

2009 SHETLAND DIVISION
TECOLOTE YOUTH BASEBALL
LOCAL RULES
January 6, 2009

TECOLOTE YOUTH BASEBALL, INC
PINTO DIVISION LOCAL PLAYING RULES

Revised 10/30/2007

1. TEAM SELECTION

1.1 Shetland teams do not participate in a draft. The player agent and the division representative will select and appoint players teams, taking into consideration the following criteria:

- (a) school;
- (b) home address;
- (c) experience; and,
- (d) parent/guardian requests.

1.2 The maximum number of teams in the division is ten.

2. RULES

Official baseball rules shall apply the exception of the following:

2.1 **COMMON RULES APPLYING TO BOTH FIRST AND SECOND HALF OF THE SEASON:**

- (A) No leading off or stealing of bases permitted.
- (B) Game time limitation--no inning may start after 2 hours of play has elapsed; but if an inning has begun, it must be completed entirely. Any game exceeding the time limitation of 2 hours will be considered complete, regardless of the number of innings completed.
- (C) Outfield players must remain on the outfield grass until the ball is put into play.
- (D) A team may field up to 6 infielders. The 1st baseman, 2nd baseman, shortstop, and 3rd baseman must remain at a reasonable position, not more than 3 feet in front of the baseline, until the ball is put into play.
- (E) The pitcher shall remain in contact with the pitching plate until the ball is hit by the batter.
- (F) The ball may not be touched by a defensive player until it crosses the line defined in rule 2.2 (D). If the ball is touched in violation of the foregoing, a "dead ball" is declared and the batter is still up.
- (G) no score shall be kept.

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2.2. SHETLAND SEASON RULES

- (A) Length of game is 3 innings. Subject to the time limitation in rule 2.1(b).
- (B) Everyone plays. Extra players are to be used in the outfield. Outfielders may not enter the dirt portion of the infield until after the ball has been hit.
- (C) All players bat each inning.
- (D) Batters will hit the ball off of a tee:
 - (1) The tee is to be positioned behind home plate.
 - (2) A ball hit off the tee will be considered foul if it does not pass a straight line connecting 2 points--one being on the first base line, 12 feet from home plate, the other being on the third base line, also 12 feet from home plate.
- (E) Overthrows: once an overthrow into four or fair territory has been committed in an attempt to throw a runner out at any base, the runners shall be allowed to advance to the next base on their own, at the risk of being put out and are limited to that one additional base, regardless of how many overthrows are committed in an attempt to throw the runner out.
- (F) Stopping play after a ball has been hit: play shall be stopped when the ball has been thrown towards the catcher and the ball passes over the white chalk line described in rule 2.2(d) and its extension to the limits of the playing field. Runners shall be allowed to go to the base they are running toward, provided they have passed the half way point between the bases when the ball has reached the line; otherwise they must return to the base from which they were running.
- (G) Last batter: When the last batter comes up to bat in each half inning, the manager shall inform the home plate umpire that this is the last batter. The umpire will then announce "that this is the last batter." After the ball is hit, play will be considered live until the catcher touches home plate with the ball in his/her possession.

Exception (1): If the ball goes out of play for any reason, the umpire will award the bases according to regular baseball rules.

Exception (2): In the case of a ground-rule double, all runners on base score and the batter is awarded a double.

Exception(3): Any player/runner put out cannot score.

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- (H) Throwing the bat: If in the judgment of any umpire, a batter throws his or her bat after hitting the ball, the batter will be given a second chance to hit the ball and drop the bat. If the batter throws the bat a second time, in the same at-bat, he/she will automatically be called out and the runners will return to their bases.
- (I) The defensive team may use up to 2 coaches in the outfield. Both coaches shall be positioned behind the defensive players in the outfield. No coach may enter the infield while the ball is in play.
- (J) The team at bat may have a manager or coach in the coaching boxes at 1st and 3rd bases, a coach or team parent helping with the batting rotation, and an additional adult to help with the tee. A maximum of 3 adults are allowed on the field and 1 adult in the dugout at any one time.
- (K) No coach or manager may physically assist a player when the ball is in play. The player/runner will be out if physically assisted by a coach.
- (L) No protest will be allowed in the Shetland division.
- (M) Violations of rules I), J) or K) are deemed unsportsmanlike conduct. Violations shall be brought to the attention of the division rep. The division rep will mete out appropriate discipline. Discipline shall be in the form of counseling, a verbal warning, a written warning, a suspension or termination from manager or coach status.
- (N) First half rules: All batters will hit off the tee. Players that are “out” shall remain on the basepaths.
- (O) Second half rules: The pitching machine will be used. The batter will be given 5 pitches from the pitching machine. The batter cannot “strike out”. If the batter is unsuccessful after five pitches the batting tee will be placed on the plate and the batter will use the batting tee to hit. All “outs” on the basepaths will result in the runner that is out being removed from the basepath.
- (P) The Shetland division representative can make rule(s) changes in the best interest of the Shetland division with the Tecolote Board approval.

3. UNIFORMS

- 3.1 All managers, coaches, and players on the field shall be in uniform. A uniform shall consist of a hat, and a shirt supplied by the league, and long pants; baseball pants are recommended. Teams may have 1 adult out of uniform in the dugout but

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they may not coach from the 1st or 3rd base coaching boxes or otherwise go on the field. Shorts are not acceptable!

4. UMPIRES

4.1 Each team is required to provide an adult volunteer umpire each game. This adult shall be familiar with these rules.

5. SNACK BAR

5.1 Teams are encouraged to use the snackbar and to buy snack tickets.

6. DUGOUT AND FIELD REGULATIONS:

6.1 Each team will police their dugout and surrounding area after each game.

6.2 No drinks, alcohol, food or tobacco are allowed in the dugout or on the field during practice or game time.

Exception: Water, as well as other customary sport drinks such as gatorade, are permitted; provided, however, no soda drinks are allowed.

6.3 When at bat, managers should insure that at least 2 players, in addition to the batter, have helmets on and are ready to bat. This will result in a controlled and smooth batting rotation and avoid delaying the game.

6.4 The home team will be responsible for watering down the infield, raking same, setting the bases, policing its dugout area for trash, etc., lining the field, and displaying the American flag before the start of any game.

6.5 The visiting team is responsible for cleaning up its dugout and surrounding stands and after the last game of the day will put away the bases, lower the American flag, and bag the trash and take it down to the sidewalk in front of the recreation center.

6.6 “Physical or verbal abuse will not be tolerated on the playing field. Verbal abuse includes, but is not limited to verbally belittling a player, untoward language or excessive yelling at the players. Any violation of this rule, upon receipt of a complaint, will be investigated by the player agent, division representative and president. If after investigation, the player agent, division representative and president determine that further action is necessary, it will be addressed at the

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next regularly scheduled meeting of the board of directors, with the offending party present.

- 6.7 No abuse will be tolerated from the stands. Any violation of this rule, upon receipt of a complaint, will be investigated by the player agent, division representative and president. If after investigation, the player agent, division representative and president determine that further action is necessary, it will be addressed at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the board of directors, with the offending party present.”
- 6.8 Pony rule 20b will be enforced:
“Players or adult volunteers who engage in unsportsmanlike conduct, such as fighting, abusive language or similarly derogatory activity, may be suspended for one or more games.