



TOURNAMENT RULES AND INFORMATION FOR ALL AGE GROUPS, 2012

1. All players, except two, on a team must be from the same baseball organization, community and school district. If you are a Federation team, you will need to meet the above-mentioned criteria and must send verification that your players meet the criteria. No new exceptions will be given. No pick up teams are allowed.
2. Players must not reach the next higher age prior to **May 1, 2012**.
3. Team roster must be turned in prior to your first game. **Copies of birth certificates must be available for review at the time of registration.** No exceptions will be allowed. The roster sheet must be filled in completely.
4. A roster will consist of a maximum of 14 players and a minimum of 10 players per team for age 10 and 9 players per team for ages 11 and up. All players on the roster must bat, unless injured, and not listed on the lineup card.
5. Each player must bat in order as listed on the lineup card. An out will be accessed for each player less than 10 (9 players 11 year old and up) players when the lineup position is due up. If a player is injured causing the roster to go below 10 (9 players 11 year old and up) players, the team will not be penalized during the remainder of that game. However, the team must have 10 (9 players 11 year old and up) players the next game or take an out for the player. The discretion of injured player not having to take an out will be determined by the umpires and/or the tournament directors.
6. Free defensive substitution will be used. Teams may put a player in or out any inning except for pitchers. All players must play a minimum of two innings in the field (six outs). If a game is called short because of a mercy rule, the two inning minimum rule will not be enforced.
7. Pitchers may pitch 3 innings per game. Once a pitcher is removed from pitching, he may not pitch in that game again. One pitch constitutes having pitched a complete inning.
8. All games will consist of 6 innings, with a time limit*(see note). No new inning can start after time limit, unless the score tied. The international tiebreaker rule will be in affect if the score is tied after 6 innings or the time limit. If weather problems occur, the Tournament Committee may elect to shorten the maximum length of the games. There will be no time limit for the championship games. (*Time limit is 1 hour and 45 minutes for two hour game schedules. Time limit is 1 hour and 30 minutes for 1 hour and 45 minute game schedules.)
9. Unless exceptions are noted, games will be played according to the official 2008 Michigan High School Baseball Rules.
10. A courtesy runner can be used for the pitcher and catcher. The runner will be the last available out.
11. There will be a 10 run mercy rule after four innings. The mercy run will be in effect for the championship game.

12. On contested plays at second, third, or home all runners will slide or be ruled out. There will be no barreling or fake tagging. Violators will be ejected from the game. It will be the discretion of the umpires and tournament directors on further game suspensions.
13. If a player is injured while on base, the player who was the last available out may replace him.
14. No metal spikes ages 10u thru 12u. All players must wear shirts with numbers on the back of the shirt for identification purposes.
15. Umpires have complete control of the game. Tournament officials will settle protests immediately.
16. **Any player, coach, fan or parent not displaying proper sportsmanship and conduct may be asked to leave the game site for the good of the game.** Any player or coach ejected from the game will also be suspended for his team's next scheduled tournament games. No player or coach shall use and form of tobacco or alcohol on the playing field. No foul language will be allowed. It will be the discretion of the umpires and tournament directors on further game suspensions.
17. Infield practice will be allowed only if time allows. This will be the tournament committee's and umpire's decision.
18. No live hitting practice is allowed.
19. Home team will be determined by a flip of a coin. (Exception is 14 year old age group) Home team will sit on the third base side and is responsible for the official scorebook unless teams agree otherwise. **Each team will sign an official scorecard after each game.**
20. Individual trophies will be given to the first and second place teams.
21. All game balls will be supplied by the tournament.
22. No refunds or guarantees if tournament is rained out or shortened.

TIE BREAKER RULES

If there is a round robin record tie between teams, the following tiebreakers will be used in this order:

- 1) Head to head competition
- 2) Run differential in each game played (No differential greater than 10 runs)
- 3) Fewest runs allowed
- 4) Most runs scored
- 5) Sudden death playoff

Note: If three teams are tied and the teams involved beat each other, tie breaker number 1 is eliminated. Tiebreaker Number 2 is then put into effect. If two teams tie in the run differential, it goes back to head to head competition.

Example:

Three teams have 2 wins and 1 loss record and beat each other. Team A has a plus run differential of (+5), Team B (+6), and Team C (+7). Team C would be awarded 1st place, Team B 2nd place and Team A 3rd place.

SPECIFIC AGE GROUP RULES

10 YEAR OLD AGE GROUP

- 1) Base distance will be 60 feet
- 2) Pitching distance will be 44 feet
- 3) No leading off until ball crosses home plate. No leading off from the base is allowed. Runner will be called out if leading off.
- 4) No stealing until the ball crosses home plate.
- 5) Batter is out on a dropped third strike.
- 6) No balks will be called.
- 7) No infield fly rule will be called.
- 8) Ten defensive players, which shall consist of four outfielders on the outfield grass.
- 9) Bunting is allowed
- 10) No bat drop rule

12 YEAR OLD AGE GROUP

- 1) Base distance will be 70 feet.
- 2) Pitching distance will be 48 feet.
- 3) Runners may lead off.
- 4) Batter may run on a dropped third strike.
- 5) Stealing of home will be allowed.
- 6) Balks will be called.
- 7) Infield fly rule will be in effect.
- 8) Nine defensive players.
- 9) No bat drop rule