

2021 8U-12U 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.

Time Limits and Innings

- 8U thru 12U games are designed to go 6 innings, however, no new inning may begin after 1 hour 45 minutes hours from the start time (time kept by the umpire). Game is official if losing team has batted 4 times. If the game is tied after 6 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.**
- Weather delayed games will continue from the exact point where they left off.

Playing Rules

7U, 8U, 9U, and 10U: 46/60; 11U-12U: 50/70; 13U-15/16U: 60/90

Play shall be in accordance with current Cal Ripken Tournament Rules with the following changes: (**METAL SPIKES ARE NOT PERMITTED**).

Pitching Restrictions: A pitcher may not pitch more than six innings in any two consecutive games 6-0-6. i.e Example: Donny Baseball pitches 4 innings in game 1, he may pitch no more than 2 inning in game 2. Donny Baseball can return for game 3. Should Donny Baseball pitch 6 innings in game 1, he would not be eligible to pitch in game 2. FAILURE TO COMPY WILL RESULT IN A FORFEIT.

Except for 8's can pitch no more than 2 innings per game. If a pitcher throws just one pitch in an inning, that is considered an official inning. TEAMS ARE ENCOURAGED TO TRACK THEIR OPPONNENTS PITCHERS

Batting Order: (no maximum player restriction to length of lineup).

Teams must bat universal. Meaning every kid bats (all your kids). You cannot sub a kid in and out of lineup for 8u through 12u. Players arriving late may be added to the end of the lineup. **This must be discussed during ground rules.**

Defensive Substitution: Defensive substitutions shall be free except no removed pitcher may return to pitch in the same game. Once a pitcher is removed from the position, he/she is not allowed to return to the game as a pitcher. They may return defensively anywhere else on the field. A pitcher's innings must be consecutive.

Players: This tournament does not require a minimum number of players to begin a game. A team may play defense with as few as a single player but, no more than 10 in the field. 7U, MAX 10 defensive players, all other age groups= MAX 9 defensive players (8U,9U,10U,11U,12U,13U,14U,15/16U).

Courtesy Runner: A courtesy runner must be used for the catcher with two outs. The courtesy runner will be the player who made the last out.

Mercy Rule:10 after 4: The 10-run rule after 3 ½ innings or after each team has batted 4 times. *(As written in the Cal Ripken 2019 Rules)*. Only 7U/8U have inning run maximums (5) runs. Last inning in each group is unlimited.

1. **10 RUN RULE** – Any Cal Ripken tournament game must be terminated immediately once becoming regulation (3 ½ or 4 innings) if one team is ahead by ten (10) or more runs and has had equal times at bat. Or the home team is leading. (If the losing team is down by 10 after 4 at-bats, the game is over; if the losing team is down by 10 after 5 at-bats, the game is over. A game should not be continued if a losing team is down by 10 runs or more and they have had a minimum of 4 at-bats.

Player Eligibility

1. **Revised-Rule 11.04, Paragraph 1(a) – Documents - (All Divisions)** Birth documents/Babe Ruth League officially laminated or electronic I.D Cards **are** required as part of the tournament credentials. Each team's manager is responsible to have each players birth certificate available if the players' eligibility is questioned by the opposing team.

Bat Restrictions:

Only USA Approved bats are allowed in the tournament. Bats from previous years are not permitted under any circumstances. Any player caught using an illegal bat and reaches base will be recorded as out. Teams will receive a warning for their first altercation. A second altercation will force the offending team to forfeit their game. T-BALL bats are not permitted and viewed as illegal. These parameters are by Cal Ripken Rules. Please familiarize yourselves with this information. <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 (field preparations is the only exception).

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 following 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 believes delay of game is intentional, he can add additional time on clock for the delay time.**

Format

There is a championship game for all Divisions. All divisions that are divided into two groups, the winners of each group will play in the championship game. If there is one group, the top two finishers will play in the championship game. **If three teams end up 3-0 in same division #1 seed will get bye and #2 and #3 will play "play off game" prior to Championship on Monday.**

Tiebreakers, in order, are as follows:

1. Overall record (winning percentage)*
2. Least runs allowed
3. Total Net Run Differential = (Runs scored – Runs allowed)
4. Most Runs Scored
5. Coin Flip

Coin Flip The home and visiting teams will be determined before each game by a coin flip. GVAA teams will be the home team for their first game played and then the coin flip for every other game thereafter. **Highest seed or team with best record, based on criteria above will be awarded as the home team during playoff and championship games. The home team may also defer if they so choose.**

Depending upon the number of teams in a division it is possible for some teams to play 4 games. Teams which play a 4th game it will not be penalized in case of a loss. Their winning percentage only the first 3 games played count towards winning percentage. 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.

APPLIES TO 8U KID PITCH ONLY **Cal Ripken District Rules for 8's year olds.** They are modified from normal baseball. Key changes:

- 5 runs per 1/2 inning, unlimited 6th inning (Must be declared by the umpire prior to the start of the inning).
- Runner may **NOT** advance home on wild pitch/passed ball. (Runners may only advance from third on a batted ball or bases loaded walk only).
- Stealing is permitted other than home (NO stealing of home). Should an attempted throw from the catcher go into the outfield, the baserunner is permitted to advance to third base however, this is a live play and the defense is permitted to make a play in an attempt to create an out. The runner may not advance home on a second errant throw.

Bunting is allowed at 8A or 8B (NO FAKE BUNTING).

- Pitcher can pitch 2 innings per game max (must be consecutive innings).
- No dropped third strike (catcher does not have to catch a third strike to record the out).
- NO INFIELD FLY.

OVER THROW DEFINITION

Should an errant throw go past a fielder and stay within playable territory, the ball is live and runners are free to advance at will. Example, player rounding second may score on a ball thrown from a position in the infield over another players head (i.e., throw to first).

AN OVERTHROW IS A BALL THAT GOES "OUT OF PLAY" AS DISCUSSED IN THE GROUND RULES.