

Tournament Rules

Presented by
Bigler Sports
(Updated 5/4/2017)

1. Player Eligibility & Team Rosters

Cut off date for eligibility is May 1. Team rosters will consist of no more than 14 players. 14 awards will be given out for 1st and 2nd place). High school teams may have up to 20 players. A team found using an ineligible player will forfeit all the games the ineligible player played in. A forfeit score of 6-0 will be posted for all forfeits. Coaches do not need to turn in birth certificates, but will have them in their possession during the tournament.

2. Game Length and Points Earned

Games are six innings or one hour and 45 minutes- whichever occurs first. In the high school JV and Varsity divisions, games are seven innings or two hours – whichever occurs first. The next inning starts at the moment the last out from the previous inning is made. If the score is tied after regulation, the Bigler tiebreaker system goes into effect immediately regardless of the time limit. The last recorded out from the previous inning will be placed on 2nd base and each team will bat. If, after one inning the score is still tied, the game will be declared a tie. Home plate umpire will keep official time. If a team is behind by 10 runs or more after 4 innings, the game is over. This includes all playoff and championship games. There is no time limit for the championship game.

3. Fields

The U13, U14, high school JV and Varsity divisions will play on high school size diamonds, 60' 6" pitching distance & 90' bases (60'6/90). The U9 division will play on a 46/60. U10 will play on a 46/65. U11 & U12 will play on a 50/70 bases.

4. Courtesy Runners

A courtesy runner may be used at anytime for the pitcher and catcher. A courtesy runner must be used for the catcher when there are two outs. The courtesy runner should be someone who is not currently in the game. If a team is batting the entire lineup the last recorded out must be used.

5. Players

Nine players are allowed on the field at one time. The extra hitter (EH) is optional. If a team starts with an EH, they must end with an EH. Re-entry of a starter is allowed, but they must return to their original spot in the batting order. A team may bat their entire roster at the coach's option. Those players batting but not playing a defensive position may be substituted into a defensive position. If a player is unable to bat using this method, he is automatically out the first time his time at bat comes up. After that he is out of the game.

6. Pitchers

In the U13, U12, U11, U10, & U9 divisions, pitchers are limited to pitching three innings per game. One pitch to a batter constitutes as one inning pitched. Once a pitcher is removed from the game as a pitcher, he cannot return as a pitcher. If a pitcher pitches more than three innings the team will forfeit the game. Opposing coaches will monitor the number of innings each pitcher has recorded.

In the U14 division there is no limit to innings pitched.

Intentionally walking a batter can be done by telling the home plate umpire.

The dropped third strike rule will be used in all divisions except U9.

Balks will be called in all divisions except U9. One warning per game will be given in the U10, U11 and U12 year old divisions. No warning will be given in the U13 and U14 old divisions.

The infield fly rule is in effect in all age groups.

7. Base Running and Stealing

Leadoffs are allowed in all divisions except U9. In the U9 division the base runner cannot leave until the ball crosses the plate. If he leaves early he is out.

Malicious contact: If an umpire believes that a player initiates malicious contact then that player will be ejected for the remainder of the game and will be suspended for the next game. Intentional contact should be avoided. Runners should either slide or avoid contact at all times. The difference between incidental contact and intentional contact is decided by the judgment of the umpires.

8. Equipment

No metal spikes are allowed in the U9, U10, U11 and U12 divisions. Metal spikes are allowed in the U13 & U14 divisions. NOCSAE approved helmets must be worn by all batter and base runners at all times. If a team uses a batboy, the batboy must wear NOCSAE helmet as well. All catchers must wear a NOCSAE approved mask at all times. Any player warming up a pitcher and takes the position of the catcher, the player must wear a NOCSAE approved mask.

9. Bats

In all divisions, batters may use wood or metal bats.

In the U14 division, no bat length will be longer than 34 inches. There is no specific weight to length ratio limit. A batter may use a composite bat if the barrel is a BBCOR and no larger than 2 5/8 in diameter.

In the U13 division, no bat length will be longer than 34 inches. There is no specific weight to length ratio limit. A batter may use a composite bat if the barrel is a BBCOR and no larger than 2 5/8 in diameter and must have a standard of BPF standard of 1.15.

In the U9, U10, U11 and U12 divisions, no bat length will be longer than 33 inches. There is no specific weight to length ratio limit. The barrel size may be 2 1/4 or 2 5/8 as long it meets the BPF standard of 1.15.

10. Sportsmanship

Players, coaches and spectators are expected to demonstrate a positive attitude. Remember, this is a game for the players. Harassing opponents/umpires will not be tolerated at all. Cheer for their good plays just as you do for your own children!

11. Miscellaneous

No infield practice will be allowed in between games. Soft toss against any fence is prohibited at anytime.

All protestable plays must be resolved before the next pitch is thrown or before the umpires leave the field for a contested play that ends the game. Notify the tournament director or a tournament official immediately.

All fields are neutral. A coin toss will determine the home team except during a playoff scenario with the seeded of the teams. In that case the highest seeded team gets their choice of home or away.

Tie Breakers – The overriding tiebreaker is head to head. If one team has beaten ALL the teams they are tied with they win the tiebreaker. Otherwise it goes to the next tiebreaker scenario.

In the event of foul weather, the tournament director(s) or field administrator(s) reserve the right to shorten the tournament. Factors such as field conditions, lightning, team travel, neighborhood restrictions, pending weather reports or other circumstances unforeseeable at the time of this writing may be taken into consideration.

NO REFUNDS. In the event the tournament is shortened due to acts beyond Bigler Sports control, there will be no refunds. However, should the tournament not reach a point in which a champion can be determined by (1) head to head competition, (2) overall record/points system or by (3) a coin toss – a partial refund will be provided after expenses.

Bigler Sports and any and all affiliates to this tournament are not responsible for injuries occurring during the tournament. Participating teams and players must provide their own insurance coverage.