

# San Marcos Youth Baseball

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[www.SanMarcosYouthBaseball.com](http://www.SanMarcosYouthBaseball.com)

## **FALL GUIDELINES – BRONCO DIVISION**

The following guidelines are for use during Bronco League play and, when applicable are a supplement to the Official Baseball Rules, PONY Baseball Rules and SMYB By-laws utilized in the league. All play shall be governed by the most recent versions of the PONY Baseball rules, the SMYB By-laws, and the SMYB Division Guidelines. If there are less than five (5) Bronco teams, then interleague games may be scheduled with various local leagues (such as Escondido, La Costa and/or Carlsbad.)

1. A "Slide or avoid" rule shall be enforced. The rule is:

In all instances where it is apparent a defensive player protecting a base is in possession of a live ball and attempting to tag (or force out) an advancing runner out at that base, the runner shall slide if he chooses to continue his advance. Base runners shall not intentionally attempt to dislodge a live ball from the possession of a defensive player attempting to make an out on the player advancing to that base by use of physical force while not in the process of sliding. Base runners shall not run into, strike, attempt to knock them down. If the base runner chooses not to slide he must avoid contact with the defensive player in possession of the ball, or if allowed, return to the previous base.

PENALTY: In the event a base runner fails to "Slide or avoid" in a situation described, he shall be declared out.

2. Catchers, or another defensive player covering home base, may not intentionally block the base or base path unless they are in possession of a live ball, or in the process of receiving a live ball being thrown to them in order to immediately attempt to tag out an advancing runner.

PENALTY: In the event a defensive player commits the described action, he shall be declared to have committed interference and the advancing runner allowed to score.

3. Game Guidelines:

- a. A team must have at least 8 players, in proper uniform, to start a game.
- b. Game time will be 2 hours or 7 innings, whichever occurs first. A new inning begins at the time the 3rd out of the previous inning is made. There is no "grace" period while the teams take the field or a pitcher warms up. If, for example, the 3rd out of the bottom of an inning is made at 2:03 p.m., the top of the following inning begins at the same time.

- c. If a game is tied at the end of the seventh inning and the time limit specified in paragraph "b" has not been reached, an additional inning(s) may be played; however, no new inning may start after the time limit has expired. Games that are tied at the completion of the time limit will be recorded as tie games.
- d. All players present for a game shall play unless unable to play due to illness, injury, or suspension pursuant to the SMYB By-laws. Games will include free defensive substitution and full-roster batting in an established batting order. Managers shall provide the opposing manager with a line-up card listing the players present and their batting order prior to the beginning of each game. No player may sit-out more than one consecutive defensive inning, unless injured or ill. Each player must also play a minimum of 3 defensive innings. In the event a player is unable to play due to injury or illness, it shall be documented in the Official Scoring Book.
- e. If a team has 11 or more players at the game, then each player will have sat out at least (1) one inning by the end of the sixth inning.
- f. Metal cleats are prohibited.

### **BRONCO PITCHING RULES (for League Play)**

**Bronco** pitchers shall not be allowed to pitch in more than TWO innings in a game. Pitchers, when pitching in more than one game on the same calendar day, may pitch any combination of innings in those games, provided they do not pitch in more than six innings.

As soon as a pitcher delivers one pitch to a batter, that pitcher shall be considered as having pitched one inning.

A pitcher is charged with the number of innings pitched in the specific calendar day and week in which they are pitched, regardless of whether they are local league games, the playoff of postponed games or suspended games, tie games, or exhibition games.

Neither a starting pitcher withdrawn from the lineup, nor a pitcher who is withdrawn from the mound but who stays in the game at another position, shall be permitted to pitch again in the same game.

If a relief pitcher comes in "cold" the umpire shall allow the pitcher to warm up properly with at least ten warm-up pitches.

Pitchers in violation of any of the pitching rules shall be considered ineligible players, subject to the penalties outlined in the section on Penalties.

***The Pitcher will be replaced immediately following a third hit batter in any one game appearance. There are no exceptions to this rule and it will be enforced by the umpire.***

**FIELD DISTANCES BRONCO: Bases: 70 feet Pitching Distance: 48 feet**