



NABA BRONCO RULES

Equipment

- A. The ball shall weigh not less than five nor more than five and one-quarter ounces (142-149, and measure not less than nine nor more than nine and one-quarter inches (22.9-23.5 cm) in circumference.
- B. Baseballs provided by the N.A.B.A. are required for Division play. The umpire shall receive one new ball from each team prior to the start of each game. Each team shall have another ball available in case a ball becomes unfit for play or is lost.
- C. Wooden, metal, graphite or ceramic bats, manufactured specifically for baseball play, which are round and not more than two and three-fourths inches (7.0 cm) in diameter at the thickest part, nor more than 33 inches (106.7 cm) in length, are acceptable.
- D. Metal cleat shoes are not permitted. Rubber or plastic cleated shoes are permitted. Alteration of cleats, such as sharpening, which might make them dangerous to participants, is specifically prohibited.
- E. The batter, players in the on-deck batting area and base runners shall be required to wear protective headgear which gives protection to the top of the head, temples, ears and base of the skull. These items shall be NOCSAE approved.
 - 1) Use of facemasks and properly fastened chinstraps on protective headgear is allowed.
 - 2) No decal other than the player's name, number, team name or logo shall be added to the protective headgear.
 - 3) Any headgear in violation of this rule shall be removed from play.
- F. Catchers are required to wear proper protective equipment including a mask with throat guard, chest protector, shin guards and protective headgear which gives protection to the top of the head and ears when catching behind the plate. Any player serving as a catcher to warm up a pitcher shall wear a mask, whether the pitcher is warming up from the mound, in the bullpen or elsewhere. Catchers are required to wear a cup.
- G. Conventional baseball uniforms required in Division play include a shirt, pants and cap. This rule prohibits the wearing of shorts (defined as trousers which do not cover the knees of the wearer) or full length slacks by the players.
- H. No jewelry shall be worn by any player, except for medical identification.

Playing Rules

- A. The official playing rules, with the exceptions and variations contained in this book, shall be "Official Baseball Rules," completely revised, as released through the office of the Commissioner of Baseball, "National Federation of State High School Associations Baseball Rules Interpretations" edition.
- B. No more than six players shall "huddle" on the playing field at any time during the game. Umpires shall discourage such gatherings when they tend to delay the game.
- C. All players present will bat in a continuous batting order.
 - 1) Players arriving after the start of the game shall be immediately added to the bottom of the batting order.
 - 2) Any player removed from the line-up due to injury or illness may re-enter the game any time and shall return to their original place in the batting order.



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- D. In any instance in which a team needs a substitute for a base runner who becomes ill, is injured, or ejected from the game by the umpire, the last player making an out, who is otherwise eligible to play, shall be used as a substitute.
- E. Runners may take standard lead off. A runner on 3rd base may advance to home on a wild pitch or a passed ball.
- F. The batter must keep one foot in the batter's box at all times in order to speed up play.
- G. Only **one** on-deck batter is allowed at any time and must be positioned to the back of the current batter.
- H. Each roster player present for a game shall be used defensively for a minimum of 7 innings in a one week period and no less than 4 innings per game, unless disciplinary or medical actions take precedence.
- I. The higher seeded team will be used to determine the home team in all playoff games. Teams will be seeded for playoffs at the end of the regular season.
- J. Dropped 3rd strike rule is in effect.
- K. The Infield Fly rule is in effect.
- L. A batter who throws his or her bat will be automatically called out. No warnings to be given.
- M. Speed up rule: courtesy runner for catcher is mandatory with two outs. Must be catcher of the next inning. Courtesy runner is last out.

Pitching Rules

- A. Any team member may pitch, subject to the restrictions of the pitching rules. League age 11 players **must** pitch one (1) complete inning of the first four (4) innings. (Three outs in the same inning constitute an inning pitched.) This rule is waived for both teams if either team has only two or fewer League Age 11 players present. A team discovered in violation of this rule must immediately replace the ineligible pitcher and the game continues on with no penalties. All such violations must be reported to the Bronco Representative. Repeated offenses will lead to disciplinary action taken against the team manager.
- B. The first balk by a pitcher shall be a warning only. Each pitcher is eligible for 1 balk warning.
- C. Bronco age pitchers shall not pitch in more than four innings on the same calendar day.
- D. Pitchers shall not pitch more than 2 innings per game. Pitchers shall be allowed to pitch in no more than 4 innings in any calendar week with two Division games, nor more than 6 innings in any calendar week with three Division games, nor more than 8 innings in any calendar week with more than three Division games. A calendar week is from 12:01 a.m. Monday to 12 midnight the following Sunday. A new week shall start on the first day of playoffs after rounds with "byes" are completed.
- E. As soon as a pitcher delivers one pitch to a batter the pitcher shall be considered as having pitched in one inning as applies to innings pitched for the week.
- F. 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 re-scheduled games or the playoff of postponed, suspended, or tie games. A pitcher is not charged with innings pitched in an incomplete game where the game will be restarted from the beginning.



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- G. Any pitcher withdrawn from the lineup, or a pitcher who is withdrawn from the mound and stays in the game at another position, shall not be permitted to pitch again in the same game.
- H. If a relief pitcher comes in "cold" the umpire shall allow the pitcher to warm up properly with at least eight warm-up pitches. When a pitcher takes his position at the beginning of each inning he shall be permitted at least five warm-up pitches.
- I. Pitchers discovered exceeding the allowed number of innings shall be immediately withdrawn from the mound if pitching and the game continues on with no penalties. The pitcher is ineligible to pitch in the next Division game in which he plays. All violations must be reported to the Bronco Representative. Repeated offenses will lead to disciplinary action taken against the team manager.
- J. The pitcher named in the batting order turned in prior to the start of the game, shall pitch to the first batter or any substitute batter until such batter is put out or reaches first base, unless the pitcher sustains injury or illness which, in the judgment of the umpire-in-chief, incapacitates him from pitching.
- K. A manager or coach may make two trips to the mound for any one pitcher in any one inning. The second trip to the same pitcher in the same inning will cause the removal of this pitcher. Note: A manager or coach, who talks to the pitcher around the mound area between innings, does not constitute a trip to the mound.
- L. Any pitcher who hits 2 batters in one inning or 3 batters in a game must be removed from being the pitcher for the rest of the game.
- M. Intentional walks will not be allowed.

Length of Games

- A. Games shall be six innings in duration and subject to the following provisions.
 - 1) For regular season Division games there shall be no extra innings: if the game ends tied it shall be recorded as such.
 - 2) For Division playoff games, when a game is tied at the end of regulation length, it shall go into extra innings until a decision is reached.
 - 3) No inning shall begin after 1 ³/₄ hours past the start of game except for Division playoff games that are tied.
- B. If a game is called for darkness or any non-weather related reason before it is a complete game, as described in Section B, it shall be considered a suspended game and shall be resumed from the point of curtailment at the time scheduled by League officials. If a game is called for any weather related reason before it is a complete game, as described in Section B, it shall be replayed from the start.
- C. If a game is called for any reason in an uncompleted inning, after having reached complete-game length as described in Section B, and the visiting team ties the score or takes the lead in the uncompleted inning, and the home team does not tie the score or retake the lead in its portion of the uncompleted inning, the game shall be considered a complete game and the team in the lead at the end of the previous inning shall be declared the winner.
- D. 10-Run Rule: If a team is leading an opponent by at least 10 runs after five or more complete innings have been played or after four and one half innings if the home team shall have a 10 run lead at the end of its fourth inning, or before the completion of its fifth inning, the game shall be terminated and the team in the lead shall be declared the winner.



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10 year old play up option

If a parent believes their child is able to compete at the Bronco level, and is or will be 10 years old as of April 30 of the current year, they will be allowed to try out for a Bronco level team. 10 year olds wishing to play Bronco **MUST** be present at the try out.

All 11/12 year olds will be selected before any 10 year olds. At that point, the coaches will be able to choose 10 year old players if they wish. If the child is drafted, he/she will play on that Bronco team for the entire season. If a 10 year old is not drafted, he/she will be placed on a Mustang team. Any late registrations will be added to those Bronco teams with less than full rosters.

If a 10 year old, has an older sibling either returning or selected, the 10 year old must be taken on the same team. If not drafted they will be placed on a Mustang team for the year.

10 year olds are not eligible to pitch or be named as a sponsor or coach selection.