



TOURNAMENT RULES COACHES

- Playing rules will follow this document, 2008/2009 Nations Bylaws, and 2009 National Federation of State High School (NFHS). For conflicting rules the priority is:
 1. This Document
 2. Nations Baseball National Bylaws
 3. NFHS
- A tournament director or coordinator is permitted to manage or coach a team in this tournament.
- A regulation game will last 6 innings for 9U, 10U, 11U and 12U and 7 innings for 13U and 14U. During pool play games, no new inning will begin 2 hours after the game start time (2 hours and 15 minutes for 13U and 14U games) Umpires for each specific game will make this determination. A pool play game can end in a tie as a result of the time limit. There is no time limit on bracket play games.
- A flip of a coin between the umpire(s) and a manager (or coach) from each team will determine home team for all pool play games. The higher seeded team will be the home team during bracket play games.
- Home team is responsible for official scorebook. Home scorekeeper will confirm scores in his book with home plate umpire after each ½ inning.
- After each game, the manager or coach **MUST** meet with the home plate umpire to review and sign the game summary card. This card will represent the game's official scoring and pitching records. Manager or Coach's failure to sign the game summary card prior to umpires leaving the field will result in his/her team relinquishing its ability to challenge that game's official scoring or pitching records and could result in forfeiture of that game.
- NO INFIELD WARMUPS ON THE INFIELD!!!
- Players, including pitchers, must be warmed up and prepared to play at game time.
- Mercy Rule:
 - 9 & under, 10 & under, 11 & under, and 12 & under:
 - 15 runs after 3 innings (game is over after trailing team bats in 3rd inning)
 - 8 runs after 4 innings (game is over after trailing team bats in 4th inning)
 - 8 runs after 5 innings (game is over after trailing team bats in 5th inning)
 - 13 & under and 14 & under:
 - 15 runs after 3 innings (game is over after trailing team bats in 3rd inning)
 - 12 runs after 4 innings (game is over after trailing team bats in 4th inning)
 - 8 runs after 5 innings (game is over after trailing team bats in 5th inning)
 - 8 runs after 6 innings (game is over after trailing team bats in 6th inning)

- You are allowed to use an extra hitter in the lineup. This must be declared prior to the start of the game. The EH can be inserted freely into the field.
- You are not allowed to use a DH.
- You can roster bat with your lineup and substitute players into the field freely. This must be declared prior to the start of the game.
- At any time, a team at bat may use a courtesy runner for the current pitcher or catcher. The courtesy runner must be a player not presently in the lineup and may appear as an offensive player one time per inning. For example, if you only have 10 players and they are all in the lineup (one being used as an EH), then you cannot have a courtesy runner.
- Balks: One warning per team per game for age divisions 9U, 10U, 11U and 12U. There will be no balk warnings for the 13U and 14U age divisions.
- The home plate umpire will resolve all protests. The umpire may contact tournament officials, but the umpire makes final rulings. No further protests are permitted.
- The official score of a forfeited game is 8 - 0.
- Runners must slide or seek to avoid contact with fielder. If runner does not slide and contact occurs, the runner will be declared out and may be ejected from the game.
- A player, coach, or fan will be ejected from the game and team's following game for foul language, abusive behavior, and intentionally throwing equipment. A player unintentionally throwing a bat will incur a team bench warning. Subsequent unintentional bat throwing will result in the offending player being ejected from the game.
- Age cutoff date is May 1st. If requested by tournament officials, coaches must be prepared to present birth certificates for all his/her players. Failure to do so upon request of the tournament coordinator could result in game forfeiture.
- Weather shortened tournament - refund policy
 - Two Games played: tournament will refund a minimum of \$100
 - No Games played: tournament will refund a minimum of \$275

