

## 13U - 16U Tournament Rules

### Refund Policy

Any team that cancels its registration less than 30 days prior to the tournament start date will give up their entire entry fee.

- Full refund if no games are played due to weather.
- 1/2 returned if only one game is played due to weather.
- No refund after two games.

GVAA reserves the right to change the tournament format based on weather or other conditions. There will be no refund of entry fees due to changes in the tournament format.

### Player Age

- Age cutoff for all divisions is as of April 30 of the current year.
- Copies of birth certificates must accompany team rosters for each player and kept by the coaches. We will not collect the birth certificates.

### Time Limits and Innings

13U -16U games are designed to go 7 innings, however, no new inning may begin after 2 hours from the start time. Drop dead time is 2hrs 10mins from start of the game. Game is official if losing team has batted 4 times. If the teams reach the drop-dead time and the home team is ahead the game is official with that score recorded. If the home team is behind and the drop-dead time is reached the last completed inning will be the final score. In the event of weather conditions additional speed up rules may be put in place. No time limits are in place for championship games. If the game is tied after 7 innings AND the time limit has not been reached the game may continue into extra inning(s). However, after playing extra inning(s), if the time limit has been reached, and the game is still tied, no new inning may be started, and the game shall end in a tie. **Exception Play In & Championship game – must end with a winner.**

### Playing Rules

Play shall be in accordance with current Babe Ruth Tournament Rules with the following changes: **Metal cleats not permitted on GVAA Babe Ruth turf field. Any player wearing metal cleats and reaches base will be declared out. This rule will be strictly enforced by tournament umpires.**

### Pitching Restrictions

A pitcher may not pitch more than seven innings in any two consecutive games. 7-0-7

### Mound Visits

The pitcher must be removed on the second mound visit in an inning for all age groups.

### Batting Order

Teams may bat 9 players or 10 with an extra player (EP) or may bat universal at their option.

### **Defensive Substitution**

Defensive substitutions shall be free except no removed pitcher may return to pitch in the same game.

### **Courtesy Runner**

A courtesy runner may be used for the catcher with two outs. The courtesy runner will be the player who made the last out or any player not currently in the team's batting order.

### **10-Run Mercy Rule**

The 10-run rule takes effect after 5 innings.

### **Bat Restrictions**

The bat may not exceed 34" in length, and the bat barrel may not exceed 2 5/8" in diameter. **All bats must be certified USA Approved or BBCOR.50 only.** No other bats will be allowed. Anyone using an illegal bat and reaches base will be recorded as an out, second altercation results in team forfeit. <https://usabat.com/>. A player may use a wood bat if they choose to do so.

### **Game Start Times**

Games will start at their scheduled times or 10 minutes after the game in front ends if later than the scheduled starting time.

### **Intentional Delaying of Game**

Any attempt to intentionally delay a game by the coach or players may result in a forfeit. It is at the discretion of the Tournament Director to make the determination. The opposing coach may file a protest during or immediately after the game to the Tournament Director for consideration. Examples of intentional delays include but are not limited to: excessive pick off attempts, switching multiple pitchers or catchers in any one given inning, delaying time in between innings. **If umpire deems delay of game is intentional, he can add additional time on clock for the delay time.**

### **Format**

Tiebreakers, in order, are as follows:

1. Overall record (winning percentage)
2. Head-to-Head record.
3. Least runs allowed.
4. Total Net Run Differential.
5. Most Runs Scored.

## 6. Coin Flip.

The home and visiting teams, including in championship games, will be determined before each game by a coin flip. The only exception will be the first game played by GVAA they will be the home team for that game, all other games will be determined by coin flip.

\*Depending upon the number of teams in a division it is possible for some teams to play 4 games. Teams that play a fourth game it will not count towards their win percentage only the first 3 games will count. When determining winning percentage, a tie shall count as  $\frac{1}{2}$  of a win. For example, a 2-0-1 record is better than a 2-1 record.

### **Code of Conduct**

Any player or coach ejected from a game will NOT be allowed to play/coach in the next game and must relocate themselves to the outfield away from the game. No further interference will be tolerated. If the same player/coach is ejected twice he/she will not be permitted to play/coach/spectate for the remainder of the tournament and must leave the premises. Failure to do so will result in a team forfeiture. Any parent ejected from a game will not be permitted to return and must vacate the premises for the remainder of the tournament. While we do not anticipate any issues, the police will be called for continued misconduct, threats or excessive behavior that takes place on any of the properties.

Any team or their supporters that initiate, causes, or continue any problems will cause that team to be expelled from the tournament without refund of the entrance fee.