



## North Suburban Pony 2016 Baseball Rules

Updated 3/20/16

Except as otherwise noted below, games shall be played according to the 2016 PONY Baseball Rules and Regulations and/or the 2016 Official Rules of Major League Baseball.

### LENGTH OF GAME

1. Regulation games will be **seven innings or 2 hours**. No new inning will start after the 1:50 mark from start of game. Last half of inning will be finished after 2 hour limit if it is a “2 run” or less margin.
2. **Nine (9) players** must be present to start a game. First/Last Names and Uniform Number shall be provided by each team. Roster with Names/Number and birthdates must be carried by each team and shown to opposing team upon request. .
3. A game is forfeited if a team cannot field **nine uniformed players fifteen (15) minutes after scheduled game time. A callover between North Suburban Association teams is permitted in order to get the game started. Call ups are encouraged over callovers. Callover that is borrowed can bat if playing for your team the whole game – Call ups bat. Both would bat at end of order.**
4. A team may complete a game with **eight (8) players** as a result of injury or if one player needs to leave before the end of the game. With the exception of an injury, if the last player’s spot comes up in the batting order, his spot is automatically recorded as an out. A team cannot complete a game with less than eight (8) players.
5. If possible each team will have use of the field for 10 minutes before the game for warm-ups. “AWAY” team takes the field 25 minutes before the start of the game. The last five minutes before game time managers must meet with umpires.
6. Each player must play defensively a minimum of two complete innings in the field, unless removed due to injury. If a player arrives late and there is not sufficient time to allow the player to play two complete innings in the field, the manager is not held to the minimum playing time for that player.
7. **Complete Game:** If a game is called for any reason, it shall be a complete game if five innings have been completed or if the visiting team completes its half of the fifth inning and the home team is ahead.
8. **If a game is called after it is a complete game** due to any reason including inclement weather or darkness, the score for that game **will revert back to the last complete inning.**

9. If a game is **called after any inning** before it has reached a complete-game length due to inclement weather, darkness, or any other reason, the game shall be **resumed from the exact point** the game was halted *if the schedule allows it to be rescheduled.*
10. A complete game occurs when a team is leading by ten (10) runs after five (5) or more complete innings, or four and one half (4 ½) innings if the home team is leading, and the leading team has fulfilled the 13 year old pitching requirement (see below).
11. Once a game has started, the decision to call a game for any reason rests with the home plate umpire. However, the two team managers must be consulted before making that decision.
- 12. Managers from both the Home and Visiting teams need to email George Schott ([gschott2001@yahoo.com](mailto:gschott2001@yahoo.com)) the game scores.**

### “HOME” TEAM vs. “HOST” TEAM RESPONSIBILITIES

**For Example: If are using three (3) fields:**

**BMP: Knob (HOST Team is BMP 1,2, 3, etc.)**

**IFPAA: Blueberry (HOST Teams are IFPAA 1, 2 3 4 etc.)**

**McAA: Vincentian #1 (HOST Teams are McAA 1, 2, 3, 4 etc.)**

**Example: If McAA 1 has a HOME game at Blueberry vs. IFPAA1, IFPAA1 is HOST team for the examples below.**

1. Every team has an equal number of HOME and AWAY games per the schedule. Each team will split the cost for the Umpires.
2. The HOME Team will provide two (2) new approved baseballs per game (A.D. Starr PL 200, Wilson 1075 or equivalent).
3. A representative of the HOME team (or HOST team in the event the Host team is playing teams from other organizations) is responsible to cancel the game 1 ½ hours before the start of the game due to inclement weather. Once a game starts, the home plate umpire will call the game due to inclement weather or darkness. It is the responsibility of the HOME/HOST representative to immediately inform the opposing manager and the umpire coordinator.

**(Greg Scheuring 412-818-7424; [gregcscheuring@gmail.com](mailto:gregcscheuring@gmail.com))**

4. The Home/Host team is responsible for **field preparation before the game.**
5. The Host organization will provide the necessary equipment to line and prepare the field. Each team shall assist in preparing the field before and repair after each game. The last scheduled home team of the day is responsible for locking up equipment after the game.
6. In the event a HOST team is not present for a game played at their home field, i.e. two “outside” teams are using another organization’s field; the managers of each team shall be responsible for the duties listed above. We ask that the HOST team

- make available any equipment required to prep field (rakes, field dressing/dry, liner, etc.). Managers from teams playing on the host field are responsible for return of provided equipment to location it was found.
7. PAYMENT OF UMPIRES: EACH team is responsible for one (1) Umpire fee of \$40/per Umpire payable in Cash to each Umpire before the start of the game. If only 1 Umpire shows up, he is due 1 full fee and ½ fee (total \$60). If the Host or Home team cancels w/o confirming with Greg Scheuring 90 minutes before game time and/or does not show up, the Home team must still pay both Umpires their entire fee if the Umpires are there for the start of a game (\$40 per Umpire).
  8. In the event that a Home team elects to use non-North Suburban Umpire Association umpires, they will be responsible for covering fees above the totals identified in #7 (above). For instance, if a Home team's umps cost \$45 per, they would be responsible for paying the \$10 above the \$40 per ump total.
  9. Games cancelled for any reason may be rescheduled by the Home team's manager. The suggested reschedule date and time shall be provided to the league representative (George Schott). The game is not rescheduled until league rep confirms the date with Greg Scheuring. The Home team's manager is responsible for communicating the confirmed date to the manager of the team they are re-scheduling with.
  10. The league representative ONLY is responsible for rescheduling umpires for the game.

## **BATTING**

1. Continuous batting order is used. Unlimited substitution is permitted. The batting order must be maintained. All players must bat before the first batter bats a second time. Call ups must bat last in the line-up and cannot pitch.
2. **Bunting**. A batter squaring around to bunt **must bunt or pull the bat back (no "slug" bunts)**. A batter who squares to bunt and then takes a "**slap swing**" will receive an automatic strike call. If the ball is hit by the slap swing in fair territory, the play is dead and the batter is called out. This is for safety reasons.
3. Infield fly rule is enforced.
4. **Throwing the bat** is one warning **per team**. Each time after the warning, the batter is out and the play is dead.

## **RUNNING / STEALING**

1. **Stealing** – regular base running rules apply, including leading off from a base.
2. **NO** straight stealing (**or suicide squeeze bunt**) of **HOME**. **Safety squeeze allowed.**
3. Runners must **avoid contact**.
4. Head first slides are permitted.

## **OVERTHROWS**

1. If an **overthrow leaves the field of play**, base runners get the next base plus one more base from the last legally occupied base.

## **PITCHING**

1. Pitchers cannot pitch more than **three (3) innings** per game. PONY pitching rest rules apply.
2. Teams are encouraged to develop and teach their 13 Year Old pitchers. **Each team is required to pitch a 13 Year Old in three (3) innings. At least two (2) complete innings prior to the end of the fifth inning and another one (1) complete before the end of the 7<sup>th</sup>. inning.** If this rule is not met in a regulation game, the penalty is automatic forfeiture of the game by the team violating the rule. This rule applies to all games, including those that are ended as the result of the 10-run rule. : Solely for the purpose of this rule, a 13 year old has pitched in an inning when the team has recorded three outs with the 13 year old as pitcher or when the 13 year old pitcher(s) has/have faced SIX batters as pitcher. For all other rules (e.g. 3 innings per game and 10 innings per week – reset is Monday), any pitcher will be considered to have pitched an inning after pitching one pitch in that inning.
3. A pitcher cannot return as a pitcher in a game once he has been removed.
4. A manager is allowed two (2) trips to the mound per inning. Upon making the second trip to the mound, the pitcher must be removed. Trips to the mound before the half-inning count as a trip.
5. A pitcher must be removed after he hits **3 batters during the game.**
6. Pitchers are not permitted to wear wrist bands, jewelry, batting gloves, white fielding gloves or a white sleeve shirt visible under the game jersey.
7. Until May 15, the umpire will give ONE warning per Pitcher on all balks and instruct the pitcher on why the balk was called. Play is “dead” for this one warning.
8. Call-ups and Call-overs are not eligible to pitch.

## **FIELD SET UP**

1. Bases are 80 feet apart. Pitching distance is 54 feet. Home plate to the center of second base is 113 feet –2 inches.\*

*\*For many of the players playing on “school teams”, **pitching distance is 60.5 feet w/ the distance from home plate to the center of second base being 90 feet.** Due to this variation, prior to the start of the season, each team, for each of their home fields, will be asked to identify the field distances they will be using throughout the season. This info will be included on the Contact List document.*

## **SAFETY STANDARDS**

### Equipment - Bats

p.16 (2016 2016 PONY Baseball Rules and Regulations)

C. Wooden, metal, graphite or ceramic bats manufactured for baseball play, which are round and not more than two and five eighths in diameter at the thickest part, not more than 42 inches in length, are acceptable. No bat shall be used if dented, cracked, modified or misshaped.

(1) Bats manufactured specifically for use in tee ball play, shall not be used when the ball is pitched by a player, coach or pitching machine. Coach-pitch bats will only be used in coach-pitch using a safety ball.

(2) 2-1/4" BARREL bats are legal in all divisions of PONY baseball. They must have a Bat Performance Factor (BPF) of 1.15 stamped on the bat. In addition the bat must be stamped "Approved for play in PONY Baseball".

(3) 2-5/8" BARREL bats are legal in all divisions of PONY Baseball. If a 2-5/8" is -3, it must be BBCOR certified (stamped on the bat).

(4) 2-3/4" BARREL bats are prohibited in all divisions of PONY Baseball.

### Equipment – Bats - Penalties

p. 26 (2016 2016 PONY Baseball Rules and Regulations)

(7) Penalty for use of an illegal bat after being checked or tested:

(a) If detected before the first pitch of an at-bat, the bat shall be removed from the game. An out is not recorded and a substitute batter shall complete the time at bat. The manager and the violating player shall be removed from the game as well as the next scheduled game and cannot be replaced.

(b) If detected after the first pitch (whether the pitch is swung at or not) the batter is declared out and base runners shall not advance. The manager and the violating player shall be removed from the game as well as the next scheduled game and cannot be replaced.

(c) If detected after a ball is hit, the batter is out and base runners shall return to their original base prior to the hit. The manager and the violating player shall be removed from the game as well as the next scheduled game and cannot be replaced.

## North Suburban PONY Baseball Rules

### National League:

- If 2 5/8" Diameter (Big Barrel), max differential is -8
- If 2 1/4" Diameter, max differential is -8
- "School players" are encouraged not to change from the BBCOR -3

### American League:

- If 2 5/8" Diameter (Big Barrel), max differential is -8
- If 2 1/4" Diameter, max differential is -10
- "School players" are encouraged not to change from the BBCOR -3

### Equipment – Shoes, Helmets, Other

- Follow Rules as stipulated in 2016 2016 PONY Baseball Rules and Regulations

### Ejections

1. Player – If a player gets ejected, they will sit out the remainder of that game, plus the following game. For the following game, player must sit on the bench in uniform.
2. Manager/Coach – If a manager or coach gets ejected, they must leave the field immediately. They are also suspended from the next scheduled game and are not allowed on the property.
3. Fighting – if this occurs, the League Committee will convene and determine punishment. Players and coaches could be subject to multi game suspensions.

## PLAYOFFS

1. Separate playoffs/championships will be held for both National and American leagues.
2. Final numbers of teams in each respective league will govern how the initial brackets are organized.
3. During the season, points to be awarded; W (3pts), L (2), plying game (1), Tie (2.5).
4. Seeds are determined by points. Higher seeded team has the option of 'Home' Team.
5. Team must have 9 of their own **rostered** players to start the game. Callovers are NOT allowed. Call ups from their Association lower age groups are allowed. Can finish the game with 8 players due to injury. Open batting spot must take an 'Out'. Not having 9 players to start the game or less than 8 to finish is a forfeit.
6. Games must be scheduled/played within a certain time frame. League will monitor and control.