



**NORTHVILLE EARLY BIRD TOURNAMENT
24TH ANNUAL
MAY 11TH – 13TH 2018**

2018 TOURNAMENT 8U BASEBALL RULES ADDENDUM

Except for the points indicated below, the 2018 Early Bird Tournament Rules apply.

1. Pool Play games will be umpired by one umpire. Bracket play games will be umpired by two umpires.
2. Every player in uniform shall play a minimum of three innings per six-inning game. This is on the honor's system, and it will not be tracked by the umpire. Please comply with the spirit for which this is intended.
3. A half inning shall consist of either three outs or a maximum of five runs scored. The 6th inning (note: NOT necessarily the last inning, but only the 6th inning) of the game shall consist of either three outs or a maximum of eight runs scored per team.
4. A pitching machine will be used at all times, placed approximately 40 feet from home plate. The pitcher will play along-side the machine and is required to wear a protective helmet. Speed of the pitching machine will be set at 35-40 mph. The umpire will operate the pitching machine. The machine will be the arm type machine, not wheel type.
5. A batter will receive six pitches from the machine per at bat. Three strikes are an out and complete the at bat. If the ball is fouled off on the third strike or sixth pitch (whichever comes first), the batter will receive another pitch until the ball is hit fair or missed regardless of the number of pitches. In the event that a batter does not swing at the first five pitches, he must attempt a swing at the sixth pitch or he is declared out and the at bat is complete. There are no walks.
6. A batted ball that hits the machine or the umpire will be considered a dead ball. The batter will be awarded first base, and all runners that are forced will advance one base.
7. Timeout may be called only by an infielder in control of the ball and only when on the infield dirt in or near the baseline. The umpire must recognize and grant the timeout to halt play. If a runner is over halfway to the next base, the runner will get the next base. If a runner is less than halfway to the next base, he will return to the previous base. This is all in the umpire's judgment, and his discretion cannot be argued.

- 8.** There is no infield fly rule.
- 9.** The batter cannot advance to first base on a dropped third strike. He is out. The dropped third strike rule does not apply.
- 10.** Batters are not permitted to bunt or swing easy at the ball. This is a judgment call by the umpire, he will direct the batter back to the batter's box, and the pitch will count as a foul ball. Runners may not advance.
- 11.** Baserunners are not permitted to leadoff or steal bases. The runner must remain in contact with the base until the ball is hit. The runner shall be called out for leaving early or stealing.