

Official Baseball Tournament Rules

(Modified February 17, 2010)

Any rule not covered will convert to
American League Major League Rule Book.

Time Limit: We have a 2 Hour time limit (unless altered by weather) on all games except the Championship Game during weekend tournaments. No new inning may start after two hours; for the purpose of determining if a new inning may start, the time is determined at the time of the last out in the bottom of the inning. All games should stop in the bottom of the inning if the Home Team is winning when the time runs out, meaning that the visiting team will not be able to bat. In the event that for some reason (umpire is unaware of score or time) play continues, all runs added to the score will count.

Age Field & Inning Determinations:

Age	Mound	Bases	Bat	Innings
10	46'	60'	No Restriction	6
11	50'	70'	No Restriction	6
12	50'	70'	No Restriction	6
13	60' 6"	90'	No Restriction	7
14	60' 6"	90'	No Restriction	7
15U	60' 6"	90'	Minus 3 oz or less	7
18U	60' 6"	90'	Minus 3 oz or less	7

Mercy Rule: Regardless of age, 15 run after 3 innings, 10 runs after 4 innings and 8 runs after 5 innings. Home team does not bat if ahead by Mercy. Home team will bat if visiting team goes ahead in top of Mercy inning.

Dugout: All dugout selection is based upon a first come first serve basis; any disputes will be determined by tournament director.

Official Roster: All team rosters are weekend to weekend rosters and may be changed from week to week at the discretion of the organization. Once a team has started a tournament, players may be added to their roster provided the player is of legal age (Legal Age is based on age as of April 30th) and has not played for another team of the same age bracket during said tournament. **PENALTY:** An ineligible player, due to roster rules, shall be removed from the game at the time of notification. There will be **NO FORFEITS** because of an ineligible player. A sub may replace the ineligible player if one is available, otherwise an automatic out will take place in the same manner as an injured player. No new players can be added to the roster once Pool Play has been completed.

Age Determination: In determining the appropriate age for a player, the easiest way is to determine the age of the player on April 30 of the year that he/she is playing. The age of the player on April 30 is the age of the player for that year.

Start of Game: FSTB determines the Home & Visiting team for Pool Play. Top Seed will be the Home Team for all seeded and elimination games.

Determining Starting Line-up: We want to let the Coach play as many players as he/she wants. The only information needed regarding a "Starting Lineup" is the number of batters. We do not care who plays in the field.

Offensive: Team may bat 9 players, the entire lineup or in-between. Once the number of batters is determined, it must remain for the entire game. An injury or ejection may result in an out if a substitute is not available. A substitute is anyone not placed in the batting order. Once a substitution bats or runs for a player, the sub and the original starter are locked into that batting position and either one may bat or run in that position **ONLY**.

Defensive: Any player on the roster may play in any defensive position at any time, regardless of being in the batting order.

Example: A team may have 18 players: Bat 9 of them and play the other 9 in the field. No one player in a game can assume more than one offensive position.

Pitching Restrictions: NONE (coaches discretion) 2nd visit to the mound per inning will result in removal of pitcher. Once a pitcher is removed from the mound, they may not re-enter and pitch. The pitcher that was removed may go directly to another position or re-enter the game at any position except as a pitcher.

Balks: Dead Ball - No Warnings (12U & under will receive 1 warning per pitcher per game)

Cleat Restrictions:

- 10U -12U divisions: Rubber Cleats only
- 13U and over: No restrictions

Designated Hitter: NONE, Offensive rule takes care of Designated Hitter.

Courtesy Runner: A Courtesy Runner can be used for the Pitcher & Catcher at any time.

Avoid Contact Rule: Normally referred to as Must Slide Rule; a runner must Avoid Contact on all close plays. A player may not run over anyone at any time or place on the field. (Umpires discretion)

Head First Slide: Permitted at all bases.

Intentional Walk: In an effort to waste less time, a hitter will be granted first base if the defensive team lets the Home Plate Umpire know that it is their desire to intentionally walk the batter. The pitcher doesn't need to throw 4 pitches.

Official Game: All Pool Play games played at an FSTB Tournament are Official at the end of 1 complete inning (same rules as if it were a 4-inning complete game) regardless of age or reason for the stoppage (weather, darkness, etc) This ruling is in place due to weather or darkness and to determine standings for Single-Elimination. All Single-Elimination games including Championship are complete after 3 innings. Umpires and Tournament Director will have final say on early terminated games.

Protests: No protest will be allowed for judgment calls. Protests will be allowed for rules only and must be decided before restart of play. A \$100.00 payment must accompany protest and will be returned if protest is upheld. A Protest is only "Official" if accompanied with a \$100.00 fee and done before the next pitch. This same fee will apply for protests of age and Birth Certificates; the BURDEN OF PROOF will lie with the protesting coach.

Elimination Games Ending in a Tie: If an elimination game ends in a tie after 6 or 7 innings respectfully, International Rules will apply. The next inning will start with the visiting team leading off with the last batted out of the previous inning on second base with one out. The batting order remains the same and follows the last completed inning.

Weather Refund Policy: If one or no games are played, each team will be given a full credit to a future FSTB tournament. This credit will be good for 1 year from the cancelled tournament date. If you start or play 2 games there will be no refund or credit.

SEEDING- Seeding criteria is as follows:

If your team plays everybody in your bracket during pool play.

1. Head To head
2. Record
3. Runs Allowed
4. Runs Scored
5. Coin Toss

If your team does not play everyone in your bracket during pool play.

1. Record
2. Runs Allowed
3. Runs Scored
4. Coin Toss