

# **2017 JEFFCO COOPERATIVE FALL BASEBALL TOURNAMENT RULES**

## **1. General Rules:**

- Higher seed team will have the choice between Home or Visitor. Higher seed will notify their choice at home plate meeting.
- Home Team will be the official score keeper.
- No protests. All umpires' decisions are final.
- Umpires will be instructed to have a liberal (reasonably large) strike zone. Coaches, please instruct your players to go up to the plate ready to hit.
- Lead-offs, stealing, infield fly, dropped 3<sup>rd</sup> strike, etc. (full baseball) will be played for all divisions 9/10 and older.
- Both teams must hit everyone in their lineup. Players arriving late will be inserted at the bottom of the lineup, regardless of whether the team has batted through the order or not, and will not be considered an out if team has 9 players at game start.
- Teams must have at least 8 players to start and/or play a game. An out must be taken in the 9<sup>th</sup> spot each time through the lineup. If player is removed from game due to injury, and team has less than 9 players, an out must be taken.
- Courtesy runners will not be allowed (except where a player is removed from the game due to injury. Courtesy runner will then be the last recorded out).
- MLB rules will be followed if not listed here.
- 3 completed innings will be considered a full game.

## **2. Game Time:**

- All games will be 6 innings if time allows.
- 7/8 Division - 1 hour 30 minutes. No new inning will be started after 1 hr 30 min, but games will continue until the inning is complete for innings started in time (no drop dead time).
- 9/10 - 14's Divisions - 1 hour 45 minutes. No new inning will be started after 1 hour 45 minutes, but games will continue until the inning is complete for innings started in time (no drop dead time).
- Games that end in tie will play an extra inning. California Tie Breaker will be used.
  - California Tiebreaker: The "last recorded out" in the previous at bat is placed on second base and the inning is played starting with one out. Each team will have two outs for their turn at bat. If the game is tied after one extra inning, the following innings, the last recorded out will be placed at 3<sup>rd</sup> base until a winner is declared.

## **3. Run Mercy Rule:**

- 15 runs after 3 innings
- 10 runs after 4 innings
- 8 runs after 5 innings

**4. Pitching rules:**

- Pitching sheet is used to track individual player's innings. The pitching sheet must be filled out in pen, signed by both coaches and presented at the home plate meeting. If not presented at the meeting, there will be an automatic disqualification of the infracting team.
- 6 innings per player per day (one pitch equals one inning). No limit to how many of the pitcher's 6 innings are used in a game.
- Players may not return to pitch in the same game.
- Balks
  - 7/8 Division - NO Balks will be called
  - 9/10 Division - ONE Balk warning per pitcher
  - 11/12, 13/14, 14's Divisions - NO Balk Warnings allowed

**5. Bats (There are NO exceptions to this rule!):**

- Big Barrel Bats (2 5/8, 2 3/4 or 2 1/4") will be allowed for all age groups, only if ...
  1. 1.15 BPF USSSA Mark is on bat's taper
  2. A qualified BBCOR Bat
  3. A USA Baseball Mark on bat's taper
  4. A wood bat



**6. Contact rule:**

- Whenever a tag play is evident, a runner must slide OR seek to avoid contact with the fielder.
- Note: When enforcing this rule, the umpire must judge the runner's intent. If the umpire feels that the contact was unintentional, then the runner may be declared out or the umpire can let the play stand. If the umpire feels that the contact was intentional and/or malicious, then the runner will be declared out and ejected from the game (all subsequent at bats will be recorded as outs).

**7. Metal spikes are allowed for the 13/14, 14's age group only:**

- Note that metal spikes are allowed on the portable pitching mounds. However, please make sure that the players don't tear them up any more than necessary.

**8. Zero tolerance policy for unsportsmanlike conduct from players, coaches, and parent:**

- If a player or parent is ejected, then the head coach is also ejected for the remainder of the game.
- Any player, coach or parent that is ejected for his/her own actions will be suspended for the next game as well.
- The 2nd ejection of a coach as a result of his/her own actions will result in suspension for the remainder of the 2017 season.

**9. Rosters:**

- ONLY players on the official roster are allowed on the field; use of non-roster players will result in automatic disqualification of the infracting team. An official roster maybe revised prior to tournament for a specific substitute player if approved by the fall baseball director and the player is the 9<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup> player on the roster. Substitute players must be identified at the home plate meeting to both the coach and umpire. The substitute player cannot pitch or catch and must hit at the bottom of the lineup.

**10. 7/8 Division Specific Rules:**

- Pitching:

- Pitcher gets up to 6 pitches per batter (no walks). If the batter has not put the ball into play or has not struck out, a coach will throw 2 more pitches to the batter. The batter is out if the ball is not put into play after these pitches.
- The batter will receive an additional pitch if the 2<sup>nd</sup> coach pitch is a foul ball. This can be repeated as many times as necessary.
- No stealing, leadoffs, bunts, balks, or dropped 3<sup>rd</sup> strike rule.
- Maximum of 10 batters per inning. The last play will be over as follows:
  - The 3<sup>rd</sup> out of the inning is made.
  - The ball is controlled by a player while touching home plate.
  - The batter scores a run.
- No more than 10 fielders at a time. 4 outfielders, 4 infielders, 1 pitcher, 1 catcher.