

**Sports America L.L.C.  
1212 NE Kenwood Dr.  
Lees Summit, MO 64064**

### **Tournament Series Rules**

1. Teams may play an official game with an eight (8) player line up. If a team plays with an eight (8) player line-up, an out shall be declared for the ninth (9<sup>th</sup>) position in the batting line-up each turn at bat. A ninth (9<sup>th</sup>) player may be added to the batting order as soon as he becomes available.
2. Teams may bat a nine (9) player line-up, a ten (10) player line-up using an Extra Hitter (EH) or a continuous line-up of all present uniformed players. Such line-up must be declared before the start of the game and used the entire game.
3. When playing with a continuous line-up, all players other than the nine (9) defensive position players are Extra Hitters and may move freely in defensive positions. Any player(s) arriving after the game has begun, shall be added to the bottom of the batting line-up. The courtesy runner must be the player whom recorded the previous out or if no outs have been recorded in the game, the courtesy runner shall be the previous batter not on base. The batting order must never change. If a player become ill, injured or is ejected and cannot report to bat an out will be recorded each time that spot is reached in the batting order.
4. In batting a nine (9) player line-up or a ten (10) player line-up. Each starter may re-enter once but he must return to his previously assigned spot in the batting order. The courtesy runner must be out of the line-up.
5. A Twelve-run spread after three innings and eight-run spread at the end of the fourth inning shall constitute an official game for all games.
6. A game shall consist of six or seven innings (12 and under = 6), (13 and over = 7) provided the game is not called due to the weather, or as noted in (2) above, except an inning shall not start if 1 hour and 40 minutes has elapsed unless the score is tied. If for any reason there would be a need to adjust the game time the umpire will announce the official game time in the managers meeting prior to each game. It is the head coaches responsibility to know the game time. An inning shall start when the third out is made on the home team.
7. In the event of rain, which causes postponement of any game in progress that is not an official game, the game will be suspended and completed from that point if the tournament is continued and that game is needed.
8. The home team shall be determined by the flip of a coin between the opposing managers. The home team shall be the official scorekeeper.

**9. The designated hitter may be used per the American League rulebook (15 years or older) Or, an extra hitter may be used to constitute a 10-man batting order. The EH, if used, shall be considered a defensive position for the purpose of substitution.**

10. A base runner shall be called out when he does attempt to avoid contact on any close play and contact is made that would be considered a dangerous play. Catchers must have the ball before blocking the plate. In addition, any flagrant or violent contact caused on the part of the base runner shall result in his immediate ejection from the game.

11. All bats must conform to the National Federation rules, which states that the length may not be more than three units greater than the weight. (High School Divisions Only.)

12. Metal spikes are not permitted for the 12 and under/6<sup>th</sup> grade division and below.

13. The following distances will be used in the tournament.

Age/Grade Division	Between Bases	Pitching Distance
9-UNDER	65'	46'
10-UNDER	65'	46'
11-UNDER	70'	50'
12-UNDER	70'	50'
13-UNDER	80'	54'
14-UNDER AA	80'	54'
14-UNDER AAA/MAJOR	90'	60'
SENIOR (15-18 YR OLDS)	90'	60'

The following general information shall be adhered to during this tournament.

1. No batting practice is permitted at the complex. No soft toss is permitted outside the field and balls must not be hit into the fences. All warm-ups must be confined to on-field space only. Do not swing bats or throw balls in the common areas.
2. No baiting of umpires, profanity, or abusive language will be tolerated.
3. The Tournament Rules Committee will settle all protests at the time of occurrence. All protest must accompany a \$100 Protest Fee.
4. Any person/player ejected must leave the park immediately and may be prevented from coaching, participating or watch the next game that team plays. Depending on the violation the person/player ejected may not be able to return to the tournament.

5. Trophies will be awarded to the first-place team and the second-place teams and their players.
6. **Two game balls will be provided to start a game. The teams are responsible for chasing down foul balls and getting them back in the field of play. If any balls are not recovered it is the team's responsibility to replace the balls having them approved by the home plate umpire. All games will end with two used balls.**
7. Each team will be responsible for providing a scorekeeper. The home team's scorebook shall be the official book.
8. Refreshments are available at the concession stands for all games played at the complex. No bottled or canned beverages are permitted into the complex. No alcoholic beverages of any kind are permitted on the premises including parking lot.

Method for determining pool winners in the event of a tie.

1. In the event two teams are tied for a pool winner position with a 3-1 or 2-1 record; the team, which won the head-to-head game, will be the division winner.
2. In the event three teams are tied for a division winner with a 3-1, 2-1 or 1-1 record, the team which allowed the fewest runs against the other teams it is tied with shall be the division winner. If the tie has still not been resolved, run differential shall be used.

In tournaments that we do not charge a prepaid gate fee. The Gate fee will be collected to enter the park. There will be 3 Coaches Passes available.

**All rules are subject to USSSA Baseball Rules with the final decision at the discretion of the Tournament Director. Any rule not written under the Sports America Rules or USSSA Rules will fall under the American League Rules of Baseball.**