



## TCS Baseball Tournament Rules

### For 2023 Season

#### General Information

All teams will be responsible to review their scores online with our Scoring System if a score needs to be corrected please contact tournament director or field attendant. This must be done prior to seeding completed for playoffs so please look at scores online at <https://play.tricountysports.net/>

**No tobacco products will be allowed into any of the parks. Usage of these products will be restricted to the parking areas only. Any coach/player found using the products on the field will be ejected from the TOURNAMENT.**

**Pets will no longer be allowed inside any of the parks that we have reserved for tournament games**

Thank you for being a part of our tournament. We hope that all of you have fun and enjoy a nice baseball experience in Fredericksburg, VA. Good luck to each team! Team trophies will be given to the champions and runner up upon completion of the tournament with individual player awards for First and Second place teams. Please make sure that you register your team and fill out your roster online with our online system. All teams will need to check in to concession table prior to first game If you have any questions please contact Scott Jacobs 540-424-5909

# Tournament Rules

This event and will be governed by USSSA rule book, unless stated below. We insist that all teams, players, coaches, and parents play in a sportsmanship manner and respect everyone that is involved during our tournament or actions can be taken by those in charge. Coaches, you will be responsible for your players and parents, if they become unruly then our umpires will consult with the coaches and request that they get the players or parents under control. If the coaches can't control the situation, then the head coach will be ejected from the game. If a coach or spectator is ejected from the game, then that person will not be permitted in or around ANY of the baseball fields. If a coach is ejected, then that situation will be review by the tourney director and at that time will decide if the coach will be allowed to coach in the rest of the tournament. In most cases when a spectator is ejected then they will not be allowed back into the park for the rest of the weekend.

All teams have their roster online prior to start of first game. If for some reason that this is not done prior to the start of the game, we will look at this as a correctable error and if that player meets the age requirement, then they can be added without penalty. Tri-County Sports will honor the age waiver if your local league approves it. No players will be allowed to play on more than one team during the same event. If you have any question or problems on entering your team or players, you will need to contact your state director to help you out. Coaches this is your responsibility to make sure this is done.

**Bats** Please see the USSSA Rule book for the new bat rules.

## **Pitching rules and restrictions**

Age	1Day Max and be able to pitch next day	1Day Max and can not Pitch 2 <sup>nd</sup> day	Tournament Max
10U-12U	3	6	8
13U-14U	3	7	8
15U-Above	N/A	N/A	N/A

In the 10U-14U age groups a pitcher is only allowed to pitch 3innings to be able to pitch the next day. If the pitcher pitches more than 3 innings the first day then he can pitch a max of, 10U-12U 6innings, 13U-14U 7innings in day 1. Day 2 they will not be able to pitch.

**It will be the team's responsibility to record players pitching info in their score book and make viewable to tournament director upon request.**

**Time Limit:** 13u-18U No New Inning after 1hr 45min & 10u-12U No New Inning after 1hr-40minutes.

Every weekend we have concerns about the time limit. No new inning will start after time has expired. Time starts once the pre-game meeting between umpire and coach has ended. I encourage all teams to do the following to assure your teams makes the most of the time allowed.

1-Teams should get together with opposing team to determine who home team is. This should be done prior to the umpire's arriving.

2- Upon arrival of umpires to your field the home team should take the field and start warming up while the pre-game instruction is going on. The umpires have been instructed to hold this meeting off to the side so it will not interfere with warmups.

- Time limits are subject to change, and could become "drop dead" time limits, meaning the game is called the moment time expires. For all games after the first game of the day, teams must be at the field and ready to play at least one hour before their original start time.

- Time limit **may** be dropped or extended to 2hrs 15min in Championship Game.

## General Rules

-Playoff Seeding will be based on our online scoring system. In the event of rain outs or pool play cannot be completed then seeding will be based on the first game common denominator. If all teams have completed a legal game, then seeding will be based on everyone's first game results.

- Home Team will be awarded to teams winning coin flip prior to each game. For playoff and Championship Rounds, highest seeded team has choice of Home or Visitor.

- Mercy rules for all pool play and playoff 7 inning games (13U- above) 15 after 3 innings, 10 after 4 innings, or 8 runs after 5 innings.

- Mercy rules for all pool play and playoff 6 inning games(12U-below) 15 after 3 innings or 8 after 4 innings

- Base path and pitching distance will be compliant with USSSA rules for that age group. Balks are called with no warning.

- Ties will be recorded in Pool Play after time limit has expired. Straight baseball until time limit has been reached.

- International Tie Breaker will be in effect for playoff rounds only except for the championship game where there will be no International time breaker rule used, only straight baseball. If teams are tied after 7 innings and the time limit has not been reached, then play continues as normal in extra innings (straight baseball). However, if teams are tied when the time limit expires (regardless of the number of innings played), then the international rule will go into effect.

- An extra hitter (EH) will be allowed. IF the starting EH removed from the game and re-enter, then he must re-enter in the same spot in the batting order, unless it is an injury substitution. An EH can play defense or offense.

- Each team must declare its lineup prior to the start of the game: -Bat the entire lineup with free substitution. -Straight nine: Re-entry rule below applies to substitutions. -Extra hitter (EH): Bat 10 players. Unlimited substitutions allowed for EH.

If a player is removed from the batting line up during pool play or playoff rounds due to injury or illness, and a substitution is not available then the batter will be skipped over without any penalty. Once this has happened the batter will not be allowed to return to the game. If a player is ejected and a legal sub is not available, then his spot in the lineup will be recorded as an out.

RE-entry rule: A starter who is substituted for may return to his original spot in the batting order once per game. Once a substitution is removed from the batting order he is no longer eligible to return to the game (unless it becomes necessary to prevent a forfeit).

- Courtesy runners will be permitted and encouraged for pitchers and catchers only with any number of outs. If not batting the entire lineup, the courtesy runner must be the player not in the lineup. Or, if batting the entire lineup, the courtesy runner must be the player who recorded the last offensive out.