

## Table of Contents

### Section 1 - Dates

April 1, 2024 - "2024 Ranger League Registration" and Fees Due

May 1, 2024 - "2024 Ranger Regular Season Player Registration" Due

June 1, 2024 - "2024 Ranger Post-Season Player Registration" Due

June 28, 2024 - Ranger State Tournament in Longview, Texas

### Section 2 - Contact Information

President - Shannon Goins - (936)329-3193

Vice President - Johnny Fernandez - (903)393-5612

District 1 - Chris Kane - (903)818-2322

District 2 - Garland Hawk - (936)671-3774

District 3 - Chris Bates - (903)319-1010

District 4 - Zach Bonner - (281)723-9960

District 5 - Ronald Green - (903)272-4838

District 6 - Lemone Reece - (903)391-2799

District 7 - Bo Cumberland - (936)402-8396

District 8 - Dale Guthrie - (214)725-4397

District 9 - Marty Karns - (936)371-9819

Treasurer - Thomas Posey - (903)603-1501

Secretary - Andrew Watson - (903)808-3408

### Section 3 - General Information about Rules

A - The DYB Majors Rulebook will guide decisions and rule interpretations for rules not explicitly addressed in the Ranger Supplemental Handbook.

B - Should a conflict arise regarding a rule, the Ranger State Officers, under the advisement of District Directors, will decide for clarification. Further actions will be taken to rewrite the rule more appropriately for Ranger Youth Baseball.

C - Decisions made by Ranger State Officers will be final, yielding no further avenue for protest. Be advised that the staff for Ranger Youth Baseball will work diligently to support and align final decisions made with those presented by District Directors. All avenues of conflict resolution must be exhausted at the District Level before any type of intervention by Ranger State Officials.

D - Sportsmanship is expected in every aspect of Ranger Youth Baseball. At no time shall any member of any team heckle, kid, ride, poke fun at, or in any other manner do anything that, in the opinion of the umpire or league representative, distract from the ethics established

by Ranger Youth Baseball. The penalty for this violation can range from a warning to immediate removal of the guilty manager, coach, player, umpire or official, fan, or parent. Using alcoholic beverages or tobacco products within the confines of the playing field, dugout, or bench by any manager, coach, player, umpire, or league official is prohibited. The penalty for violating this rule shall be removal from the facility. The League Representatives, District Directors, and State Directors are responsible for maintaining a positive and supportive environment for all individuals who come into contact with Ranger Youth Baseball.

## Section 4 - League Requirements

A - The local league will register the 14U teams with Ranger Youth Baseball, Inc.

B - A Ranger Youth Baseball League shall comprise at least two or more than ten teams, depending on the conditions within a particular community. A District Director can approve a league that has only one team due to the limited number of players available within the community.

C - League Registration forms and fees will be mailed by April 1 to the following address:

Shannon Goins  
1268 Reveille Road  
Livingston, TX 77351

D - League fees will be assessed based on the number of teams playing.

1 Team - \$60	6 Teams - \$210
2 Teams - \$90	7 Teams - \$240
3 Teams - \$120	8 Teams - \$270
4 Teams - \$150	9 Teams - \$300
5 Teams - \$180	10 Teams - \$330

E - Teams will consist of a minimum of 10 players and a maximum of 12 players. All situations involving the number of players should be directed to the League Representative during the regular season, the District Director during the District Tournament, and the State Director during the State Tournament. It is the position of Ranger Baseball that we want every kid to be able to participate in. This rule shall prevent coaches from gaining an unfair advantage during a game. Decisions regarding team eligibility will be made on a case-by-case basis after reviewing all the facts. There will be no precedent with which previous decisions will judge future cases. All situations are unique and should be handled by the appropriate leadership person.

F - Teams will be determined to be either Division I or Division II, based on their classification with Dixie Youth Baseball. Teams can move from Division II to Division I for the District Tournament and State Tournament if requested. However, teams cannot go from Division I to Division II.

## Section 5 - Playing Field

A - The playing field shall be laid out according to the official playing rules of NFHS, with the exceptions listed in the Ranger Rule Book.

B - Baselines shall be eighty feet. Leagues will have the option of using ninety-foot bases during the regular season.

C - For leagues using eighty-foot baselines, the pitching distance shall be fifty-four feet from the front side of the pitching slab to the point of home plate. For leagues using ninety-foot baselines, the pitching distance shall be sixty feet and six inches from the front side of the pitching slab to the point of home plate.

D - Portable (artificial) pitching mounds are approved. Metal cleats will not be worn on artificial mounds for safety reasons and league property maintenance.

E - Lighted fields shall have adequate lighting approved by the District Director.

## Section 6 - Equipment

### Bats

A - The barrel of all aluminum, metal alloy, composite, multi-piece wood bats, or single-piece wood bats shall not exceed 2  $\frac{5}{8}$  inches in diameter nor exceed 34 inches in length. All non-wood and multi-piece wood bats must be stamped with the USA Baseball mark, signifying that the bat meets the bat performance standard established by USA Baseball. Solid wood bats made from a single piece of wood do not require the USA Baseball mark but must meet the above specifications. Bats used in UIL high school league play must be stamped with the BBCOR stamp and not be on the bats banned from the UIL list.

B - USA-stamped bats can be -9 to -5 for league play during the regular season. During the District Tournament and the State Tournament, the size of the allowed bat will be changed to -5 USA-stamped bats. There will be no change in restrictions on BBCOR bats that are used during the regular season.

C - The penalty for using an illegal bat will be applied when a hitter enters the batter's box with the illegal bat.

D - The first offense for using an illegal bat will be the hitter being called out and the runners being placed back on the bases they occupied before the at-bat. The coach will receive a warning. During the same game, the second offense for using an illegal bat will be the hitter being called out and the runners being placed back on the bases they occupied before the at-bat. The coach will be ejected from the game.

### Uniforms

A - Players are allowed to wear metal cleats. However, there may be restrictions depending on the pitching surface. Some locations will require turf shoes on the mound.

### Helmets

A - Batters and base runners shall wear helmets that carry the NOCSAE Stamp of approval. Face guards and chin straps are optional.

### Catching Gear

A - Catchers must wear gear that satisfies the requirements set forth by the UIL for high school league play. There are three options that coaches can utilize to comply.

1 - Wear a chest protector that has the NOCSAE stamp of approval.

2 - Wear a body protector (compression shirt with a heart guard built into the shirt) that protects the heart and meets NOCSAE performance standards. This shirt will be worn under the traditional chest protector.

3 - Wear a chest pad that protects the heart and meets the NOCSAE performance standard. The chest pad will fit on top of the traditional chest protector.

## Section 7 - Coaches

A - Coaches will complete background checks, and each league will have successful reports on file.

B - Coaches will have to be at least eighteen years of age.

## Section 8 - Players

A - All players playing during the regular season will be listed on the Ranger Youth Baseball Regular Season Roster Form. The players listed on this form will be eligible for the District and State Tournament.

B - All players playing during the District and State Tournament will be listed on the Ranger Youth Baseball All-Star Form.

C - All players must meet the eligibility requirements set forth by the following age chart.

Age	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
14	2010	2010	2010	2010	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009
13	2011	2011	2011	2011	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010
12	2012	2012	2012	2012	2011	2011	2011	2011	2011	2011	2011	2011
11	2013	2013	2013	2013	2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	2012

D - Players will be allowed to play up into the 14U league. However, players older than those listed on the chart above will not be allowed to play in a Ranger Youth Baseball playoff game.

(E) Players who are members of a league or leagues within a defined boundary for DYB will remain eligible for Ranger Baseball with that same league. Eligibility is defined as either having a residence of a parent (biological mother or biological father) within a defined league boundary or defined as attending a school within a defined league boundary.

## Section 9 - Regular Season

### Starting a game

A - All players should be present at games. Any absent player should be reported to the official scorekeeper and the opposing team's manager. The name of the missing player will be

placed at the bottom of the line-up card just in case they show up late. Should the player not show up, the absence will not constitute an out during the game.

B - Teams should have between ten to twelve players. If only nine players are available, league representatives should be notified, and the situation will be evaluated. No rule prevents a team from playing with nine players. However, this exception should not be used to gain an unfair advantage. If a league representative determines that an unfair advantage is present, the game will not be played, resulting in a forfeit, even if nine players are available. If issues continue to arise from this decision, it is recommended that the District Director be contacted immediately for clarification.

C - A regulation game will be seven innings unless a time requirement is established before the first pitch. If a time limit is in use, a new inning can not start after the time has expired. The only games that can not end in a tie are those during the District and State Championships. Before the first pitch, who will be responsible for the time (preferably an umpire or an official scorekeeper) will be established. Should the need arise, a league representative or district director reserves the right to finish a game in a tie.

D - A run rule will be in effect. A game shall be considered a regulation game when a team is ahead by fifteen runs after both teams have batted four times or in the case of the home team when it is leading after batting three times. A game shall be considered a regulation game when a team is ahead by ten runs after both teams have batted five times or in the case of the home team when it is leading after batting four times.

### Offensive Rules

A - Courtesy runners will be used to speed up play. Courtesy runners can be used for either the catcher or the pitcher. If a courtesy runner is needed, the player who batted the last out will be the runner. If it is the beginning of the game and an out has not been recorded, the courtesy runner will be the last player listed on the batting line-up.

B - Teams will use the continuous style batting order for the regular season, District Tournament, and State Tournament.

**C - With a runner on 3rd base attempting to steal home with the pitch, THE BATTER MUST BUNT OR TAKE THE PITCH. If the batter swings, the ball will be dead, with runners returning to their original bases, the batter will be called out, and the team manager will be ejected. NO WARNING will be given in this situation. Exception: No penalty will be assessed when the bases are loaded with two outs and a full count on the batter. In this situation, the runner will be instructed to run very wide outside the baseline to avoid injury. (Adopted 04/11/2023)**

### Defensive Rules

A - Except for the pitcher, free substitutions will be allowed. Any player may enter the game in any defensive position as many times as deemed necessary by the team manager.

B - Players shall enter the game on defense only at the beginning of each team's defensive inning unless it becomes necessary due to illness, injury, replacement of an ejected player, or defensive changes due to a pitching change.

### Pitching Rules

A - PITCH COUNT RESTRICTIONS - A pitcher shall throw at most 95 pitches in the same game or on the same day (finish the hitter).

B - After throwing more than 45 pitches but less than 76 pitches in the same game, a pitcher shall have a minimum of thirty (30) hours of rest before becoming eligible to pitch in another game. The rest period begins when the pitcher leaves the mound.

C - A pitcher who throws over 75 pitches in a game is subject to a forty (40) hours rest period. The rest period begins when the pitcher leaves the mound.

D - A pitcher may pitch in two games on the same day, provided he throws less than 46 pitches in the first game and does not throw more than 95 in both games.

E - Any pitcher being replaced on the mound by another cannot return to the mound.

F - No game will be forfeited because of violating one of the pitching rules. It is the manager's responsibility to know the pitching rules and ascertain the eligibility of opposing pitchers before each of his team's games. If, however, an ineligible pitcher is used during a game, he shall, upon discovery, be immediately replaced on the mound by an eligible pitcher, and all plays occurring while the ineligible pitcher was on the mound shall become "official." The ineligible pitcher will further be ineligible from pitching in the team's next game that he would have been eligible to pitch in. The manager will be ineligible to participate in the team's next game. A bye or forfeit shall not be considered a game in determining the next baseball game a pitcher would have been eligible to pitch in or a manager to coach. The discovery of an ineligible pitcher may be made, and the penalty mentioned above imposed up to one-half (1/2) hour before the scheduled time of his team's next game. NOTE: To determine a violation of the pitching rules, an ineligible pitcher shall violate one of the rules only when he throws a pitch to a batter in an inning or performs any defensive act, not when he takes his warm-up pitches from the pitching rubber.

G - Any ELIGIBLE pitcher must pitch to a batter until he reaches first base or is retired.

## Section 10 - District Tournament and State Tournament

### General Information

A - Players on the Regular Season Roster will be eligible for the District Tournament. For leagues with multiple teams, league representatives can choose to send regular season teams to the District Tournament, or leagues can select an All-Star team to represent their league. In either case, the league can choose which best represents their community and league.

### Starting a game

A - All players should be present at games. Any absent player should be reported to the official scorekeeper and the opposing team's manager. The name of the missing player will be

placed at the bottom of the line-up card just in case they show up late. Should the player not show up, the absence will not constitute an out during the game.

B - Teams should have between ten to twelve players. If only nine players are available, league representatives should be notified, and the situation will be evaluated. No rule prevents a team from playing with nine players. However, this exception should not be used to gain an unfair advantage. If a league representative determines that an unfair advantage is present, the game will not be played, resulting in a forfeit, even if nine players are available. If issues continue to arise from this decision, it is recommended that the State Director be contacted immediately for clarification.

C - A regulation game will be seven innings unless a time requirement is established before the first pitch. If a time limit is in use, a new inning can not start after the time has expired. The only games that can not end in a tie are the elimination games during the District and State Championships. Before the first pitch, who will be responsible for the time (preferably an umpire or an official scorekeeper) will be established. Should the need arise, a league representative or district director reserves the right to finish a game in a tie.

D - A run rule will be in effect. A game shall be considered a regulation game when a team is ahead by fifteen runs after both teams have batted four times or in the case of the home team when it is leading after batting three times. A game shall be considered a regulation game when a team is ahead by ten runs after both teams have batted five times or in the case of the home team when it is leading after batting four times.

### Offensive Rules

A - Courtesy runners will be used to speed up play. Courtesy runners can be used for either the catcher or the pitcher. If a courtesy runner is needed, the player who batted the last out will be the runner. If it is the beginning of the game and an out has not been recorded, the courtesy runner will be the last player listed on the batting line-up.

B - Teams will use the continuous style batting order for the regular season, District Tournament, and State Tournament.

**C - With a runner on 3rd base attempting to steal home with the pitch, THE BATTER MUST BUNT OR TAKE THE PITCH. If the batter swings, the ball will be dead, with runners returning to their original bases, the batter will be called out, and the team manager will be ejected. NO WARNING will be given in this situation. Exception: No penalty will be assessed when the bases are loaded with two outs and a full count on the batter. In this situation, the runner will be instructed to run very wide outside the baseline to avoid injury. (Adopted 04/11/2023)**

### Defensive Rules

A - Except for the pitcher, free substitutions will be allowed. Any player may enter the game in any defensive position as many times as deemed necessary by the team manager.

B - Players shall enter the game on defense only at the beginning of each team's defensive inning unless it becomes necessary due to illness, injury, replacement of an ejected player, or defensive changes due to a pitching change.

### Pitching Rules

A - Each player on the roster will be given 110 pitches (finish the hitter) during the District Tournament and 110 pitches (finish the hitter) during the State Tournament.

B - No rest requirements will be placed on the 110 pitches (finish the hitter) during each tournament. Once a pitcher reaches this allowed number of pitches, the pitcher shall be replaced with an eligible pitcher. The pitcher can finish the hitter before being removed from the mound when his total pitch limit is achieved.

B - Any pitcher being replaced on the mound by another cannot return to the mound.

C - No game will be forfeited because of violating one of the pitching rules. The manager must know the pitching rules and ascertain the eligibility of opposing pitchers before each of his team's games. If, however, an ineligible pitcher is used during a game, he shall, upon discovery, be immediately replaced on the mound by an eligible pitcher, and all plays occurring while the ineligible pitcher was on the mound shall become "official." The ineligible pitcher will further be ineligible from pitching in the team's next game that he would have been eligible to pitch in. The manager will be ineligible to participate in the team's next game. A bye or forfeit shall not be considered a game in determining the next baseball game a pitcher would have been eligible to pitch in or a manager to coach. The discovery of an ineligible pitcher may be made, and the penalty above imposed up to one-half (1/2) hour before the scheduled time of his team's next game. NOTE: To determine a violation of the pitching rules, an ineligible pitcher shall violate one of the rules only when he throws a pitch to a batter in an inning or performs any defensive act, not when he takes his warm-up pitches from the pitching rubber.

D - Any ELIGIBLE pitcher must pitch to a batter until he reaches first base or is retired. Pitching changes can not be made during an at-bat unless there is an injury to the pitcher. Coaches are allowed to put a hitter on base without having to pitch four balls. If a pitcher is at a daily limit, the coach can decide to end the at-bat and put the hitter on first, thus preventing the pitcher from going over a pitching limit.