

DAKOTA RIDGE SPORTS ASSOCIATION



LITTLETON, COLORADO

BASEBALL TOURNAMENT RULES AND GUIDELINES

General: NCS rules will apply for all divisions. Any exceptions will be noted below.

Time Limits: All divisions (except 12, 13, 14+ will be 2 hours) will have a game time limit of 1 hour and 45 minutes. No new inning may start after 1 hour and 45 minutes regardless of the score. All pool games will finish at the end of the inning in which the 1 hour and 45 minute time limit expires regardless of score. (See below for tie game rules for bracket games.) There MUST be a winner in all brackets games. There will be a 1 hour and 45 minute time limit on all Championship and Consolation games.

Innings/Game: 6 inning games for ages 9, 10, and 11; 7 inning games for ages 12, 13, and 14. A game is considered "Complete" at the conclusion of the 4th inning in the event of darkness or inclement weather. If a game is considered complete because of weather in the middle of an inning, after the 4th inning, the score will revert to the previous full inning played.

Bracket Play Tied Games: If a game is tied after the 1 hour 45 minute mark, the California tie breaker will be implemented.

Pitching: Pitching rules will follow the USA Baseball pitching rules. See below.

Run Rule: Games shall end if a team is ahead by 15 runs after 3 innings; 12 runs after 4 innings; or 8 runs after 5 innings. This run rule remains in effect for Championship and Consolation games. The Mercy Run Rule is in effect for the Championship.

Mound Trips: 1 per inning; the pitcher must be removed on the 2nd trip during the same inning.

Courtesy Runner: Courtesy runners are allowed for catchers in all situations. The player making the last RECORDED out will be the designated runner in this situation. Only the last catcher from the last inning is eligible for a courtesy runner.

Warm-Ups: No pre-game infield is allowed on the game fields, with the exception of the 10 warm-up pitches for each starting pitcher at the start of the game. Teams should conduct all pre-game drills and warm-ups on any open space they can find.

Seeding: Seeding for each division will be based on the following criteria/priority; **(1)** overall record in pool play; **(2)** head to head record; **(3)** total runs allowed; **(4)** total run differential; **(5)** coin flip.

On Field: Only rostered team players and coaches are allowed on the playing field and in dugouts before, during, and after games. Other assistants and helpers must remain outside the fenced area of the field for safety and liability reasons.

Batting Line-Up: Coaches may bat the entire line-up (free substitution), or bat 10 players with an EH. The line-up choice must be used for the entire game.

Home/Away: In pool play games a coin toss will determine the home team (and official scorekeeper). In playoff and Championship games the home team is the higher seed.

Protests: No protests allowed. All issues will be addressed on the field, and all umpire/tournament director decisions are FINAL.

Pitching Chart: The official pitching chart must be signed by the opposing coach at the end of each game. The pitching sheet will be filled out by the game umpire.

Forfeits: A forfeit is reported as 6-0 for all 9 through 11 year old divisions. A forfeit is reported as 7-0 for all 12 through 14 year old divisions. PLEASE NOTE: If it is determined that a team forfeited a pool game in order to save pitching for a playoff or Championship game, the tournament director will eject the team from the playoffs or Championship and move the next highest team in.

Tie-Breakers: Tie-breaker rules for the playoffs are as follows: **(1)** Overall winning percentage in pool play; **(2)** head to head record; **(3)** total runs allowed; **(4)** total run differential; **(5)** coin flip.

Score/Pitching sheets: Coaches from each team **MUST** sign the score/pitching sheet at the conclusion of the game, and before leaving the field, to verify all game information. If a score sheet is not signed and verified by the coach, then the scores reported by the site director/umpires will be utilized.

Scores: Scores will be posted on the NCS website as soon as possible after the first day's games are played. Schedules and results will be posted at each complex for the respected division playing there.

Playoff Seeding and Championship Game: All teams need to be at the complex where their division will be playing at the conclusion of pool play. The tournament site coordinator, along with the tournament director, will determine the playoff seeding's as soon as possible after the last pool game, and will let each team know who made the playoffs or Championship game.

Awards

Champion: The division champion will receive a team award at the conclusion of play, and each player will receive an individual champion award.

Runner-Up: The division runner-up will receive a team award at the conclusion of play, and each player will receive an individual finalist award.

Rosters and Eligibility

Roster: There will be no coaches meeting. We will use your online roster as your official roster posted on the NCS website

Conduct: Any conduct by players, coaches, parents, and/or spectators, deemed to be detrimental to the game and tournament, may result in the immediate ejection of those person/persons from the facility, and may include additional actions, including forfeiture of games, and possible ejection of that team for the remainder of the tournament.

Weather: All decisions regarding play during inclement weather will be made by the tournament director and site directors after collaboration with the umpires and coaches for each respective situation. We will make all

reasonable attempts to complete the tournament, including the option of a shortened format to assure a Championship game in each division.

Cancellation: In the event that no games are played and the tournament is cancelled entirely, teams will be refunded their entire registration fee, minus \$50 to cover fixed and committed costs for field rental and umpire fees. In the event that 1 pool game is played, 50% of the entry fee will be due to each eligible team. If two or more games are played, irrespective of conclusion, no refunds will be made due to fixed and committed costs for fields, umpires, awards, and USSSA fees.

USA PITCHING RULES

Pitch Count Limits and Required Rest Recommendations

It is important for each team to set workload limits for their pitchers to limit the likelihood of pitching with fatigue. Research has shown that pitch counts are the most accurate and effective means of doing so. See required rest recommendations below.

Age	Daily Max (Pitches in Game)	0 Days Rest	1 Days Rest	2 Days Rest	3 Days Rest	4 Days Rest	5 Days Rest
7-8	50	1-20	21-35	36-50	N/A	N/A	N/A
9-10	75	1-20	21-35	36-50	51-65	66+	N/A
11-12	85	1-20	21-35	36-50	51-65	66+	N/A
13-14	95	1-20	21-35	36-50	51-65	66+	N/A
15-16	95	1-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76+	N/A