

2024

Texas DYB

Baseball Rule Book



www.texasdyb.org

T-Ball Playing Rules

7U, 9U & 11U Tournaments

Tournament Pitching Requirements

Tournament Policies

Playing Rules & Regulations



TEXAS DYB BASEBALL / SOFTBALL

2024 TOURNAMENT CALENDAR

Dates	Division I & II T-Ball North / South	Division I & II Coach Pitch North / South	7 & Under 9 & Under 11 & Under	Softball & Classic Tournaments	Division I & II AAA North / South	Division I & II "O"Zone North / South
June 7-10	T-Ball District Tournaments Baseball/Softball	Coach Pitch District Tournaments Baseball/Softball	7U District Baseball Tournaments			
June 14-17			9U & 11U District Tournaments		AAA District Tournaments Baseball/Softball	"O"Zone District Tournaments Baseball/Softball
June 22-24	T-Ball North/South Regional Tournaments Baseball/Softball	Coach Pitch North/South Regional Tournaments Baseball/Softball	7U North/South Regional Baseball Tournaments	6U & 8U Classic Tournaments		
Jun 29- July 1			9U & 11U State Tournaments		AAA North/South Regional Tournaments Baseball/Softball	"O"Zone North/South Regional Tournaments Baseball/Softball
July 5-6	Division I & II T-Ball State Championship Series Longview, TX	Division I & II Coach Pitch State Championship Series Longview, TX			Division I & II AAA State Championship Series Longview, TX	Division I & II "O"Zone State Championship Series Longview, TX
July 18-22	T-Ball & 6U Coach Pitch Regional World Series Laurel, Mississippi	7U Coach Pitch Regional World Series Laurel, Mississippi	9U & 11U Regional World Series Laurel, Mississippi	DYB Softball World Series 6U, 8U, 10U, 12U, 15U & 18U Fairview, Tennessee		
July *25-31	Div I & II AA Coaches Meeting *8:00 am	Division I & II Coach Pitch World Series Orangeburg, South Carolina		Division II Coaches Meeting *8:00 am	Division II AAA/ Majors World Series Bossier City, Louisiana	Division II "O"Zone World Series Bossier City, Louisiana
August *2 - 7				Division I Coaches Meeting *8:00 am	Division I AAA World Series Bossier City, Louisiana	Division I "O"Zone World Series Bossier City, Louisiana

Texas DYB

Diamond Youth Baseball/Softball

State Tournament Rules, Regulations & Policies

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2024 Calendar of Events

- February 4 Texas State Meeting - The Reserve 7725 U.S. Hwy 259 N, Longview, TX
- March 1 DYB Scholarship Application Deadline
- April 1 Deadline for League Franchise Renewals (\$50 late fee for late renewals)
- May 1 Deadline for Online Team Roster forms
- May 15 Deadline for Texas Umpire Certification Test
- June 1 Deadline for submission of proposed rule changes to national rules

District Tournaments

- June 7 District Tournaments Begin for Division I & II - T-Ball, Coach Pitch & 7U.
- June 14 District Tournaments Begin for Division I & II AAA, “O”Zone, 9U & 11U.

State Tournaments

- June 22 State / Regional Tournaments begin for Division I & II -T-Ball; Coach Pitch
State Tournaments begin for 7U, 6U & 8U Classic.
- June 29 State / Regional Tournaments begin for Division I & II Ozone and AAA,
9U, 11U State

State Championship Series

- July 5-6 8U Coach Pitch, T-Ball Divisions I & II
- July 5-6 “O” Zone & AAA Division I & II State Championship Series

Regional World Series

- July 17-21 T-Ball, 7U, 9U and 11U Regional World Series – Laurel, Mississippi

DYB – DYS World Series

- July 18-22 Diamond Youth Softball DYS World Series
- July 25-31 Division I & II - AA Coach Pitch DYB World Series – Orangeburg, SC
- July 25-31, Division II “O”Zone, AAA, and Majors DYB World Series- Bossier City, LA
- August 2 -7 Division I “O”Zone, AAA, and AA World Series –Bossier City, LA

Texas DYB Directors

STATE & NATIONAL DIRECTORS

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2024 DYB Scholarship Applications

Download 2024 Scholarship Applications at www.dybusa.org.

Deadline for submission of completed DYB Scholarship Application is **March 1, 2024**

Mail applications to:

Johnny Berthelot, Scholarship Chairman

P.O. Box 1286

Wetumpka, AL 36092

2024 TEXAS TOURNAMENT TEAM DRESS CODE

Players

- 1.01 Players on DYB tournament teams shall not be allowed wear "Select/Travel Team Uniforms" or uniforms with "Select/Travel Team" names. Exception: A tournament team may use the mascot name of the local schools.
- 1.02 All players in tournament play shall wear baseball pants and socks that must cover their entire leg. No shorts are allowed.
- 1.03 No plain, unnumbered, undershirt style T-shirts shall be permitted for uniform jerseys. Uniform type T-shirts in team colors with numbers shall be considered legal regular baseball uniforms. The penalty for violation of this rule is the potential disqualification of the team by the tournament director from further play.
- 1.04 All players participating in sanctioned DYB tournaments shall wear an approved "official" DYB patch, on the left shirt sleeve. The official DYB insignias shall not be screen printed on the uniform but must be embroidered emblems issued by DYB.
- 1.05 All players participating in sanctioned DYB tournaments shall have numbers not less than four inches on the back of their uniform shirt. Any players wearing a batting vest shall also have numbers not less than two inches on their sleeve, (preferably the right sleeve).
- 1.06 No duplicate numbers will be allowed. PENALTY: The penalty for violation of this rule shall be that players wearing duplicate numbers shall not be allowed on the field.
- 1.07 Players may not wear shoes with metal cleats.

Managers/Coaches

- 1.08 All coaches will be attired in a neat and professional manner during tournament games.
- 1.09 **All coaches must be dressed identically.** Example: If one coach wears a uniform, all coaches must wear a uniform. If one coach wears long pants, all must wear identical pants. If one coach wears shorts, all must wear identical shorts.
- 1.10 All District, Regional and State Tournament managers and coaches may wear baseball uniforms identical to the players with the DYB patch or alternatively:
 - **PANTS** - Coaches may wear only black, navy blue, gray or khaki color long pants ("Dockers" style plain or pleated). Cargo pants, coaching pants or jeans/denims cannot be worn.
 - **SHORTS** - Coaches may wear only black, navy blue, gray or khaki color ("Dockers" style plain or pleated) shorts or black, navy blue, gray golf shorts. **Cargo shorts, coaching shorts, or jean / denim shorts of any color shall not be worn.**
 - **SHIRTS** - **If Coaches do not wear a team jersey**, coaches may wear polo shirts, coaching shirts, golf shirts, and sports shirts. All coaches' shirts must be identical style and the same color. DYB patches must be placed on the left sleeve centered, two inches above the bottom of the sleeve.
- 1.11 **CAPS** – Baseball caps matching the players' team caps shall be worn by all coaches. No coach will be allowed on the field without a cap. Ladies may wear visors instead of caps.
- 1.12 **SHOES** - Shoes shall be a coaches' style shoe, tennis shoe, athletic shoe, closed toe leather shoe, etc. Coaches shall not wear boots, sandals, flip flops, Crocs, work shoes or any shoes, which in the opinion of the DYB tournament director, are not appropriate for the playing field.
- 1.13 **Penalty: Coaches who do not comply with this dress code will not be allowed on the playing field or in the team dugout before or during game and shall be confined to the dugout. If discovered after the game begins, the coach will be confined to the dugout for the remainder of the game. No exceptions to this policy.**

Texas DYB, Inc.

T-Ball (6U) Rules & Regulations

IMPORTANT! The Official DYB rules as currently in use will be the basic set of rules for T-Ball except for the rules listed in this book.

Playing Field – 2.01 Bases will be fifty (50') feet apart. Exception: Bases will be (60') feet apart for the 6U T-Ball State Championship only. Leagues may use 60' bases in league games.

2.02 There will be a 12' diameter circle marked around the center of the pitching circle. The center of circle will be forty (40') feet from home plate and use a pitching rubber.

2.03 The outfield fence will be no less than 125 ft. or more than 165 ft. from home plate. There will be a coaching box marked 6 ft. from the first and third base foul lines.

2.04 It is recommended that a safety base be used at first base in tournament play.

2.06 Hash marks must be painted half the distance between home plate and 1st base and 3rd base and home plate. An arch must be painted 20 ft. from the baseline from first base around to third base.

3.01 Coaches - Each team will be allowed a team manager and three (3) coaches.

3.02 No more than three (3) coaches are allowed on the playing field at one time. One coach at 1st and 3rd base coaching boxes and one at Home Plate. The home plate coach may not instruct runners. There will be no defensive coaches allowed on the field. The fourth adult coach must always remain in the dugout to watch the players.

3.03 Base coaches may not touch a runner at any time during play.

PENALTY: Runner will be called out.

3.04 Home Plate coach may set (physically touch or place in the batter box) the batter once per time at bat. **Penalty:** The coach will receive a warning for the first offence. Upon the second offence, the batter shall be called out.

3.05 The tee MUST be set in the center of home plate.

4.01 Players - There will be ten (10) defensive players with no more than five (5) players on the infield including the pitcher. Infielders shall play no closer than the halfway mark to home plate.

4.02 The position of catcher must be occupied. The player at the catcher's position will not be down behind the plate but will be positioned by the umpire and must wear a protective helmet with mask or batting helmet with face shield. A player is required in the catcher's position.

4.03 There will be four (4) players in the outfield. Outfielders can play anywhere in the outfield but must stay behind 20-foot marked line until the ball is hit. **PENALTY:** The defensive team shall have the privilege of nullifying any portion of the play that occurred after the violation. **EXCEPTION:** Penalty does not apply when: (1) batter hits a ground rule double; (2) batter hits a fly ball over the outfield fence in fair territory; (3) batter is hit by a pitched ball.

4.04 Defensive participation requirement - Each player must play on defense six outs (three consecutive outs in two different innings) in any game played by his/her team. Refer to the DYB Tournament Rule IX(F)(2), for the scorer's and coach's responsibilities and the penalty for violation of this rule.

4.05 Absent players **must** be reported to the Tournament Director and Official Scorekeeper prior to beginning of game. A player may be excused for one day for religious reasons if he is declared at the credentials meeting prior to the first game of the tournament. If a player is not excused and misses a game, the head coach will be required to sit out that game.

4.06 All players on a T-Ball team will bat in a continuous batting order. Players arriving late will be entered at the end of the batting order. A player that gets sick and goes back into the game will bat in the same place in the batting order as when they left the game. An out shall not be recorded for the missing player.

General Rules

5.01 A complete game will be six (6) innings unless a team is ahead 15 runs after 3 complete innings, 10 runs after 4 innings, or 8 runs after 5 innings. A maximum of only seven (7) runs can be scored in any inning in 6U games. **There is no open inning.**

5.02 An inning will be completed when both teams have acquired three (3) offensive outs or scored a maximum of seven runs.

5.03 All offensive players will be in a continuous batting order whether playing defense or not. No intentional walks are allowed in T-Ball. There is no open inning.

5.04 No courtesy runners allowed except for an injured player.

5.05 All players on offense must remain in the dugout, at all times, unless batting, on deck or base running.

5.06 All players not in the dugout must wear a batting helmet.

5.07 The batter will be allowed three (3) swings off the tee to hit a fair ball that travels ten feet (10') or more from home plate. The 10' line will be marked with a chalked arc from foul line to foul line. A foul on the third swing will be an OUT.

5.08 Batters will not be allowed to bunt the ball. If the batter bunts or does not take a full swing (in the judgment of the umpire), the batter will be called OUT. The batter must have both feet in the batter's box. A swing is not counted when a batter is lining up in the batter's box and causes the ball to be knocked off the tee. The batter will be called out if he slings the bat after one warning per player is given.

5.09 Pitchers must wear a batting helmet with a face shield (softball like face shield is approved and does not require wearing a helmet). The defensive team will place a player in the designated pitching circle and have one foot inside the pitching circle until the ball is hit. PENALTY: The offensive team has the option of accepting a hit or taking no swing.

5.10 The infield fly shall not apply.

5.11 Base stealing is not allowed.

5.12 Base runner must stay in contact with the base until the ball is hit. Leaving the base too soon will result in the defensive team having the option of keeping or rejecting any part of the play. (The runner is not out)

5.13 Any base runner missing a base will be called out ONLY when the umpire sees and makes the call. The out will be called at the end of the play. NO APPEAL ON THIS CALL. At home plate the runner will be called out if, in the umpire's judgment, the runner makes no attempt to return to the plate and is leaving the field of play.

5.14 Base runners must slide or attempt to go around and avoid the play at any base other than first base if the defense is attempting to tag (a thrown ball must be in the air and

the defensive player waiting to make the catch on a catchable ball) to make a play at the base. The defensive player cannot block the base or baseline without possession of the ball. Obstruction will be called, and the runner will be awarded the base.

5.15 There is no limit on the number of bases a runner may take on and over-throw when the ball stays in the playing field.

5.16 – Play will end when the pitcher has the ball in their possession in the pitcher’s circle. If a runner has passed the base (one step) prior to the player pitcher gaining control of the ball in the designated pitching circle and does not stop, he / she may advance to the next base at his / her own risk.

5.17 Defensive players will not be allowed between the halfway mark between home plate and first base or home third base and home plate before the ball is hit. The second base and short stop position cannot play any closer than the pitcher’s mound on defense.

5.18 The batter-runner cannot be tagged out while running to first base after the ball is hit except by the first baseman who may field the ball and tag first base or the runner.

- The other infielders including the player-pitcher must throw the ball to first base in order to record an out on the batter-runner.
- Once the batter reaches 1st base, he/she becomes a runner and from that point on an out can be recorded by tagging the runner or stepping on a base for a force out on the batter-runner.

Exception: When the player-pitcher fields the ball next to the foul line (maximum of 3 ft. of the foul line) the batter- runner may be tagged or tag first base.

5.19 If a defensive player touches a hit ball that is rolling inside the home plate 10 ft., arc before it comes to a complete stop, the batter will be awarded first base, and all forced runners will advance one base.

5.20 Protests in local league play shall not be appealed above the District Director.

T-Ball Tournament Play

6.01 Official baseballs will be the Mac Gregor Level 5 ball. This ball does not require the Commissioner’s signature. Tournament teams may bring and use their own tee in tournament games. The tournament host will provide a tee of their choice for a team that does not have a tee.

6.02 Any legal bat as specified in DYB Official Playing Rule 1.10 (a)-(b) may be used in all T-Ball, Coach Pitch, AAA, and “O”Zone games. **Exception:** T-Ball bats stamped with the USA Baseball Mark can only be used in T-Ball games using low compression balls due to the manufacturing standards for these bats.

6.03 PROTESTS: T-Ball protests in tournament play must be filed with the District Director and then appealed by the district director but no further than the State Director.

6.05 Coaches cannot go outside the playing field without the permission of the umpire. Coaches will be removed from the game for violation.

6.06 Face mask and chin straps on batting helmets are a league option.

6.07 T-Ball Tournament Rosters. Division I team rosters must have a minimum of 11 and maximum of 12 players. **Division II** team rosters must have the required 10 or 11 players to start District and Regional tournament play. **Division II Teams advancing from regional play to the State Championship Series MUST have 11 players.**

6.08 Each franchised league may elect to have more than one tournament team.

Texas State Rules and Regulations

All rules and regulations in the current Official DYB Rule Book shall apply to Division I & II play except as provided in the provisions in the Texas Rule Book Supplement:

Tournament Teams

7.01 Pursuant to guidelines established by the National Board of Directors, Texas shall approve the Division I and Division II status of each franchised league and/or adjust a league's Division I or II status. The Texas State Director has the authority to determine Texas' Division I/II leagues using criteria in Article XI of the Texas Bylaws.

7.02 The Division I & II "O"Zone, AAA, Coach Pitch State Champions will advance to the DYB World Series in their respective playing divisions. The Division I & II "O"Zone runner-up teams will advance to the DYB Majors World Series.

7.03 The Division I & II T-Ball and the 7U, 9U, 11U State Champions and the 6U & 8U Classic State Champions will not advance beyond the state tournament level of play unless a DYB Regional World Series is available for these teams. The number of teams advancing from Texas Division I T-Ball, 7U, 9U and 11U State and Regional Tournaments to the DYB Regional World Series will be determined by the host of these tournaments.

7.04 Each franchised league must roster its 8U, 10U, or 12U tournament teams before forming 7U, 9U or 11U tournament teams.

7.05 Multi-league organizations composed of two (or more) franchised leagues with a common boundary can only use players rostered on regular season teams in each league's specific franchise. **Example:** A multi-league organization with two franchised leagues (American and National) cannot allow players in the American League to be rostered on National League 8U, 10U and 12U tournament teams and vice versa.

7.06 Multi-league organizations may form 7U, 9U and a 11U tournament teams with players from both of their franchised leagues after each age division has rostered at least one tournament team in 8U, 10U and 12U.

7.07 If there is only one team from a district in any of the Texas age divisions, that team may advance directly to the Texas Regional or State Tournament.

7.08 Division II tournament teams shall have a minimum of 10 or a maximum 12 players on a tournament team. **Division II Teams advancing from regional play to the State Championship Series MUST have 11 players on its roster.**

7.09 All 7U, 9U, 11U and the 6U & 8U Classic tournament teams shall have a minimum of 10 or a maximum 12 players on its tournament team roster.

7.10 7U, 9U and 11U teams must roster a minimum of 11 or maximum of 12 players if they choose to play in the 8U, 10U and 12U district tournaments. If the team qualifies to advance to a Texas Regional Tournament, they must advance, but if they decline, the team will forfeit its right to advance to the 7U, 9U or 11U State Tournament. If the team does not qualify for regional, they may advance to the 7U, 9U or 11U State Tournament.

7.11 Division I multi-leagues that roster one 7U, 9U or 11U team from two leagues can only advance to the 7U, 9U or 11U state tournament. In cases where there are two teams in the 7U, 9U or 11U age that do not advance,

- The team with the most wins in the district tournament may advance, or;
- There may be a one game play-off to determine who advances, or;
- If both teams have the same number of wins, there shall be a one game playoff.

Texas DYB Tournaments

District and State Tournament Requirements

8.01 District and Sub-district tournaments must be offered to all eligible leagues on a rotating basis provided the league facilities meet the DYB Tournament specifications. The District Director has the authority to approve playing facilities.

8.02 Tournament play shall not be scheduled before noon on Sunday where possible.

8.03 The District Director shall meet with representatives of each league within each district to determine requirements for Sub-district and District Tournaments.

8.04 It is the responsibility of each District Director to notify the State Director of the dates and sites of each level of tournament play within the district.

8.05 Teams will be responsible for their own transportation to Texas tournaments.

8.06 A franchised league may select more than two tournament teams in any age division with the approval of the State Director.

8.07 The third-place team in district play will advance to the 6U & 8U Classic State Tournaments. In case of a tie for third place in district play, there will be a one game playoff to determine which team advances.

8.08 A team will be required to start a tournament with the number of players listed on the tournament roster at the credentials meeting for each level of tournament play. A player may be replaced, but a player cannot be added after the district credentials meeting. It is mandatory that all players listed on the tournament team roster must meet the player participation rule.

8.09 The district director may allow a Division I that cannot find a minimum of 11 players to play with less than 11 players in the district tournament. **A team using this exception shall not be allowed to add players during the tournament and cannot advance to the next level of tournament play.**

8.10 Two teams from a multi-league shall not play in the first round of any tournament.

8.11 Each district will play the condensed 3-day and 4-day tournament brackets. Each state and regional tournament will be played in condensed 3-day and 4-day brackets. The condensed brackets will require double headers as approved in the DYB Rules and Regulations. **See Section 20:00 on Page 16 for pitching restrictions.**

8.12 Five-Team Brackets -The official DYB five-team bracket, the modified five-team bracket or the round robin format may be used.

8.13 In Coach Pitch district play, a team can score a maximum of seven runs per half-inning, except the 6th inning has no run limit. After the 6th inning, the seven (7) run maximum is in force for the remainder of the game. If the visiting team gets an 8-run lead while batting in any extra inning, the game ends immediately and the home team shall not bat.

8.14 In AAA and Ozone District and Regional play, and in 9U State and 11U State tournaments, a team can score a maximum of ten runs per half-inning, except the 6th inning has no run limit. After the 6th inning, the ten (10) run maximum is in force for the remainder of the game. If the visiting team gets an 11-run lead while batting in any extra inning, the game ends immediately and the home team shall not bat.

8.15 In all 7U, 9U, and 11U tournament games, a team can score a maximum of seven runs per half-inning including extra innings.

8.16 Both Division I and Division II tournament games for the 10U and 12U age divisions shall be played with a 1:45-time limit. **(T-Ball and Coach Pitch games will have a 1:30 time limit)**. The championship game and the “If Necessary” game will be played with a time limit.

8.17 Admissions charges for Texas tournaments shall be:

District Tournament Admission Fees

- Single Game Day Pass - \$5.00 Adults \$3.00 Ages 6-12
- Double-Header Day Pass - \$10.00 Adults \$5.00 Ages 6-12

Regional and State Admission Fees:

- Double-header Day Pass – \$12.00 Adults \$5.00 Ages 6-12

8.18 A tournament host may opt to allow coolers, drinks, or food to be brought into the park. Otherwise, no food, drinks or coolers can be taken into a ballpark at a DYB Tournament that is using their concession for fund raising. Anyone observed bringing these items into the ballpark, may be asked to leave. Upon refusal to leave, the local police may be called.

District Tournament Host Requirements

9.01 Each District tournament host league shall pay the District Director a maximum of \$300 for each baseball and softball tournament that it hosts. Tournaments of 5 teams or less shall be charged a reduced fee.

9.02 A league must have tournament teams in 2 of the 4 baseball age divisions to be eligible to host any District Tournament.

9.03 Districts shall determine the method to raise funds for the DYB Scholarship Fund at district tournaments. District scholarship funds shall be collected with the district host tournament fees.

9.04 The host shall furnish Official DYB baseballs from ball manufacturers bearing the signature of the DYB Commissioner, scorekeeper, umpires, and trophies.

9.05 It is recommended that the district specify the size and type of awards for district tournaments. The district director may collect the cost of the awards from the tournament host and buy awards for all the district tournaments.

9.06 The host shall provide two umpires for each tournament game. The umpires must be registered DYB umpires who passed the Texas Umpire Certification Test for the current year.

State/Regional Tournament Host Requirements

10.01 State/Regional tournaments are awarded per the highest monetary bid at the Annual Texas DYB State Conference. The minimum bid to host a state or regional tournament is \$5,000. The minimum bid for softball tournaments is \$2,500. The host requirements can be found on the Texas web page or the State Director.

Advancing More than One Team from Double Elimination Brackets

11.01 The double elimination bracket must be played to completion and the winner of the tournament shall automatically advance.

11.02 If two teams are advanced to the next level of tournament play, the last two teams in the tournament to play in the final championship game shall be declared the champion and runner-up teams and shall be the two teams to advance.

11.03 If three teams advance to the next level of tournament play and two teams are tied for third, the two teams will play a one game playoff. If there are three teams tied for third, the three teams will play single elimination with one team drawing for a bye.

Player Participation Requirements

12.01 Absent players must be reported to the tournament director/official scorekeeper prior to beginning of tournament games. A player may be excused for one day for religious reasons if he/she is declared at the credentials/coaches meeting prior to first game of a tournament. Weddings and church camp are unexcused absences. Failure to notify the tournament director or scorekeeper of an absent player may require the manager to be suspended for that game.

12.02 If a player misses a game and is not excused, the manager will be required to be suspended from that game. It is the responsibility of the manager to show proof of player sickness or emergencies that prevents a player from being available to participate in a tournament game. A player shall not be excused from a team for vacation or to play on a select sports/travel team. In case of a player leaving a team and not replaced prior to his or her team being eliminated for either of these reasons, the manager of the team shall not be allowed to participate (coach) with the team for the remainder of the tournament. A player must be used to coach one of the bases.

12.03 Any player absent at the beginning of a game may be entered at the end of the batting line up and the manager sitting out will be allowed into the game. The player must fulfill all participation requirements per the DYB Rule Book.

12.04 Coaches must attend the coaches meeting at the District, Regional and State Tournaments. If a team does not send at least one coach to the coaches meeting, the Manager of the team may be suspended by the Tournament Director and not allowed to coach in the first game of the tournament.

12.05 At the district level, in cases of emergency, job requirements, sickness or injury a substitute coach may be used for one day only. The substitute coach must be the dugout coach and must always stay inside the dugout. If the original coach misses more than one day, he must be replaced or use a player with a batting helmet as a base coach.

12.07 All tournament games shall be played with the continuous batting order. **No exceptions.**

12.08 All regulation tournament games will be six innings.

EXCEPTIONS: It will be a regulation game after all players have batted if:

- A game is shortened due to the 10 or 15 run rules, or
- An "O"Zone or AAA game has reached the 1:45 time limit (T-Ball and Coach Pitch games will have a 1:30 time limit). The Championship and "If Necessary" games for all age divisions will be played with time limits. A new inning starts when the third out has been made by the home team in its half-inning. All players must play six (6) defensive outs unless the game is shortened by the run rule, time limit or weather.
- All players must bat once, and a game shall continue until all players have batted.



Drawing Procedure for State Tournament Brackets

13.01 All districts may advance two teams to Division I & II, “O”Zone, AAA, Coach Pitch and T-Ball Regional Tournaments. Exception: If a district does not advance two teams to a regional tournament, the State Director shall offer the district with the most tournament teams (in the applicable age division) that is willing to send a third team will be awarded the open slot to advance to the applicable regional tournament. The State Director’s decision to qualify a third team is final.

13.02 Each district may advance one team to the 9U, 11U and 6U/8U Classic State Tournaments. Each district may advance two teams to 7U North & South Regional tournaments. If a district does not advance a team to these tournaments, the district with the most tournament teams (in the applicable age division) that is willing to send a second or third Division I or a Division II team will be awarded the open slot to advance to the applicable Regional tournament. The State Director’s decision to qualify additional teams is final.

13.03 All Regional and State Tournament bracket positions will be placed in a hat and filled by random draw.

13.04 All Regional Tournaments brackets positions will be drawn so that two teams from the same district will not be put into the first game against each other. For purposes of drawing the bracket positions only, the district winner will be designated as the “A” team, the runner-up shall be designated the “B” team, and any third team will be designated the “C” team. The “A” teams will be drawn first, and the “B” teams will be drawn second. All districts with a “C” team will be placed in the bracket after the “B” team in a district is drawn.

13.05 If a district has separate sub-district tournaments, the tournaments must be declared Sub-district “A” and Sub-district “B” no later than the credentials meeting. The winner of each sub-district will go into the state bracket as drawn. If the district has three positions, the runner-up team from both tournaments will have a play off for the “C” position in the state tournament. If there are two sub-district tournaments and only one state tournament position, the winners of the two sub-districts will have a play off for the state tournament.

13.06 If a district has one tournament for each age division, the winner of that tournament will take the “A” position and the runner-up will take the “B” position in the state / regional tournament bracket as drawn. If the district has three positions in the state tournament bracket, the “C” position will be filled by the third-place finisher in that tournament.

13.07 The brackets will be published on the Texas DYB website after all district tournaments have been completed. The “If Necessary” game in all state/regional tournament brackets will be scheduled as a double header on the last day of the tournament.

13.08 The State Director is authorized to change any state tournament bracket as necessary if a team(s) drops out or in any other special situation. Replacement teams will be placed in the bracket position of the team that dropped out. State Director bracket approvals are final.

Conduct and Sportsmanship – Tournament Play

14.01 Members of one team shall not ride, kid, heckle, poke fun at, or in any other manner do anything that in the opinion of the umpire distracts the opposing team. The penalty for violation of this rule shall be the removal of the guilty player, players, and/or coach or manager from the game and from the dugout.

14.02 The use of any alcoholic beverage or tobacco product within the confines of the playing field, dugout or bench by any manager, coach, player, umpire, or league official is prohibited. The penalty for violation of this rule shall be the removal of the guilty manager, coach, player, umpire or official from the game and the dugout.

14.03 Local leagues have the authority, as permitted by local and state law, to remove or ban from the league's playing facilities any spectator who is flagrantly displaying unsportsmanlike conduct, profanity, or who threatens physical harm to umpires, players, managers, coaches, or league officials. This authority extends to all scheduled regular games or tournament games played at its playing facilities.

14.04 In cases of crowd control and disorderly conduct of individuals at the tournaments, it is the responsibility of the local league host officials to support and work with the DYB Tournament Officials.

14.05 Coaches who are ejected from a tournament game may return the next game or may receive a one game or tournament suspension. Coaches may also be subject to a one-year probation or suspension from coaching DYB tournament teams.

14.06 Any DYB Director has the authority to eject a coach from a tournament game.

TOURNAMENT TEAM REQUIREMENTS

15.01 Division I team rosters must have the required minimum of 11 or maximum players to start any level of tournament play. No alternates /batboys are recognized.

15.02 Division II team rosters must have the required 10 or 11 players to start District and Regional tournament play. **Division II Teams advancing from regional play to the State Championship Series MUST have 11 players.** A team with less than 11 players in regional play must add a player to the team prior to the State Championship Series. There are no alternates or batboys recognized.

15.03 A player cannot play on any other organized team (Select or Travel Team) starting with the first day of the district tournament.

15.04 If a player or coach leaves the team and the team replaces them, a replacement form must be completed and approved by the district director or delegate. Birth record must be approved along with the signed medical release. Get a player or coach replacement form from the district director.

15.05 The Team Tournament Roster MUST be taken to each game.

15.06 If a player does not show up at a game and is not excused by the tournament district director, the Manager will be required to set out of the game. A player may be excused by the district director for a verified sickness or emergency, or a player does not play on Sunday for religious reasons if it is brought to the attention of the tournament coordinator prior to the start of the tournament. Weddings are not excusable.

15.07 All coaches and players must be committed to starting and finishing a tournament. Any player that leaves the tournament for vacation or to play select baseball and is not replaced prior to the team being eliminated, the team manager shall not be allowed to participate with the team for the remainder of the tournament.

15.08 A coach who leaves the tournament for vacation or to participate on select or travel sports teams shall be disqualified to coach any future DYB tournament teams.

15.09 At district level a parent coach or substitute may be used for any coach for one day without having to be replaced on the tournament roster in District play only.

15.10 Umpires must be DYB approved umpires who have passed the annual Texas Umpire Certification Test. Minimum age of an umpire must be 18 years old. **See 19.05.**

15.11 Teams advancing to the Texas two-out-of-three Championship Series shall provide a picture to the State Director to send to the World Series program printer.

EQUIPMENT

16.01 All equipment will be checked before each game. All equipment must be DYB approved. Batting helmets must have the NOCSAE stamp. Face guards and chin straps are required for teams whose local league has adopted a policy that requires them.

16.02 The catchers' masks **MUST HAVE AN ATTACHED THROAT PROTECTOR.** Exception: Hockey style catchers' face masks are not required to have a throat protector.

16.03 The catcher shall have a protective cup. A game will not be played if the catcher has no cup. A player warming up the pitcher on or off the field shall wear a mask and a cup.

16.04 Catchers are not required to wear masks during infield warm up. Players **ONLY** may warm up a pitcher.

16.05 Defensive players may only wear sunglasses. Sunglasses shall not be worn on top of the players cap. The pitcher and offensive players shall not wear sunglasses.

16.06 The T-Ball and Coach Pitch player pitcher must wear a face mask.

16.07 Players shall not wear jewelry of any kind. No watches, rings, necklaces, bracelets, earrings, or hat pins. Exception: The sports necklaces (like the pros wear) are approved provided they have the break a way clasp.

INFIELD WARM UP AND TEAM INTRODUCTIONS

17.01 Provide your batting lineup to the scorekeeper and the opposing coach 20 minutes before your scheduled game time. Use the preferred names of your players on the lineup.

17.02 Do not go on to the playing field until the PA announcer calls you on to the field. No warmup shall be allowed on the field. Loosen players up before going to the dugout.

17.03 The PA announcer will call the teams to the dugout approximately 25 minutes before game time. **Teams will be given five minutes of pre-game infield only for each team's first game of the tournament and the championship game(s).** When allowed, the PA announcer will tell each team when to begin its infield practice and will give you a one-minute warning when to stop infield. Please leave the field when announcer calls time. Due to delays, the tournament director has the authority to eliminate or reduce the time of infield practice.

17.04 The teams will be introduced prior to each game; visiting team first and home team second. This is to be done after pre-game infield in games where infield practice is allowed.

17.05 The national anthem shall be played, and the teams and umpires shall meet at the mound for prayer before each game starts. The home team is responsible for leading the prayer. Prayer is not mandatory for any coach or player who chooses not to participate.

THE GAME

18.01 There will be a pre-game meeting with the umpires before your first game on the first day of the tournament only to review ground rules and to answer any questions.

18.02 These games are for kids, not adults. Anything that can be done by the players is to be done by them. Players must warm up the pitcher, not the coaches.

18.03 Three coaches dressed alike will be the only coaches allowed on the field or in the dugout. No scorekeepers or batboys are allowed (four coaches for T-ball and “AA”).

18.04 Coaches and players must stay in the dugouts unless participating as a base coach or a coach pitcher in 8U AA games. They shall not leave the field without permission. You may request the time out, but the umpire is the only one who can grant the time out. **Coaches are not allowed to sit on buckets outside the dugout.**

18.05 Helmets must always be worn when on the field. Players must wear helmets when they return to the dugout from a base.

18.06 Coaches are permitted to stand by pitchers warming up between innings if they do not delay the pitcher's warm up or slow the game down. Base coaches can leave the coach's box during a defensive time out. If the catcher is on base when the inning ends, have another player warm up your pitcher while catcher is getting equipment on.

18.07 Batter must not wave or shake the bat to distract the pitcher. A batter cannot fake bunt and then pull the bat back and hit the ball. On the first occurrence, there will be a team warning to the coach. Upon the second occurrence, the coach shall be ejected from the game.

18.08 Division I and II - Offensive Participation Requirements for AAA, “O”Zone

At the start of the game, all available players on each tournament team roster will be listed in the starting offensive batting lineup and bat continuously throughout each game.

18.09 A **courtesy runner** may be used for the pitcher and catcher. The last player in the line-up to have made an out must be used as the courtesy runner. Courtesy runners are not permitted for other playing positions unless the player is injured while on base. Exception: Courtesy runners are not allowed in T-Ball games unless the player is injured while on base.

18.10 The tournament director should use a lightning detector or mobile app to monitor severe weather conditions. The Umpire-in-Chief should consult with the tournament director before stopping a game.

18.11 Texas Diamond Youth Softball

(a) Softball Time Limits: 6U and 8U – 60 minutes 10U and 12U – 75 minutes

(b) Allow Softball leagues to dual franchise.

(c) Div I & II Tournaments will use the Winner/Loser brackets vs. DYB Baseball brackets.

(d) T-ball only softball option for Texas tournament play. Local league option to play 6U Coach Pitch using a Level 5 ball.

(e) DYS umpire pay rates will be:

6U & 8U – \$30.00 minimum per game 10U & 12U – \$40.00 minimum of per game

Texas DYB

Texas Umpire Requirements

19.01 All umpires who are working local league or tournament games shall be registered as a Texas DYB Umpire.

19.02 The DYB Tournament Director authority over all aspects of a tournament including instructions to umpires.

19.03 Umpires for all Texas DYB Division I & II District and Regional Tournaments must be 18 years of age. No exceptions.

19.04 Umpires for the 7U, 9U, 11U and 8U Classic State Tournaments must be 18 years of age. No exceptions.

19.05 Umpires for the Division I & II 6U, 8U, 10U and 12U DYB State Championships (Two-out-of-three series) must be 21 years of age. The State Director must approve any exception to this requirement.

19.06 All District Umpires must be registered with Texas DYB. Umpires who have attended a DYB Umpire Clinic within the past 3 years shall be assigned first.

19.07 All State and Regional Umpires must be registered with DYB and have taken the annual on-line test.

19.08 Definition of Local League Umpire – an umpire who has worked three or more times for a local league during local league play.

19.09 Regional and State Tournament Umpires shall be paid a minimum of \$35 per game for T-Ball and AA games and a minimum of \$50 per game for AAA, and Ozone games.

19.10 The State and Regional tournament hosts shall provide a list of local umpires by June 15 to the State Director.

19.11 In the State two-out-of-three at the championship series for T-Ball and AA shall be umpires shall be paid \$35 per game, “O”Zone and AAA umpires shall be paid \$50 per game. Umpires for this series shall be assigned by the State Umpire Coordinator and approved by the State Director.

19.12 An umpire must have worked a State Regional and or State Tournament for two years and recommended by a DYB Director or State Umpire Coordinator to be eligible to apply to work a World Series.

19.13 World Series Umpire applications must be submitted to the State Director, or his designee and post marked no later than April 15. If sent by email, applications must be received no later than April 15.

19.14 World Series Umpires shall receive a hotel and mileage allowance that does not include full reimbursement of expenses.

19.15 Any exceptions to these requirements must be approved by the State Director.



Tournament Pitch Count Limitations

20.01 Baseball Tournament Pitching Rules

20.01 There are no limitations on the number of innings a pitcher may pitch in a tournament (bracket or pool play) game subject to the following pitch count limitations.

20.02 A League Age 10 and under pitcher shall not throw more than 75 pitches in the same game or on the same day. Exception: If the pitcher reaches the maximum pitch count limit while facing a batter, he may continue to pitch until the batter reaches base safely, is put out or, a third out is made on a baserunner to end the half-inning.

20.03 A League Age 11 or 12 pitcher shall not throw more than 85 pitches in the same game or on the same day. Exception: If the pitcher reaches the maximum pitch count limit while facing a batter, he may continue to pitch until the batter reaches base safely, is put out or, a third out is made on a baserunner to end the half-inning.

20.04 All pitchers must adhere to the following pitch count rest requirements before pitching in another tournament game:

Tournament Pitching Rest Requirements

Required Rest	No Rest	36 Hours	48 Hours
Total Pitches	1-40	41-65	66+0

NOTE 1: These pitching rest requirements are based on the number of pitches a player throws on a calendar day. If for any reason, a game ends after midnight, the pitches thrown in the game will be charged to the previous day. The pitcher begins his rest requirement when he leaves the mound in a game and his total cumulative pitch count for the calendar day exceeds 40 pitches. In games suspended by darkness, weather, or other causes and resumed the following calendar day, the pitcher of record at the time the game was halted may continue to the extent of his/her eligibility, provided he delivered 40 or less pitches;

20.05 SUSPENDED GAMES - In a game suspended by darkness, weather, or other causes and resumed on a following calendar day, the pitcher of record at the time the game was suspended may continue to pitch provided he/she had delivered 40 or less pitches on the calendar day the game was suspended. If the pitcher is eligible to return to the mound when the game is resumed, the pitcher's game pitch count limit will carryover, but the daily pitch count limit will be reset to zero.

20.06 A pitcher shall be allowed to pitch in two or more games on the same calendar day provided he/she does not throw more than 40 cumulative pitches in the previous game or games on the same calendar day.

20.07 These pitch count limitations will also apply to all games played to determine a district, state, or World Series tournament host team or to determine any runner-up teams advancing to the next level of tournament play;



W



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Accident (\$250,000) – No Deductible

DIVISION	RATE PER TEAM
AAA Majors (12 &under)	\$16.50
O-Zone (12 & under)	\$16.50
AA Minor (10 & Under)	\$14.30
Coach Pitch (8 & Under)	\$11.05
A T-ball (6 & Under) / Instructional (4U)	\$11.05
Buddy Ball (16 & Under) (Player Assisted)	\$15.35
General Liability (\$2,000,000)	\$43.21
Directors & Officers Liability	
\$315 flat charge per league - \$1,000,000 Limit of Coverage	
\$473 flat charge per league - \$2,000,000 Limit of Coverage	
Crime Insurance (\$25,000)	
\$200 flat charge per league	
Equipment Insurance	
\$2.00 per \$100 of coverage (\$200 minimum premium)	

Fall Ball coverage is automatically included in the Accident & General Liability for no additional charge.
(Applies to same age groups insured in the spring)

Apply for Coverage Online and Print Your Proof of Coverage Documents, Certificates of Insurance for Property Owners, and Claim Forms Within Seconds!



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