt is unavailable, a shirt of the same color must be worn.
- Defensive players in the field must be wearing a hat while in the field.
- All players must be wearing a batting helmet while on deck and/or while batting.
- All catchers must wear a protective cup and full catcher gear.
- Metal spikes are not permitted.

- Pitchers cannot use a glove with white marking or have any white marking that are not on uniform (i.e. wrist bands, sleeves, headbands).
- Pitchers are not allowed to wear mirrored sunglasses.

Pitching:

- A 12U player may not pitch more than 6 consecutive innings in one game.
- A 12U pitcher can pitch a maximum of 9 innings per week (Week = Sunday - Saturday). The Championship game constitutes a new week.
- Once a player leaves the pitching position, the player may not return to pitch the rest of the game.
- One ball thrown will constitute as one inning pitched towards that player's inning count.
- If a pitcher hits 3 batters in a game, the pitcher must be immediately removed from the pitching position and replaced by another player.

Batting:

- The dropped third strike rule is not in effect.
- Throwing of any equipment will not be tolerated, whether it is intentional or not:
 - If, in the umpire's judgment, the bat was thrown unintentionally, they may give a warning. If the bat is thrown a second time, the batter shall be called out, the ball declared "dead" and all runners will return to the base held at the start of the pitch.
 - If, in the umpire's judgment, the bat was thrown intentionally, he may, without a warning, eject the player from the game. The batter is out, the ball is declared "dead" and all runners will return to the base held at the start of the pitch.
- The "infield fly rule" is in effect at the umpire's discretion.
- Bunting is allowed.

Base Running:

- Play is declared dead when the ball is in the possession of an infielder and the player calls “time” or “time-out” which is then acknowledged by the umpire.
- No leading off.
- No runner may leave a base until the pitched ball is hit.
- No stealing bases.
- In the event that a runner leaves early, the ball will be declared dead and a warning will be issued on the first offense. On the second offense, the ball will be declared dead and the base runner will be called out.
- All base runners must slide feet first into a base when a fielder is in possession of the ball or in the act of making the play. Meaning, the ball is traveling to the fielder and is within a reasonable distance of the fielder. This will be determined by the umpire and their discretion. If a player does not slide and makes contact with the fielder attempting to make the play, the runner can be called out, at the discretion of the umpire.
- A fielder may not block a base, base path, or home plate without possession of the ball. If a fielder impedes a runner’s progress without the ball, the umpire shall call obstruction, and the runner will be awarded the base they would have safely reached in the umpire’s judgment. If obstruction occurs while a play is being made on the runner, the runner is automatically awarded the next base.

Coaches/Conduct:

- Coaches are responsible for the behavior of themselves, their assistant coaches, players, and spectators.
- Unsportsmanlike conduct, including throwing equipment, swearing, yelling, arguing calls, bullying, or making threats, may result in suspension or expulsion from the league.

- Each team is allowed one first base coach and one third base coach while batting. Coaches must remain in the dugout when their team is on defense.
- Coaches may not argue or debate judgment calls made by the umpire (e.g., balls, strikes, fair/foul calls).
- If a coach seeks clarification on a call, they must first request time and then approach the umpire in a professional manner. The umpire's decision is final.