

SELECT TRAVEL BASEBALL
TOURNAMENTS

2023
RULES

Select Travel Baseball Tournament Rule Highlights

General Information

Columbus Recreation and Parks Department reserves the right to alter, change or amend these rules as needed. All Columbus Recreation and Parks Department Select Travel Baseball Tournaments will follow National Federation of High School Associations (nfhs.com) playing rules, unless noted below.

Teams must compete in all games in group play to advance to tournament bracket.

Tournament standings and final brackets at the conclusion of pool play are not official until posted by tournament staff. Tiebreakers can affect final standings and bracket seeding. Teams are responsible to ensure they have received the most up-to-date final brackets.

Teams must be at their field, ready to take the field and play ball **30 minutes before each start time on the schedule**. The Tournament Director reserves the right to start any game 30 minutes or less, early.

Age / Identity Verification

When age or identity verification is necessary and requested by tournament officials, the team coach and/or individual participant **must** provide proper legal documentation pertaining to age or identity, such as birth certificate. Individual team members should have identification available at the ball field. Coaches may wish to keep a folder with an id or birth certificate photocopy for each team member.

Harassment and Violence

Columbus Recreation and Parks will not tolerate acts of verbal harassment or physical violence. Any person or team that does not conduct itself in a civil manner towards program official's, umpires and fellow participants will be suspended from the tournament with **no refund**. The coach, in part, will be held accountable for individual behavior by his or her team members, coaches, and spectators. Team coaches are to set parameters. Coaches will be held to an extended standard when unsportsmanlike situations are addressed.

An umpire, director or supervisor may eject player(s), coaches or spectator(s) whenever a situation warrants such action. **The ejected person must leave the playing area (subject to determination by tournament director) immediately**. The Tournament Director or UIC may also forfeit any game when such action is deemed necessary.

Protest

Umpires will work to settle all situations on the field. Protests will be allowed for age and pitching violations or rule interpretations only. Protests must be declared to the umpire before the next legal or illegal pitch after the dispute, at which time the UIC will be notified. No protest will be allowed following the game. Tournament officials will rule on all protests and their decision will be final.

Protest fee \$100.00 cash.

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Tiebreakers—Group Play Games

Games can end in a tie; extra innings may be played only if time permits.

If the time limit has been reached, and the home team is ahead in their bottom half of the inning, the game shall be over.

Tiebreakers—Bracket Games

All bracket games, except championship game.

If a game is tied and time still remains, then one complete inning will be played after regulation; if no team wins after this inning is completed, we will then revert to the Ohio baseball shootout. If game is tied and time limit has expired, then revert to the Ohio baseball shootout. The last 2 batters on record in the batting order the previous inning will be placed in order at 1st and 2nd base (the second last batter from the previous inning goes to 2nd base and the last batter from the previous inning out goes to 1st base) and the offense will have no outs. This method will be used for every inning after until a winner is determined. No pinch/courtesy runners will be allowed for the last 2 batters that are being positioned.

Bat Rules

- All 13U players must use a maximum “drop 8” (-8) bat with the official 1.15 BPF mark permanently stamped.
- All 14U players must use a maximum “drop 5” (-5) bat with the official 1.15 BPF mark permanently stamped.
- All 15U and above players must use a bat that conforms to the NFHS bat standards, including a weight to length ratio “drop 3” (-3), AND be BBCOR permanently stamped.
- Wood bats are permitted in any age group.



Innings, Completed Games

If the time limit has been reached and the home team is batting in their bottom half of the inning, the game shall be over.

Columbus Recreation and Parks Department reserves the right to alter, shorten or reschedule games in any manner in the event of inclement weather, facility issues or other unforeseen circumstances. This may include shortened game times, “drop dead” time limits, fewer innings, etc.

Courtesy Runners

At any time, the offensive team may use a courtesy runner for the pitcher and catcher of record from the previous inning on defense. The courtesy runner must be a player not presently in the line-up. If no players not presently in the line-up are available, the courtesy runner shall be the player that completed his last turn at-bat.

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Approved Lineups

Teams may bat:

- Nine (9) player line-up, or a nine (9) player line-up with a Designated Hitter (DH)
- or a Ten (10) player line-up with an Extra Hitter (EH)
- or a Continuous line-up of all present, eligible, uniformed players. Such line-up must be declared before the start of the game and used the entire game.
 - If a team uses a line-up that contains ten (10) players, the player in the Extra Hitter position has free defensive substitution
- When using the continuous lineup and a player has to leave the game for any reason, that position in the line-up becomes an out when that at bat comes around.

Home / Visitors

A flip of a coin between the two teams shall determine the home team for each pool play game. The highest seeded team shall be the home team for bracket play games in single elimination brackets.

Age Groups / Divisions

The player's age on or before April 30 of the current year determines the player's eligible age division. Individual players, or entire teams, can play up an age division but can never play down an age division.

Penalties for violation—If any player is found to be illegally participating due to an age violation during or after a tournament game, all games result in a forfeit, and the team and player are removed from the tournament.

Rosters

A team representative must complete a Columbus Recreation and Parks Department Tournament roster of all eligible players.

Each team must upload their players to the online QuickScores program with the following:

- Full name as it appears on their birth certificate
- Birthdate as it appears on their birth certificate
- Any and all necessary waivers and contact information.
- All players participating in Columbus Recreation and Parks Department tournaments shall have a photocopy of their original birth certificate in the possession of their team manager at all times. Failure to have a photocopy of the original birth certificate immediately available upon demand shall result in a forfeit, and the team and player are removed from the tournament.
- All rosters must be completed prior to the roster freeze date. This freeze date is the Friday prior to the tournament, at 12 p.m.

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Divisions

Columbus Recreation and Parks Department Tournaments are considered “open draw.” To assist with balancing the tournament schedule, local league classifications and affiliation ranking designation will be utilized.

Team Insurance

All teams are required to have team insurance. Teams playing in multiple events only need to submit one insurance form for the season.

- Team insurance form needs to list “City of Columbus and B.A.T.S” as additionally insured. Your insurance provider will be able to add both entities to your 2023 insurance.

Pitching Rules

See chart on [Page 5](#). Teams may check any pitching records up to the start of the game in question. If a team currently playing is requesting a pitching limit/innings check, they must follow the Protest Rule procedures. Teams may check their own players at any time.

Recording: The umpire will give the **Home Team** the official scorecard with the pitching chart on the backside. It is the responsibility of the home team to keep track of pitching during the game. This includes First Name, Last Name and number of innings pitched. When the game is completed both managers (or his/her designee) must sign the card, and it must be returned to the umpire. The umpire will return the card to tournament headquarters or designated staff.

General Fair Play / Sportsmanship

Intentional disregard for the stated rules (or the spirit in which the rules exist) as well as obvious unsportsmanlike behavior will not be tolerated and will place the individuals and/or teams involved at risk for a possible forfeit or banishment from future Columbus Recreation and Parks Department Tournaments.

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<u>Rule</u>	<u>9U-10U</u>	<u>11U-12U</u>	<u>13U</u>	<u>14U-16U</u>
Base Distance	65'	70'	80'	90'
Pitching Distance	46'	50'	54'	60'6"
Game Length	6 Innings	6 Innings	7 Innings	7 Innings
Time Limit (no limit for championship games)	1:45	1:45	2:00	2:00
Lead-off/Steals/Adv. on uncaught 3rd strike	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Approved Catchers Helmets	All catchers must wear a hockey-style mask. 2-piece masks are not permitted.			
Mercy Rule	15 after 3, 8 after 4		15 after 3, 10 after 4, 8 after 5	
Balks	No balks, unless runner is advancing then allowed the next base and no penalty. If the runner is jeopardized, they are returned to original base and no penalty assessed.	Yes	Yes	Yes
Cleats	Metal Cleats are prohibited. Teams must use molded cleats, turf shoes or tennis shoes.			
Sliding	Feet first only, unless retreating to base. 1st offense, team warning; 2nd offense, offender is out		Head & feet first permitted	
Mound Visits	A second trip to the same pitcher in the same inning must be removed			
Pitching (*1 out = 1/3 inning; 2 outs = 2/3 inning; 3 outs = 1 inning).	Age Group	One Day Max and Pitch Next Day	One Day Max Total Innings	Tournament Max
	9U-12U	3 innings	6 innings	8 innings
	13U-14U	3 innings	7 innings	8 innings
	15U-16U	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Tie-Breaker	Overall record; Head to Head (if 3 or more tied, skip this step); Fewest Runs Allowed; Run Differential (+/- 8); Coin Toss			
Lineups	May bat 9, 9 plus a DH, 10 (EH), or Roster Bat. Refer page #.			
Home/Visitor	Coin toss for Group Play only. For all other games, higher seed is home team			