

2015 Dighton Baseball Invitational

8 Year old Tournament Rules

Eligibility/Roster/Format

1. The tournament is in **“round robin”** format, with all teams’ guaranteed four games (4th game is weather pending).
2. The field of teams will be divided into Three Divisions. The top 2 teams in each division , after Pool Play, will automatically qualify for the Playoff Round. ~~The 3rd place team in each division will fill in the 7th and 8th Seeds for the Playoff Round.~~ The Top 3rd place finisher out of the 3 divisions will advance to playoffs. The 2nd and 3rd place Third place finishers will play a Wildcard play-in game on Saturday night; winner becoming the 8th Seed for Sunday, the loser will be eliminated.
3. The Seeding Placement as well as Tie Breakers will be determined as follows:
 - A) Total Points
 - B) Most Wins
 - C) Head to Head Record
 - D) Runs Allowed during Pool Play
 - E) Coin Flip
4. Eligible players: All players may not exceed the age of 8 by April 30, 2015.
5. Rosters are limited to 15 players maximum, 11 players minimum.
6. DBSL reserves the right to alter or change schedule at any time, as much notification as possible of changes will be made.
7. DBSL does not provide insurance for participants. All players and coaches should be covered by their own insurance.
8. The Tournament Director **reserves the right to alter or change** the schedule or field at any time prior to, or during the tournament dates.
9. All teams are required to play scheduled consolation games. It is unfair to the opponent when teams do not show up. Unexcused ‘No Shows’ may result in a one year suspension from tournaments. Please plan on playing! It is a great time to mix up your batting order and pitching. Advance notice is absolutely required.

Safety/Equipment

1. Headgear must be worn at all times both at bat and on bases.
2. Metal spikes shall not be worn on playing surface or in dugout.
3. All players must wear team uniform and hats.
4. All players must wear helmets whenever they are using the batting cages.

Tournament Play

Game Time Limits (Round Robin)

1. **No new inning can start after 1 hour 45 minutes and games should be completed within 2hrs. Tournament director will decide if game continues past 2hrs. (Decision will be based on score and schedule)**
2. **The time of the game will start with the first pitched ball of the game**
3. Home team should confirm start time and enter time in scorebook for games that start late or early.
4. With ten (10) minutes left in the game, the home plate umpire should notify both Managers of the time remaining.

5. The next inning starts as soon as the third out has been made in the previous inning, not when the teams have re-taken the field.
6. If the result is a tie after completion of the inning, each team receives 1 point in the standings (2 points for a win).

Pitching:

1. Pitcher is allowed to pitch a maximum of 6 innings in consecutive games, with no more than 4 innings in any one game. (I.e. Mike pitches 2 innings in game #1 he would be eligible to pitch 4 innings in game #2, In game #3 he is only allowed to pitch a maximum of 2 innings).
2. One pitch in any inning shall count as an inning pitched.
3. Only the starting pitcher may re-enter the game as a pitcher. Other relief pitchers may not re-enter as a pitcher in the same game. **Note: Starter may return only if he completed his last inning. He is ineligible to return if he was removed in the middle of an inning.**
4. Pitching tracking sheets will be handed out before first game and must be filled out by manager/coach (with ink) and signed by opposing manager/coach at the conclusion of every game. Tracking sheets will be furnished upon request at any time by either opposing manager/coach, Tournament Director or Assistant Tournament Director. All forms must be filled out with ink and can only be changed by Tournament Director or Assistant Tournament Director. Any teams pitcher pitching beyond his/her maximum innings will be declared a forfeit (score of 6-0)
5. No **balks** will be called
6. If an illegal pitch is made pitcher may be warned at umpire's discretion and it will be declared a no pitch. If same pitcher continues, a ball will be added to count at every offense.
7. A second trip by manager or coach to the same pitcher in the same inning or fourth trip in the same game requires removal of the pitcher from the pitching position.
8. Pitcher must be removed from that position if pitcher hits 3 batters in one inning or 5 batters in one game.

Base Running:

1. Slide or avoid at any base (except first) if a play is about to develop.
2. Headfirst sliding is not allowed except when runner is returning to a base.
3. If a runner is injured while running the bases or being hit by pitch, a courtesy runner will be allowed. This **pinch** runner must be the player who made last out. No penalty at the batting line-up, just skip the batter in scorebooks.
4. If a team catcher is a base runner with 2 outs, he must be replaced with courtesy runner in order to put gear on and keep the game moving (Also, runner must be the last out).
5. **Base runners may steal second, third and home on a pitch, after crossing the plate on any plane.**
6. **Once pitcher is on pitching rubber with ball, and forward progress has ceased by the runner, he/she must return back to the base last occupied. On a walk, a runner can continue to second if the runner continues forward progress towards second at his own risk of being thrown out.**

General:

1. Four outfielders may be used.
2. Infield fly rule is not in effect
3. **No dropped 3rd strike!**
4. Continuous batting order must be used.
5. Injuries while batting continuous does **not** result in an out. Injured player may reenter the game in the same spot.
6. **Four runs maximum per inning, per team, may be scored. Only the 6th inning is open. If the game ends prior to the 6th inning the teams will still use the 4 run max rule.**

7. A 10 run lead after four inning (3 ½ if home team is ahead) will be considered a complete game (this rule does not apply in semi-finals or finals unless losing manager deems necessary). Home team must get its last at bat, if the home team is losing by 10 or more.
8. Ball will be declared dead when a defensive player is injured by batted ball, offensive players will advance one base.
9. Every player must play 6 defensive outs. (rule is waived if game ends before 6 innings per rule #5)
10. No slash bunting will be allowed. If attempted the ball is dead, the batter is out and no runners may advance.
11. Any player warming up pitchers must wear catcher's equipment, coaching bases he must wear helmet.
12. Any team that is unable to field a team of 8 players by 15 minutes after the scheduled start time will forfeit game 6-0
13. Each team may only have one manager, 2 coaches and a score keeper in the dug-out

Directions:

1. Visit www.dightonsports.com for directions. Our complex is located at 2580 Maple Swamp Road, North Dighton, MA 02764.

Miscellaneous:

- 1 The Tournament Director or the Assistant Tournament Director along with the protests committee will settle all protests immediately and before game resumes.
- 2 Each team is responsible for appointing one parent (not a coach) to be representative at protest.
- 3 Any game called by umpire due to weather or darkness if not considered a complete game will be picked up at the point the game was called. Tournament Director will schedule date and time.
- 4 No player may play in semi-finals / Championship unless player has played in at least one previous pool play game.
- 5 No player is allowed to wear any form of jewelry.
- 6 Home team manager's scorebook is the official scorebook and must be verified after each inning. It is the visiting manager's responsibility to confirm / verify the score. Any disputes should take place at the end of the questionable inning.
- 7 ***It is the responsibility of each manager to control the actions of his/her team's coaches, players, parents and fans. Harassment of players or umpires will not be tolerated. Harassment will result in one warning and if harassment continues the manager will be thrown out of game if further action is necessary game will end and result in forfeit (6-0). DBSL reserves the right to review such situations and apply sanctions up to and including disqualification from tournament.***
- 8 There is a strict **No smoking** policy on DBSL property which includes all tobacco products. Smoking is allowed only in parking lot. Anyone found in violation will be asked to leave complex grounds immediately.
- 9 Alcohol is strictly prohibited.
- 10 Patrons with coolers containing food will be asked to leave in parking lot. Coolers containing beverages for players are acceptable. Grills (propane, charcoal, etc..) are not permitted on DBSL property. We have on site concession stand which sells grilled and fried items as well as pizza, ice cream, candy and beverages.
- 11 A **pre tournament meeting will be held on Monday, July 13 at 6:00pm, at the Lopes Complex** to address any questions or concerns.
- 12 ***NO DOGS ALLOWED (Except medical dogs with papers). Managers are required to enforce this with their own parents. E-mails should be sent prior to tournament. Any issues with removing dogs may result in a forfeit.***

The rules of play shall be taken from the official regulations and Playing Rules of Cal Ripken Baseball 2015, except as modified above. *A rule book is available at the Directors office if needed.*