

TECOLOTE YOUTH BASEBALL, INC.
MUSTANG/BRONCO DIVISIONS - LOCAL PLAYING RULES

MUSTANG/BRONCO
TECOLOTE YOUTH BASEBALL
2018 LOCAL PLAYING RULES

TECOLOTE YOUTH BASEBALL, INC.
MUSTANG/BRONCO DIVISIONS - LOCAL PLAYING RULES

1. ELIGIBILITY

- 1.1 Teams will be selected by draft, after skills assessment, as referenced in Tecolote's Player Draft Rules. The Board is enforcing Pony's age guidelines with respect to a Playing Member's placement in a particular division (i.e. Pinto v. Mustang v. Bronco) absent an exceptional safety risk as determined by the respective Playing Agents and Division Representatives after assessment only. Playing Members shall only be allowed to assess in the division in which they are age eligible pursuant to Pony's age guidelines. All exceptions to Pony's age guidelines shall be determined before the drafts of each respective division.
- 1.2 All eligible players must appear on the official lineup card each game including status of each player. All players present at game time must comply with Rule 1.3. Line-up cards shall be completely (first and last names, uniform number and position number of pitcher and catcher) filled out in triplicate fifteen minutes prior to the start of the game and distributed to the opposing manager and official scorekeeper.
- 1.3 A) MUSTANG: All players shall play a minimum of 3 complete innings of each regular game. BRONCO: All players shall play a minimum of 4 complete innings of each regular game. However, in the event that a game is prematurely terminated for any reason, this Rule may not apply. All managers are instructed to proceed as if the game were to be completed in full and not intentionally plan for a shorten game (i.e. game stopped due to darkness).

B) No player shall sit more than two consecutive innings. If a player sits two consecutive innings, that player must play the next two consecutive innings in the field.
- 1.4 It shall be the responsibility of both managers to see that the proper substitutions are made. If, in the opinion of the Chief Scorekeeper (or another board member without a conflict of interest if the Chief Scorekeeper has a conflict of interest, e.g., a player in the same division), a player on a team does not play a minimum of designated innings as required by Tecolote eligibility rules (Rule 1.3), the game shall be forfeited by that player's team. A ruling by the Chief Scorekeeper may be requested at any time during the season.
- 1.5 The Player Agent must be notified within 48 hours by the manager of any team member not meeting minimum playing requirement time.
- 1.6 The Player Agent and Division Representative shall be notified as soon as possible of any discipline problems occurring on any team. It is the responsibility of the Division

TECOLOTE YOUTH BASEBALL, INC.
MUSTANG/BRONCO DIVISIONS - LOCAL PLAYING RULES

Representative, Player Agent and manager to initiate and enforce league disciplinary actions.

- 1.7 In the event a player must leave the game due to illness or injury, there is no penalty.
- a) No out is recorded for this at bat. All remaining players lower in the batting order after the injured/ill player, move up one position.
 - b) If the injured/ill player leaves the game while on base or after being hit by a pitch, the last player to record an out shall replace the injured/ill player on base.
 - c) If a player leaves the game for any reason other than injury or illness, the team must take an out each time the missing player's position comes up to bat.
- 1.8 Players may have their privilege to participate in the Memorial Day Tournament and All-Star Tournaments suspended if a player participates in less than 75% of the regular season games (subject to Board approval). Players who committ to play on a Memorial Day or All-Star Tournament and fail to fulfill the commitment, absent injury, illness or Board approval; shall not be eligible to participate on these teams the following season.

2. TEAM ROSTERS

- 2.0 It is recommended that no team shall exceed twelve players on the roster. The preferred number of players is 11. Final rosters are at the discretion of the Division Representative, Playing Agent and President of the Board.
- 2.1 Additional sign-ups after the draft are the responsibility of the Player Agent. Players will be placed by vacancy or draft rotation at the discretion of the Player Agent in the attempt to maintain balanced teams.
- 2.2 Managers shall notify the Player Agent of any team vacancies within 24 hours from the time the manager is notified.
- 2.3 The Division Representative and/or Player Agent shall have the responsibility of assigning to a team any player after the draft. The purpose of this Rule is to ensure balanced teams and to avoid "stacking" a team. Exception: In the event a team's roster is unbalanced (i.e. less players than other teams), the manager must accept the next player assigned by the Division Representative and/or Player Agent from the waiting list (manager does not have right of refusal). The Division Representative /Player

TECOLOTE YOUTH BASEBALL, INC.
MUSTANG/BRONCO DIVISIONS - LOCAL PLAYING RULES

Agent shall act in the league's best interest to assign/add 1 or more players. Any such decision may be subject to Board approval.

- 2.4 Roster replacements will not be made until contact between the parent and the Player Agent is made.
- 2.5 Free substitution rule shall apply. Exception: Pitcher position cannot be freely substituted. This Rule does not supersede Rule 1.3.
- 2.6 Each team shall "bat through" the line-up of eligible players.

Clarification: if a player is not present by the start of the game you may 1) keep the player in the lineup but take an out each time the player's position comes up to bat if the player is not present until the player shows up; or 2) scratch the player with no penalty prior to that player's at bat. If you scratch the player and the player shows up late, you may not re-enter the player into the lineup.

- 2.7 It is the policy and desire of the league that managers and coaches do not cause players to be alienated resulting in a player's absence. When an opposing manager believes that a manager or coach has caused a player to be alienated, the Board shall be notified. The situation will be investigated and the Board may take action to discipline the offending manager or coach. Penalties may include disallowing the offending manager/coach from participating in the Memorial Day Tournament or All Star Tournaments.

Any team playing with 2 players less than the opposing team is subject to review. The Division Representative, with the approval of the Board, can change this Rule only before the start of the season, and/or half way through the season.

- 2.8 If there are two outs and the next inning catcher is on base, the manager has the option of taking the catcher off base and putting the last out on as a runner to save time.

3. GAME RULES:

The official playing rules, with the exceptions and variations contained in these Rules, shall be "Official Rules of Major League Baseball" completely revised, as released through the office of the Commissioner of Baseball.

- 3.1. Pitchers may pitch a maximum of:

TECOLOTE YOUTH BASEBALL, INC.
MUSTANG/BRONCO DIVISIONS - LOCAL PLAYING RULES

- (A) Maximum of 3 innings per game with a maximum of 10 innings per week in Bronco subject to Rule 3.1-D.
- (B) Maximum of 2 innings per game with a maximum of 6 innings per week in Mustang subject to Rule 3.1-D.
- (C) Scorekeeper is to advise managers after 40 pitches have been thrown for Mustang or 65 for Bronco.
- (D) Maximum number of pitches thrown shall be 50 for Mustang and 75 for Bronco. Pitchers may finish current batter after maximum pitches have been thrown.
- (E) A pitcher will be assessed an inning of work once they throw one pitch or one out recorded while the pitcher is on the mound (i.e. pitcher picks off a baserunner without throwing a pitch).

NOTE: General Pony pitching rules shall apply except in conflict with Tecolote's Rules which shall supercede the Pony rules for pitching (i.e. pitch counts and resting periods between appearances). Pony defines a calendar week as 12:01 am Monday to 12:00 midnight the following Sunday.

- 3.2. Bronco pitchers, after pitching in four or more innings on the same calendar day; and Mustang pitchers, after pitching in 3 innings or more on the same calendar day, must have 40 hours rest before pitching again (the clock shall start at the conclusion of the game in which this Rule is triggered).
- 3.3. The Pony baseball rule for base stealing shall apply for the entire season for Mustang.
- 3.4. For Mustang only: catchers cannot catch for more than 4 innings in a single game.
- 3.5. If a pitcher pitches during the Memorial Day Tournament, the number of innings pitched will not count against the maximum number of innings pitched during a week as set forth in Rules 3.1.A (Bronco). and 3.1.B (Mustang), above. However, Rule 3.2 does apply.
- 3.6. The dropped third strike rule will be enforced as per MLB rules.
- 3.7. Intentional walks will be enforced as per MLB rules.
- 3.8. Tecolote has adopted and will strictly enforce Pony's USA Baseball bat standard (USABat). All players, whether participating in regular season, post season, tournament or all-star play, must use the new USABat certified bats bearing the USABat licensing mark. No exceptions to this Rule shall be allowed for any reason.

4. EQUIPMENT & UNIFORMS

TECOLOTE YOUTH BASEBALL, INC.
MUSTANG/BRONCO DIVISIONS - LOCAL PLAYING RULES

- 4.1 For Bronco: Steel cleated shoes are permitted.
- 4.2 Players, managers or coaches who throw a bat, helmet, catcher's mask or any other equipment in a fit of anger during game, may be ejected from the game by the umpire.
- 4.3 All players, managers, and coaches on the field must be in a baseball uniform. A maximum of four uniformed coaches, including the manager, are allowed on the field of play at any one time during a game. At no time will a non-uniformed parent or coach be allowed to coach on the field during the game, including first and third base coaching boxes. In an emergency (not all coaches/manager are present at game time) a non-uniformed parent may assist as a coach but must remain in the dug-out at all times. Uniformed players may coach in the first and third base coaching boxes but must wear a batting helmet. The non-uniformed parent may not be outside the dug-out except for helping in between innings.
- 4.4 Managers and coaches must be in full uniform during all league games. Uniforms to consist of league furnished hat and shirt. Baseball pants, belts, shoes (no sandals) and socks are to be furnished by individual players, managers, and coaches. Other than rain related gear, managers and coaches must wear league furnished shirts that must be visible at all times due to safety concerns related to players.
- 4.5 No hitting aids are allowed during games.

5. SAFETY RULES

- 5.1 Helmets must be worn by all catchers during practices, games and anytime they are warming up a pitcher. Catchers must wear a protective mask and protective cup.
- 5.2 If in the umpire's judgment, if without the ball or without the ball being in route to him/her, a player fakes a tag for the purpose of causing a runner to slide, he/she is to be warned first. Subsequent offenses may result in ejection at umpire's discretion.
- 5.3 The umpire may use his discretion to discipline any player who displays inappropriate behavior during the game. If there is an offensive play, it shall be an out and possible ejection.

TECOLOTE YOUTH BASEBALL, INC.
MUSTANG/BRONCO DIVISIONS - LOCAL PLAYING RULES

- 5.4 All players while in route to home plate, **must slide or avoid contact**, if there is any reasonable chance that a play will be attempted at the plate. Failure to do so in the umpire's judgment, will be an out.
- 5.5 If in the umpire's judgment, the batter throws the bat the batter will be warned for the first offense. For any subsequent offenses, the batter will be deemed out, the ball is dead, and all runners will return to their previous bases.
- 5.6 Protective cups must be worn by all male players during games.

6. SUSPENDED, CANCELED OR INCOMPLETE GAMES

- 6.1. Games which are played long enough to become an official game (per official Pony rules Mustang 4 innings, Bronco 5 innings) and are tied at the suspension of play (the last inning played was finished to completion), shall be declared a tie and each team awarded ½ point in the standings. Games suspended before an inning is completed shall revert to the score of the last completed inning regardless of the score when the game is called; provided however if the game is suspended in between the top and bottom of the inning with the home team ahead shall be declared a win for the home team using the score when the game is suspended. All playoff games shall be played to completion and if necessary continue to another day with the game resuming at the exact play it was suspended (same score, outs, baserunners, etc.).
- 6.2. Games which are canceled shall be made up the next available Sunday as long as 48 hours notice is provided. For example: if a game is rained out on a Monday – Thursday, the rescheduled game will be played the following Sunday. If the game is rained out on Friday, Saturday, or Sunday, the rescheduled game will be played the following Sunday. At the discretion of Division Representative, failure to agree with the date or dates scheduled will result in a forfeit(s). Managers shall only have the ability to reschedule one (1) game in advance for any reason.
- 6.3 A team must have 8 players to start a game. A team submitting a line-up with only 8 players, or the line-up being reduced to 8 players, shall take an automatic out either a) after the last player in the lineup when the team starts the game with 8 players; or b) the actual spot in the batting order when a player leaves during the game for any reason and the line-up is reduced to 8 players (this Rule supercedes Rule 1.7 only when a team will continue with 8 players). Provided however, the automatic out shall never be the third out in an inning and in the event this would occur, the inning shall continue as normal with such team beginning their next at bat with one (1) out.

TECOLOTE YOUTH BASEBALL, INC.
MUSTANG/BRONCO DIVISIONS - LOCAL PLAYING RULES

- 6.4 Time Limits (does not apply to last game of any day or any playoffs): For Bronco: no new inning after two hours and fifteen minutes. For Mustang: no new inning after one hour and fifty minutes.

7. ADDITIONAL PENALTIES

- 7.1 If a Manager will not be able to field a participating team for a scheduled game, the Manager shall notify the Division Representative at least 48 hours prior to game time. At the discretion of the Division Representative, the game will then be rescheduled. The Division Representative has the authority to forfeit a game if such team is consistently unavailable for makeup options or is a repeat violator of this Rule.
- 7.2 When a player has missed 2 consecutive games without a valid excuse, the Player Agent shall be contacted immediately and he or she will warn the player that repetition will result in his/her suspension. The Manager shall contact the Player Agent to investigate the absences. The Player Agent has the ability to suspend and/or bench the player for 1 game. Further suspensions must be reviewed by the Board.
- 7.3 There will be no physical or verbal abuse 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 as soon as possible. The Division Representative with the President's approval may take whatever action deemed appropriate to Tecolote's best interest. Coach/Manager has right to appeal in person at next scheduled Board Meeting. Managers and coaches shall be responsible for the actions of their guests (spouses, siblings, friends, etc.)
- 7.4 Any adult participant ejected from the playing field by an umpire shall be suspended from that team's next official game and will have no contact with the team on the field before and during such games. The offending adult may be asked to appear before the Board to explain his or her actions. In addition, any adult ejected twice in one season can only be reinstated by a majority vote of the Board.
- 7.5 Any player participant ejected from the playing field by an umpire shall be suspended from that team's next official game.
- 7.6 All suspensions are subject to appeal by the Board.

TECOLOTE YOUTH BASEBALL, INC.
MUSTANG/BRONCO DIVISIONS - LOCAL PLAYING RULES

8. MANAGER AND COACHES

- 8.1. Team Managers shall sign for all equipment and uniforms assigned to their team and shall be responsible for their return to the Equipment Manager no later than 1 week after the season's last game.
- 8.2 Managers shall recognize the fact that the youth of today have many interests outside of baseball. No youth will be required to attend more than 2 mandatory practices during any one week.
- 8.3 Managers, must be at least eighteen (18) years of age, and coaches, at least sixteen (16) years of age, and shall be selected and approved by the respective Division Representative, which shall be subject, if necessary, to confirmation by Board present at a duly constituted meeting. Their term shall be the same as the Playing Members. Managers shall be allowed to name up to three assistant coaches but only one coach can be selected before teams are drafted or otherwise selected; provided however, in no event shall both the manager and selected coach be a parent of a Playing Member which are assessed as first round players. All managers and coaches are required to undergo background checks, of a form selected by the Board and concussion training before opening day. A new background check and concussion training certification will be required each playing season. No manager or coach will be allowed on the field for games or practice until the background check and concussion training certification are received and verified by the respective Division Representative.
- 8.4 Each team is responsible to maintain a clean dug-out at all times. The home team will prepare the field before each game, including dragging, watering, setting up bases, and chalking. The home team also must dismantle the field or prepare the field for the next game, including removing bases (last game of day only), repairing the mound, watering and dragging the field, and cleaning up the dugouts. Failure to follow this Rule will result in forfeiture of practice time.

9. SEASON PLAY

- 9.1 The season shall be divided into two parts; first part being end of regular season and second part being end of season tournament.
- 9.2 In the event of a tie in the first part, the winner is determined by:
1. Head to head record
 2. Least runs allowed (between tied teams)
 3. Most runs scored (between tied teams)

TECOLOTE YOUTH BASEBALL, INC.
MUSTANG/BRONCO DIVISIONS - LOCAL PLAYING RULES

4. Forfeits are considered a score of 6-0 (Mustang) and 7-0 (Bronco)
 5. In case of a game that ended in a tie, the score will be the score at the suspension of play as determined by these Rules).
 6. A double forfeit will result in a 0- 0 score. (0 points awarded to each team)
- 9.3 The season championship shall be decided by a tournament played at the end of the season. All teams shall be in the post season tournament. Teams will be seeded based on best overall record at the end of the season. Note that Rule 9.2 will be used to determine tie-breakers in case of ties at the end of the season in order to rank teams for seeding in the tournament bracket. The end of year tournament shall be a full double elimination tournament.
- 9.3.1 The first place team in the end of the year tournament and team with the best overall record during regular season will be awarded trophies.
 - 9.3.2 The second place team in the end of the year tournament will be awarded medals.
- 9.4 If any team member abandons or quits during the regular season or tournament play, then that team member is ineligible to be nominated or play on any tournament or all star team for one year (subject to review by the board).
- 9.5 **POST SEASON PLAY:** Regular season local Tecolote Rules will be followed during post season play. Catchers may catch unlimited innings during post season play.

10. TOURNAMENT AND ALL-STAR TEAMS

- 10.1. The manager of the team that wins the first part of the season shall be eligible to manage the tournament team of his choice. The manager of the second place team at the end of the first part shall be eligible to manage the next selection of a tournament team (and so on). If a managing vacancy arises due to the manager(s) declining to manage a team, the vacancy will be filled by a majority vote of the managers in the division.

TECOLOTE YOUTH BASEBALL, INC.
MUSTANG/BRONCO DIVISIONS - LOCAL PLAYING RULES

10.2. The managers of Tecolote's tournament and all-star teams shall be confirmed/selected by the Board and in order to be eligible for selection, such coaches must attend at least seventy-five percent (75%) of the then season's regular season games. Selection of all all-star teams cannot be held or otherwise determined until after the first Board meeting in May of each calendar year or such earlier date as determined by the Board. This Rule supercedes Rule 10.1 if necessary.

10.3. The Business Manager and Coach for each tournament and all-star teams will be selected by the respective Manager and approved by the Division Representative, Player Agent and Tecolote's President (or appointed designee with no conflict of interest) before public announcement.

10.4. The players of the all-star and tournament teams will be selected as follows:

The managers shall nominate players for the tournament and all-star teams. The managers will discuss the attributes of the players. The managers will then vote for players excluding players from their own team. The 10 players receiving the most votes shall be placed on each respective team. The All-Star Manager then nominates each subsequent player. Each subsequent player must be approved by a 50% or more vote of all of the managers.

In the Bronco Division the 12U team will be selected first, followed by the 11U team, then the 12U (combination) team.

In the Mustang Division the 10U team will be selected first, followed by the 9U team, then the 10U (combination) team.

10.5. At the first tournament and All-Star Team Meeting, selected players may elect not to play, or be moved to the other team only, if both managers agree and if the resulting team rosters do not exceed 15 players.

10.6. Tournament and all-star teams provide an exciting opportunity for players, coaches and parents. Travel ball tournaments often conflict with all-star and tournament play. The league must insure that tournament and all star teams have the minimum number of eligible players to compete at all levels of all-star play. Pony rules mandate at least 9 (Pony rule in effect to govern number of eligible players) eligible players be available to compete in all-star play. The Division Representative shall determine the travel ball playing status of each potential all-star player. The Division Representative shall also determine the potential travel ball conflict for each player to ensure that there will be the required amount of eligible players to compete at all levels of all-star play. The tournament and/or all-star rosters announced at the closing day ceremonies shall be consistent with the Rules in this section.

TECOLOTE YOUTH BASEBALL, INC.
MUSTANG/BRONCO DIVISIONS - LOCAL PLAYING RULES

The league reserves the right to modify this Rule at any regularly scheduled meeting prior to the June Board Meeting providing that notice is provided to the managers of each division.

10.7 Travel money in the amount of \$2,000 per division team, per round, (if funds are available) will be provided to the manager (without board vote) for out of area tournaments. Out of area tournaments are defined as tournaments held outside of San Diego County.

10.8 Parents are required to pay for the tournament and/or all-star Hat and Jersey.

11. DUGOUT AND FIELD REGULATIONS

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

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

12. TECOLOTE DIVISION REPRESENTATIVE

12.1. The Division Representative can make rule(s) changes in the best interest of the division with the approval of Tecolote's Board.