



## TOTAL BASEBALL'S TOURNAMENT GENERAL RULES 15U-18U

1. **THERE WILL BE ABSOLUTELY NO SEEDS OR GUM PERMITTED ON TURF FIELDS. ANY INDIVIDUAL SEEN WITH GUM AND/OR SEEDS WILL RECEIVE 1 WARNING. AFTER 1<sup>ST</sup> WARNING IS RECEIVED, ANY INDIVIDUAL DISOBEYING THIS RULE WILL HAVE THEIR COACH EJECTED FROM THE GAME. IF TOLD AN ADDITIONAL TIME, THE COACH WILL BE EJECTED FROM THE ENTIRETY OF THE REMAINING TOURNAMENT.**
2. **All games have a 1 hour 50 minute time, with exception to the Championship Game. Game time starts at the end of the Coaches/Umpires meeting.** Games may start early barring a mercy. Teams must be prepared to play no later than 15 minutes after the end of the previous game. Umpires must notify each team's scorekeeper of the official start time, which will start after the managers/umpires meeting. An inning's start time is determined by the time after the last innings out. A game/inning will end if the time has expired and 1) home team takes the lead 2) home team is leading 3) team cannot score more than 8 runs in an inning. Championship game will not have a time limit except if designated by the tournament director due to field or city rental times.
3. All games will play with a 4-3 count.
4. **The Tourney Machine app will keep an official record of scores, records, seeding, runs scored, and runs against. Coaches and/or official scorekeepers are liable to be honest and for notifying Total Baseball tournament officials of scores.**
5. All teams must keep a scorecard. **The Home team is the official scorer and lineups should be exchanged 15 minutes prior to game time. Both teams must turn in a designated scorecard to a Total Baseball tournament official immediately following completion of the game.**
6. Two (2) points are awarded for a win, one (1) point for a tie and no (0) points for a loss. Playoff seeds will be determined by: 1) Win / Tie / Loss record 2) Head-to-Head competition (If three or more teams have the same record and all the teams have not played each other then tiebreaker will revert to #3) 3) Fewest runs allowed 4) Most runs scored 5) Coin flip
7. Game time is forfeit time. A team must have nine players at game time to begin, otherwise it will be ruled a forfeit. In the event that an injury occurs, a team may play the rest of the game with eight players. The spot of the injured player will be ruled an out if no other players are available to take the spot in the lineup.
8. Major League Baseball (American League) rules with Total Baseball's modifications will be used. Coaches may review these rules with a Total Baseball official upon request.
9. RE-ENTRY RULES: There will be free defensive substitutions except at the pitcher's position. Players will not be allowed to re-enter the batting line-up in a different spot. In the event that an injury occurs and a team has no eligible substitutes left to play, a player who has used his/her eligibility may re-enter the game.
10. Teams may, prior to the game, list 9 or 10 players in a batting order. The 10<sup>th</sup> player is an EH (Extra Hitter) and can bat any number in the line-up. This is optional and cannot be implemented after the game begins. Teams may bat all players. This line-up must be decided before the game and must remain intact throughout the rest of the game.
11. Any vacated batting spot in the line-up is considered an automatic out at the turn of that at bat.
12. At any time, the offensive team may use a courtesy runner for the pitcher or catcher. The courtesy runner must be a player not presently in the line-up. If there are no extra runners available, the courtesy runner will be the player that was the last out recorded. The re-entry status of the courtesy runner, pitcher, and catcher will not be affected by this rule.

13. Pitching limitations – There will be no pitching limitations. Coaches are expected to enforce the safety of their players' arms. Recommended pitching requirements can be found at: Little League Pitching Limits
14. Mercy Rule – If a team is ahead by:
  - a. 15 runs after 3 innings (7 inning Game)
  - b. 12 runs after 4 innings (7 inning Game)
  - c. 8 runs after 5 innings (7 inning Game)
15. A mercy rule will be used to complete a regulation game when one team's margin of lead is greater than or equal to the run differential listed above (Rule 14). The home team shall not bat if they are leading and the run differential is met prior to the start of the bottom half of the listed inning (Rule 14) the game will be considered a mercy and be over.
16. All players must have completed registration forms on file and have their team fee paid in full before they will be allowed to play in the game. Coaches will be notified if they have a player in violation of this rule as far in advance as possible. No one is allowed to add players to the roster during the tournament. Use of an illegal player will result in a forfeit of the game that the illegal player participated.
17. Any player, coach, or spectator that uses foul language (profanity) while at the field may be removed from the facility immediately. This is the only warning. Total Baseball reserves the right to forfeit any game in the event someone is asked to leave and refuses to. The win will be awarded to the opposing team. In all cases of ejection for all players and coaches, a MANDATORY ONE (1) GAME SUSPENSION SHALL BE ENFORCED. IT SHALL BE THE NEXT GAME, NO QUESTIONS ASKED. Managers MUST control their own players and spectators!
18. NO ONE is permitted to intentionally throw equipment: helmets, bats, balls, etc. Anyone caught doing this may be removed from the field.
19. A pre-game coin flip will determine the home team for pool play. Highest seeded team, in the playoff format, will be home team.
20. The Michigan High School slide rule will be in effect for all ages (avoid contact).
21. No protests will be allowed. The Umpire's judgment will be the final decision.
22. All teams are required to use protective helmets. Batters, runners, and on-deck hitters must have helmets on at all times.
23. All teams are required to use turf shoes or molded cleats on the fields – **METAL CLEATS ARE NOT ALLOWED.** Only turf shoes or gym shoes are allowed while pitching off the mound.
24. Catchers are required to wear full equipment: mask, chest protector, shin guards, protective helmet, and an athletic cup.
25. Bat Rules: 15u-18u must use Big Barrel Bats (2 5/8" or 2 3/4") with a -3 drop. Bats must be NBSF approved with the appropriate BBCOR certification marked permanently on the bat.
26. Teams will be limited to 8 runs per inning.
27. On the second visit (per pitcher) to the mound, per inning, the pitcher must be removed.
28. No team is allowed to have 10 players on the field at once for defense.
29. Ages for each division are determined by the age of a player as of April 30, 2023.
30. A game (in the case of weather or a severe circumstance) will be 4 innings. If a home team is winning after 3 ½ innings, they will be declared the victors.
31. If the game is called before the 4<sup>th</sup> inning is completed, and the home team is not leading after 3 ½ innings, the game will be suspended and continued at the exact spot of suspension until the 4<sup>th</sup> inning is completed or the time limit is reached. Where if tied will be deemed a tie. After starting the game at the exact same spot the original time clock will start again and the time limit will be stopped at the 1 hour 50 minute time mark.

32. If a playoff or championship game is suspended due to weather issues, the game will be picked up at the exact point of suspension and follow rule 33.
33. Any rule not covered in this set of rules will be determined by the MLB rule 901C. This gives the Umpire the authority to make a judgment that will be final.

**Total Baseball reserves the right to make decisions it feels are in the best interests of its tournaments and participants.**

15u-18u Divisions

- Pitching Mound: 60 ft. 6 in.
- Bases: 90 ft.
- NO Balk warning for pitcher

Total Baseball Contact Information

Tournament Director: Bob Raymond [bobr@totalsportscomplex.com](mailto:bobr@totalsportscomplex.com)

Total Baseball Office: (248) 668-0166

Total Sports Complex Main Office: (248) 669-9817

Website: [www.totalsportscomplex.com/sports-offerings/baseball/tournaments/](http://www.totalsportscomplex.com/sports-offerings/baseball/tournaments/)

Address: The Backyard, Total Sports Complex, 30990 S. Wixom Rd., Wixom MI 48393

**\*NOT ALLOWED AT THE BACKYARD FIELDS – TOTAL SPORTS COMPLEX:**

- PETS
- SEEDS
- GUM
- METAL CLEATS